



THE NEW YORKER

TABLE OF CONTENTS JULY 2, 1990

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN	4
THE TALK OF THE TOWN	21
"COUSIN" <i>Rick Rofjhe</i>	26
"GETTING OVER GLENN" <i>Mary Ferraro</i>	28
"WHITE NOISE" (POEM) <i>Laurie Sheck</i>	30
A REPORTER AT LARGE (EGYPT) <i>Milton Viorst</i>	32
"CITIES" (POEM) <i>Robert Mazzocco</i>	36
"WHO WE ARE NOW" (POEM) <i>Julie Bruck</i>	46
THE CURRENT CINEMA <i>Terrence Rafferty</i>	54
DANCING <i>Arlene Croce</i>	57
LETTER FROM WASHINGTON <i>Elizabeth Drew</i>	62
BOOKS <i>Brad Leithauser</i>	68
BRIEFLY NOTED	73

COVER: *Gretchen Dow Simpson*

DRAWINGS: *Ed Fisher, Donald Reilly, Edward Frascino, Arnie Levin, Warren Miller, Tom Cheney, Charles Barsotti, Jack Ziegler, James Stevenson, Joseph Farris, Henry Martin, Lee Lorenz, Victoria Roberts, Robert Mankoff, Edward Koren, Roz Chast, Robert Weber, Peter Steiner, Sam Gross, Gahan Wilson*

THE NEW YORKER
25 WEST 43RD STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10036
(212) 840-3800

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

To inquire about a subscription or to change an address, please write to The New Yorker, Box 56447, Boulder, Colorado 80322, or telephone 1-800 825-2510 (in Colorado 303 447-9330). For a change of address, subscribers should give four weeks' notice. If possible, please send the address label from a recent issue.

THE NEW YORKER (ISSN 0028-792X), published weekly by The New Yorker Magazine, Inc., 25 W. 43rd St., N.Y., N.Y. 10036; Steven T. Florio, president and chief executive officer; Stuart H. Jason, vice-president and treasurer; Ruth A. Diem, vice-president and human resources director; Frank Mustacato, vice-president and circulation director; Virginia L. Jespersen, vice-president and general manager; Lynn Guthrie Heiler, vice-president and advertising director; Matthew D. Roberts, vice-president and marketing director; Pamela H. Older, vice-president and director of manufacturing. Branch advertising offices: 111 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60601; 41 Osgood Place, San Francisco, Calif. 94133; Suite 1460, 5900 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90036; 67½ Chestnut St., Boston, Mass. 02108; 19 South Audley St., London, W1Y 5DN. Metropolitan Publishers Representatives: 3017 Piedmont Road, NE, Atlanta, Ga. 30305; 2500 So. Dixie Highway, Miami, Fla. 33133; 3016 Mason Place, Tampa, Fla. 33629; 3 Church St., Suite 503, Toronto, Canada. M5E 1M2. Carol Orr & Co., Publishers Representative: 3300 Oak Lawn, Suite 500, Dallas, Tx. 75219. Vol. LXVI, No. 20, July 2, 1990. Second-class postage paid at New York, N.Y., and at additional mailing offices. Authorized as second-class mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa, Canada, and for payment of postage in cash. © 1990 by The New Yorker Magazine, Inc., in the United States and Canada. All rights reserved. No part of this periodical may be reproduced without the consent of The New Yorker. The magazine's name, logo, and various titles and headings herein have been registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Printed in U.S.A. Subscription rates: In U.S. and possessions, one year, \$32.00; two years, \$52.00. In Canada, one year, \$50.00. Other foreign, one year, \$56.00, payable in advance.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The New Yorker, Box 56447, Boulder, Colorado 80322.

UNITED STATES

Austin
Boston
Chicago
Chicago
(Ritz-Carlton)
Houston
(Center)
Houston
(Inn on the Park)
Los Angeles
(At Beverly Hills)
New York
(The Pierre)
Newport Beach, California

Philadelphia

San Francisco

Seattle
(The Olympic)

Washington, D.C.

CANADA

Montreal
(Le Quatre Saisons)

Ottawa

Toronto
(Yorkville)

Toronto
(Inn on the Park)

Vancouver

UNITED KINGDOM

London
(Inn on the Park)

RESORTS

Dallas
(Las Colinas)

Maui
(Wailea)

Nevis, W.I.
(Late 1990)

Santa Barbara
(The Biltmore)

Canada
(Minaki Lodge,
Northern Ontario)

For reservations, call your travel agent, or in the U.S.
call: (800) 332-3442; in Canada (800) 268-6282.


Four Seasons
Hotels • Resorts

MARLENE IS THE VERY SOUL
OF CONCERN. SHE CANNOT SLEEP
WELL AT NIGHT UNLESS
SHE IS CERTAIN THAT YOU WILL.



Marlene, Housekeeper
Four Seasons Hotel, Chicago

In the small Chinese village where she was born, a unique love of orderliness was a way of life.

So for Marlene, there can be no rest until the rooms in her care are as graciously turned out as those in your own home. From the plush robes she hangs by the bath, to the extra large pillows she lovingly fluffs, guests in Marlene's rooms truly experience the quiet indulgence that is the Four Seasons Hotel Chicago.


Four Seasons
Hotel
CHICAGO

120 EAST DELAWARE PLACE AT 900 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE. FOR RESERVATIONS, CALL (312) 280-8800

July 2, 1990

digital™



The sounds
of summer are
everywhere.

Digital Equipment Corporation and its employees are proud to sponsor
EVENING AT POPS on public television. Consult your local listings for time and station.