

Meadow Brook in Review

Lubovich troupe triumph

By PATRICIA DEACH SMITH

A reviewer has anxious moments. Some of them happen when faced with seeing little-known performers doing little-known works. It is always a happy experience when both turn out to be things that should be better known.

Such was the case of the Lar Lubovich Company. The dancers were well-trained, but more than that beautifully expressive in Lubovich's choreography. His dances work on several understandable levels, all of which seem to be open to the viewer's interpretation.

Despite Lubovich's protestations to the contrary, he is a cerebral individual. His dances tell you that. The four works he and his company performed in a special "Evening of Modern Dance" were excellent, but unfortunately played to a minor house.

The audience at Meadow Brook's Baldwin Pavilion Aug. 18 was small, but enthusiastic (it was obviously a group of dance buffs). The screaming and clapping elicited by the dancers was well deserved, because "Some of the Reactions of Some of the People, Some of the Time upon Hearing Reports of the Coming of the Messiah" and "Whirligigs" rate such high acclaim.

Within an unlikely setting — five movements from Handel's "Messiah" — "Some of the Reactions..." is superb dance. In it Lubovich is shown as a master of the stage — not as a dancer, but as a mover of people. His staging is complicated, but it doesn't look that way with his dancers' skillful performances.

THE FIRST MOVEMENT. "All the Nations" is especially indicative of that talent. The stage patterns developed were impressive. It is a multi-planned dance within a dance and the smallest of gestures, in the proper settings are effective.

The second movement "Break the Bonds" is moving, but not so much as the third movement "How Beautiful." It was its title. Possibly, it is one of the most beautiful adagio pas de deux ever seen. It was with — including all those classical pas de deux to be revered in classical dance circles.

Rob Deasner and Laura Gates performed this movement eloquently, with serene grace. Aaron Osborn would have stolen the dance, so to speak, with the fourth movement, had his fellow company members not been up to his standards. Besides his marvelous dancing, Osborn is a superb entertainer. He showed incredible torment and anguish in his body and face throughout his dance.

"He Shall Purify" (Movement 4) appears to be a dance treatise on the agonies Christ suffered as a man. But it could have been any man, one supposes. The work does not lose its human impact without the Christian implication.

In the final movement, "And the Glory" Lubovich instructed his dancers to bow their heads in recognition as he restated some of the stage patterns he established in the first movement. This bowing of heads was a mutual respect gesture very important to the chore structure of the work.

An embracing semi-circle finishes the work in a glorious finale. It is a work which could serve easily as an Easter commemoration for Christians and a year-round commemoration of life for anyone.

A SINGLE ELEMENT which shows elements of Lubovich's genius is simplicity. Just as in tailoring and many other art forms, the simplest is the hardest to achieve — and where Lubovich has been successful, he has been immensely successful.

He is also in command of his audience with his programming.

The second work of the evening was a

superior pas de deux with Aaron Osborn and Mari Ono. They both are exquisite dancers who embody all that is modern in both classical and so-called modern dance.

She has the extension of a classical dancer and both possess the strength, both physical and dramatic, which is necessary to sell a dance.

One wonders if "The Time Before, The Time After (After the Time Before)" would be so effective with other dancers. This pair is obviously in tune with each other — although the subject of the dance is disharmony.

It concerns lovers, who spar in mock karate, spar in other ways, and then make up. There is no mistaking the meaning of the work which begins with

a sinister pool of red light illuminating two dark figures who spring into action at just the proper moment.

Danced to Igor Stravinsky's "Concerto for String Quartet" it was a fitting break from the massive Messiah work, but it was still explosive in its own way. The emotions portrayed were no less genuine or human than in the first work, but they were decidedly private where the Messiah work was more public.

The question of acceptance/rejection was well put in "The Time Before." Osborn is a surprisingly excellent dancer for someone once a doctor who turned away from that profession to pursue equally demanding dance as a career.

