

# A very good year for Laurika Rauch



By BILL EDGSON

THE latest LP from Laurika Rauch (above) again shows that this entertainer can cover a wide expanse of territory without being as shallow as half a glass of sherry. The album is called "n Jaar In My Lewe" (RPM 1152) and is said to represent the different stages and experiences through which Laurika went personally and creatively in 1980.

It is also interesting to note that the inside cover which contains the record has English translations of the lyrics.

The opening number, "Winterure" is relaxed, and the song, written by Paul Clingman, has a quota of depth relating to the winter season and human feelings.

"Neanderdalman", written by Anton Goosen, is a contrasting piece about a simple way of life and the possible chance of the Neanderthan

man arriving to "grab and catch me by the hair".

More lengthy is "Ballade Van 'n Koningsdogter". Written by Laurika with I D du Plessis, it is a colourful, dramatic, romantic and rather sad account of a beautiful princess who falls in love with a pageboy of the court, but is understandably upset when her father announces that he has chosen a knight for her to marry.

"Die Telemans Van Weskou" is an amusing, satirical song about suburbia and its reactions to television, and other fascinating tracks include "Woud Van Stilte" (inspired by "Bridge Over Troubled Waters"), "Moenie Laat Die Kinders Hoor Nie" (about not letting children hear about war and terrorism), the short and very scenic "Niks Hang So Rooi Soos Wingerdblaar By Hexrivier", and "Katrina", which, while dealing with a young prostitute, tends to touch the heart.

Laurika's voice is in top form all the way through, and the long player is a first grade showcase of local talent.