



### LEONARD COHEN

Canadian-born Leonard Cohen, an acclaimed author and poet of more than passing interest, has emerged as one of the more exciting songwriter-performers of today. A sensitive, handsome and unapologetically tough-tender young man of our time, Leonard explores and gently teaches the ideology of love in his lyrical and universally poignant songs. His performances are compelling, as are his compositions, which have been sung and recorded by such influentials as Judy Collins, Leon Bibb, Chad Mitchell, Noel Harrison, The Stormy Clovers, and Spanky and Our Gang.

"Ladies and Gentlemen...Mr. Leonard Cohen" is the title of a film shot by the National Film Board of Canada, which followed Leonard from campus to quad while he toured colleges, singing and giving readings. The film ran as an Easter special on the CBC where it, and Leonard, won resounding accolades. News of his musical success resulted in Derek May's commissioning him to write the theme for his NFB project, "The Angel."

### LEONARD COHEN ON COLUMBIA RECORDS

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And Don Owen, of "Nobody Waved Goodbye" fame, commissioned Leonard to write the title song and entire score for his new film, "The Ernie Game" (in which Leonard will also perform), a most noteworthy assignment since "The Ernie Game" will be the first feature-length NFB production to be commercially distributed throughout the United States and Europe.

Cohen has given innumerable poetry readings and concerts throughout Canada, the United States and Europe. He is currently touring Great Britain and appearing on numerous television and radio shows including Julie Felix' BBC-TV program. This past summer, he was enthusiastically hailed by his native Canadians when he appeared with Buffy St. Marie at the Maraposa Folk Festival. His American performance at the Newport Folk Festival prompted the New York Times to deem Cohen "an extremely effective singer [who is capable] of building a hypnotic, spellbinding effect...." He made his New York City debut in two SRO concerts in Central Park last July.

The "spellbinding effect" which Leonard casts when he sings is also very much in evidence when he reads his poetry. He is one of the poets most frequently requested to read on college and university campuses. He has appeared at the University of Buffalo in conjunction with the school's Festival of Arts. When he appeared at New York City's WMHA, he received

a standing ovation. Plans for a cross-Canada college tour and appearances on many United States campuses are already under way for this spring.

American audiences have been further exposed to Leonard's formidable talents through the attention he's received in magazines such as Mademoiselle, Vogue and Harper's Bazaar. In addition, Leonard was the subject of the CBS Television Network program "Camera Three."

Leonard's two novels, The Favorite Game and Beautiful Losers, are published by McClelland & Stewart in Canada and by Viking Press in the United States. Also published are four volumes of poetry: Spice Box of Earth, Let Us Compare Mythologies, Flowers for Hitler and Parasites of Heaven. Spice Box was a runaway best seller and, like The Favorite Game, was subsequently published in Great Britain and Scandinavia. The United States editions of both Cohen novels are in their second printing, and sales of Beautiful Losers have passed the 300,000 mark.

Cohen maintains a home on the Greek isle of Hydra, but frequently returns to Montreal to renew his "neurotic affiliations." He has lately

been noticed prowling about New York, Los Angeles and Montreal rock-and-roll houses for a taste of the new sounds. His admirers grow as an ever increasing retinue of fans of the new awareness frequent his readings and concerts. He is warmed to see them carrying books.

Young, immensely intelligent, Leonard Cohen is a rarity: a very good popular poet, songwriter and performer.