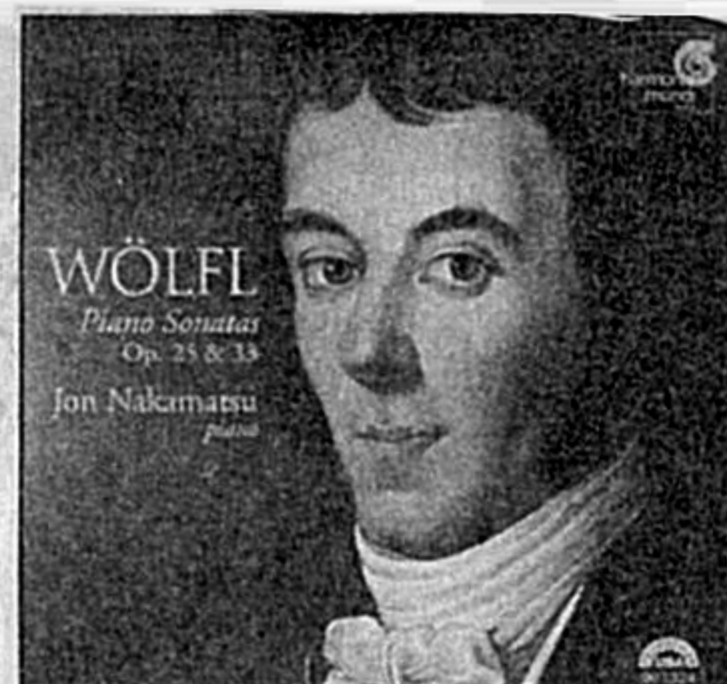


Bach and bebop aren't dead

By **Richard Scheinin**
Mercury News

Trying to reduce the thousands of classical and jazz releases from this past year to a Top 10 list is an exercise in insanity — but fun. Here are five from jazz and five from classical that have been returning to the disc changer in my car (where I do more and more of my listening) with regularity.



Jon Nakamatsu, "Wölfl: Four Piano Sonatas" *Harmonia Mundi*. Nakamatsu plays with a brilliant clarity: His piano rings out, and all the inner lines and colors of the music are distinct. It's exhilarating listening — and a chance to meet the stirring, largely forgotten music of Joseph Wölfl, the Austrian composer and pianist who was a friendly rival of Beethoven in their day.