Ronald Center in Bogota

The capital of Colombia saw in November an extraordinary festival devoted to the work of an almost unknown Scottish composer. Ronald Center, who died in 1973 at the age of 60, was hardly celebrated during his lifetime outside his native Aberdeen. However, through the enthusiasm of James Reid Baxter, a young Scots linguist currently residing in the country, Center's music has been made the focal point of a festival of modern British and Colombian music. The Orquesta Sinfónica Juvenil de Colombia, founded in 1977 by Ernesto Díaz to train young Colombian musicians, presented a total of twelve concerts including 35 works by Ronald Center, among them the world premiere of his Symphony and the first performance of Vojago al la Astralo by the Colombian composer Alfredo Aragón. All the concerts were recorded and some televised. Two choruses and several vocal and instrumental soloists also took part; and if the necessary funds can be raised the Orquesta hopes to visit Europe, including Center's native Aberdeen, in 1980.

Luigi Dallapiccola Composition Prize

The second annual Composition Prize in memory of Luigi Dallapiccola has not been awarded, as none of the 74 scores examined by the Jury on 6-7 November at the Teatro alla Scala, Milan, was considered to reach a high enough standard. The Jury arriving at this decision was composed of Elliott Carter (President), Aldo Clementi, Luis de Pablo and Henri Dutilleux.