

# 'Homecoming' features West Bloomfield Symphony

"We want to invite everyone who has ever lived in Detroit to come home."

That, according to Fred Bassett of the Detroit Bicentennial Commission, is the philosophy behind "Homecoming," a nine-day program starting Friday which will celebrate the bicentennial and the 75th anniversary of the founding of Detroit.

Most of "Homecoming" consists of musical events featuring stars from Detroit, with lineups on many different levels of the music world. Although hoped for appearances by many of Detroit's bigger stars—such as Stevie Wonder, Gladys Knight and the Pips and the Four Tops—did not materialize. Bassett said that ticket sales are going "pretty well."

Superstar attractions were not the main idea behind "Homecoming," according to Bassett. "The whole feeling about Homecoming is a spirit," he said. "That's the essence of the thing. This isn't put together like an Elton John concert or something."

THE KICKOFF EVENT is a musical variety show Friday night at the Masonic Temple. The Stars Salute Detroit. Performers will include Billy Eckstine, Johnny Griffin, Guy Marks, the late old singer Lisa Stone, Martin Michaels, Marlena Shaw, Bobby Tucker, The Nicholas Brothers, Japanese singer Ippu Kurosawa, and the Homecoming Dancers.

Saturday night at Orchestra Hall, there will be a performance entitled "Midnight Jazz." It will feature Roy Brooks, Tommy Butler, Virginia Capers, Billy Eckstine, Ron English, Barry Harris, Margaret Harris, Terry Polard, Urala Walker, Wayne Wright, and the Jimmy Wilkins Orchestra.

Jazz will be the attraction on Saturday night with "Detroit Lives! A Jazz Reunion" at the Masonic Temple. Performers include Marcus Belgrave, Jack Bruckshaus, Kenny Burrell, Ron Carter, Ron English, Oliver Jackson, Candy Johnson, Ed Locke, Harold McKinney, the McKinney Cotton Pickers, Billy Mitchell, Sonny Redd, Wayne Wright, Gerald Wilson, Herman Wright, and the Homecoming Dancers.

Sunday will feature three separate musical shows. The McKinney Cotton Pickers and Tribe will perform on a boat on the Detroit River in "Riverboat Rhythms." The Power and the Glory, a program of religious music with Tommy Butler, Eugene Hancock, Tressie Hall, Don Shirley, Michael Tolan, the Kenneth Jewell Chorus, The James Tatum Trio, and the Homecoming Dancers.

AT ORCHESTRA HALL, Metropolitan Opera stars George Sherrin and Shirley Love will perform in "Metropolitan Magic."

Monday night the blues will be featured with "What Color is the Blues" at the Masonic Temple with Bobo Jenkins, Kim Weston, Joe Williams, the Jimmy Wilkins Orchestra, and the Homecoming Dancers.

On Tuesday at Ford Auditorium, classical music will get its turn with "A Touch of Class." The Detroit Symphony Orchestra will join the Kenneth Jewell Chorus, Ruth Laredo, the Don Large Singers, Yusuf Latief and his quartet, Lloyd Richards and Michael Tolan.

Also on Tuesday, "Keyboard Harmony" will feature jazz pianist Dorothy Ashby, Jack Bruckshaus, Tommy Flanagan, Johnny Griffin, Roland Hanna, Barry Harris, Jess Bonner, Makris, Harold McKinney, Willie McNeill, and Terry Polard at Masonic Temple.

Wednesday night at Masonic Temple is "Star Track" with Freda Payne, the Jimmy Wilkins Orchestra, Les Cochran, Bruce Stu Gilman, Tribe, Willie Tyler & Lester, and Sonny Sutt.

THURSDAY NIGHT up-and-coming Detroit talent will be featured at Masonic Temple in "Detroit Renaissance." Performers include the Hastings Street Jazz Band, Devos Roland and Lay, the Shambadoo Show Jazz, A Go-Go Band, the Lamen Woodward Organization, Mickey's Publishing Unit, Sita Berry Little and the Homecoming Dancers.

After the West Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra concert on Friday night at the Ford Auditorium, history will take over on Saturday. The French government will present a statue of Lafayette to the city. Cadillac's landing will be re-created and a historical procession will move down Jefferson Avenue.

Saturday night at the Detroit Institute of Arts the "Birthday Benefit Ball" will be held. Tickets for this affair will cost \$10 apiece, with guests being invited to dress in costumes representing the era of Louis XIV of France.

Satellite balls under the joint title of "City Celebrations '76" will be held at various locations. At Masonic Temple, disco dancing will be featured in the Fountain Ballroom with Latin American rhythm in the Crystal Ballroom. There will be ballroom dancing on the 14th floor of the Renaissance Center, Manufacturers' National Bank Tower, and outdoor dancing at Eastern Market.

