

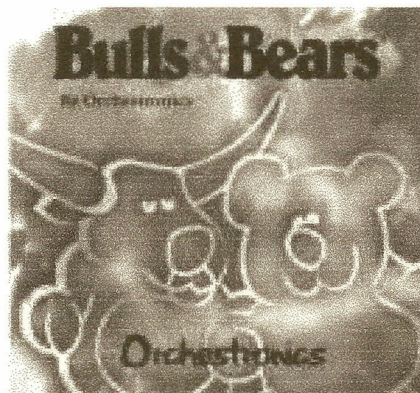
FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 5 -- JANUARY 11, 2001

Preview

**WEEKLY ARTS AND
ENTERTAINMENT
MAGAZINE**

NORTH COUNTY TIMES

MUSIC



"Bulls & Bears" Orchestronics

Naming a CD for the positive and negative trends of the stock market is a daring move, but one that suits this particular occasion. "Bulls & Bears" by San Diego-based Orchestronics is also a positive and negative combo. The title describes the project of which Orchestronics is a part.

Proceeds from the sale of the CD benefit the Youth Advocacy/Innocent Addicts Program. Helping a good cause is not all the CD has going for it.

Orchestronics blends acoustic and electronic instruments to create a new form in contemporary music. The cumulative effort is so well done that only experts can tell where one form stops and another begins. Except for the occasional identification of strings, entire compositions could just as easily be electronically or acoustically created.

Producer and Orchestronics founder Joe Wiedermann says in the liner notes that movie music has prepared listeners for this hybrid form. He's right. While the pieces differ from one another, they become part of an aural environment that's easy to enjoy.