One ticket, at \$15, will enable purchasers to attend all of the "City Celebrations '76," which will be connected by a shuttle bus service.

"YOU MAY BE DOING MAN" special events to celebrate this bicentennial year, said Bassett. "We think Homecoming is going to be the most special thing happening anywhere."



Felix Resnick will conduct the West Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra in its first concert in Ford Auditorium July 23. It is not the first time, however, that the group has performed for Detroit audiences. The concert will benefit the Detroit Zoological Park and the Detroit Arts Council.

## It's happening at 'Homecoming'

JULY 16—The Stars Salute Detroit. 8:30 p.m. Masonic Auditorium with Billy Eckstine, Guy Marks, and Marilyn McCarb.

JULY 16—Midnight Jazz. Midnight. Orchestra Hall with Barry Harris, Urala Walker, and the Jimmy Wilkins Orchestra.

JULY 17—Fashion Fair. 11:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. the 12th floor of the J.L. Hudson Company.

JULY 17—Detroit Lives! A Jazz Reunion. 8:30 p.m. Masonic Temple with Marcus Belgrave, Jack Bruckshaus, Kenny Burrell, and Candy Johnson.

JULY 18—Riverboat Rhythms. 10:30 a.m., 1 p.m., and 3 p.m. on the riverfront with the McKinney Cotton Pickers and Tribe.

JULY 18—The Power and the Glory. 4 p.m. Masonic Temple with Eugene Hancock, Don Shirley, the Kenneth Jewell Chorus, and the James Tatum Trio.

JULY 18—Metropolitan Magic. 8:30 p.m. Orchestra Hall with Shirley Love, George Shirley, and pianist David Syre.

JULY 18—What Color is the Blues? 8:30 p.m. Masonic Temple with Bobo Jenkins, Kim Weston, Joe Williams, the Jimmy Wilkins Orchestra, and the Homecoming Dancers.

JULY 19—Jazz Workshops. 10 a.m. place to be announced.

JULY 19—Law Day. 10 a.m. the 12th floor auditorium of the City County Building.

JULY 19—Superstar Benefit. 8:30 p.m. Masonic Auditorium with a performer to be announced.

JULY 20—A Touch of Class. 8:30 p.m. Ford Auditorium with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the Kenneth Jewell Chorus, Ruth Laredo, and Yusuf Latief.

JULY 20—Keyboard Harmony. 8:30 p.m. Masonic Temple with Jack Bruckshaus and Barry Harris.

JULY 21—Bicentennial Tower Ground-breaking. 10 a.m. Woodward at Alexan drive.

JULY 21—Star Track. 8:30 p.m. Masonic Temple with Freda Payne, Stu Gilman, Willie Tyler & Lester, and the Jimmy Wilkins Orchestra.

A West Bloomfield couple with an interest in animals is getting involved in Detroit's "Homecoming."

The Jack Levine and his wife Adrienne, of West Bloomfield, are cosponsoring a benefit concert by the West Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra, with proceeds being shared by the Detroit Zoological Park and the Detroit Council for the Arts. The concert, to be held Friday at 8:30 p.m. in Ford Auditorium, will be part of Detroit's "Homecoming" program.

The Levines got involved in the zoo through its "adoption" program, under which interested citizens pay for the feeding of an animal for a year, taking the burden off of the financially troubled zoo. They have adopted two of the zoo's four snow leopards at a cost of \$600, and they want to do more.

"WE'RE LOOKING TO SEE that a proper building is erected for these snow leopards," said Mrs. Levine. "There are many animals that need houses and many houses that are empty that need animals."

The concert also marks the first time a community orchestra has ever performed at Ford Auditorium, the usual stomping ground of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

"If the West Bloomfield Orchestra is one of the finest orchestras in the state, so we felt they were entitled to some recognition," said Frank Stratton, owner of the Bloomfield Canopy restaurant in West Bloomfield, who is another of the cosponsors.

The program will begin with Schuman's "American Festival Overture," to be followed by Richard Strauss's "Don Juan" tone poem. George Gershwin's "An American in Paris" will bring down the first act curtain.

The entire second act will be devoted to a piece entitled "Jazzynthesis," which was written for the West Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra by David VanDePile, who is another cosponsor.

The composition, written for a symphony orchestra and a small jazz band, will feature John Trudell on trumpet.

TICKETS ARE PRICED AT \$5, \$7.50 and \$12.50, and are available at Hudson's, Ford Auditorium and the Masonic Temple or by telephone at 426-7377 or 811-0430. The \$12.50 non-refundable ticket includes a champagne afterglow.

A package deal is also available which includes dinner at the Bloomfield and a bus ride to the auditorium. The package goes for \$15 not including tickets, according to Stratton.

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