LAST 6 DAYS Ethan Allen Summer Sale

You've still time to enjoy meaningful savings on Michigan's largest selection of fine Ethan Allen furniture and accessories. But hurry, sale ends Saturday!



the Hearthside
An Ethan Allen Gallery

LIVONIA 15700 WOODBELL ROAD
UTICA 15700 WOODBELL ROAD
SOUTHFIELD 15700 WOODBELL ROAD
Monday-Friday until 9:00 Saturday until 5:30



LIVONIA JEWISH CONGREGATION
21340 W. Seven Mile Rd., Livonia

HIGH HOLY DAYS SERVICES

Rabbi Martin D. Gordon officiating
SEPT. 24, 25, 26 - OCT. 3, 4
Memberships and Tickets Available
474-5557 474-0747 477-1648

NEWEST LIGHTING FASHIONS FOR YOUR CASTLE!

Michigan Chandelier
6550 Telegraph at Maple
ROCHESTER
433 W. Main at University

ROBERT GALE
Furnery of the Diamond Gallery
IS GOING SOUTH

South, that is, to the arcade in South Adams Square (Adams Road, South of Maple, Birmingham). I've planned to move the formation of ROBERT GALE, INC. Unique jewelry, fine diamonds, real estate. Open on summer's end!
Convenient Free Parking



UNIQUE GEORGIAN TUDOR on secluded hilltop with views on scenic ravine and stream. Exquisite interior includes organ loft in 2-story living room, newer custom kitchen, family room, 2 fireplaces, 3 possible bedrooms, library, 2-story rec room. Includes 2 buildable lots. In Southfield. 626-9100. \$139,000.



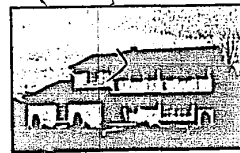
YOUR OWN CANOE on beautiful canal to desirable Upper Long Lake — or power boat. If you choose. Lovely estate with oversized Quad-level home and Bloomfield Hills schools. Room for choice. Lovely estate with oversized Quad-level home and Bloomfield Hills schools. Room for choice. Lovely estate with oversized Quad-level home and Bloomfield Hills schools. Room for choice.



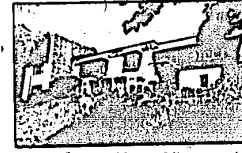
COUNTRY PEACE on 1 1/2 acres in Southfield. A 8-level with walk-out rec room (37' x 22'). Huge family room has one of 3 fireplaces. 3 massive bedrooms, 3 full baths and 37' x 15' living room. EXTRAS — sprinklers, attic fan, lots of glass 626-9100. \$79,900.



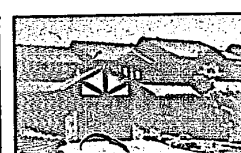
MUSHROOM CONTEMPORARY with huge circular deck overlooking wooded 1/4 acre with stream. Only for the true lover of the unique — all rooms are geometric. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, rec room and fascinating studio. Strictly custom! 626-9100. \$24,900.



BIG HOME, big 1/4 acre lot and Bloomfield Hills schools plus immediate possession and good assumption — all advantages of this 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home with full brick wall fireplace in family room and super rec room. 626-9100. \$75,900.



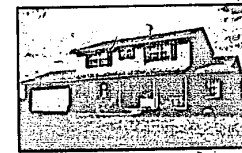
JUST WAITING for a 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath family. Located in a prime section of the resort Village of Keatington with beautiful Lake Voorhees — just 20 minutes from Birmingham. Family room with fireplace, kitchen with built-ins, enclosed porch. Built in 1974. 689-8900. \$61,900.



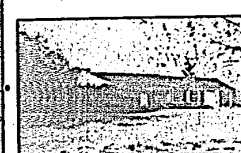
HAS TO BE Best Condo Value in area. 2100 sq. ft. with Central Air, library plus 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, all deluxe kitchen and laundry appliances, breakfast nook, dining room. PLUS Clubhouse, pool, sauna. Will lease with option to buy. 646-6000. \$63,800.



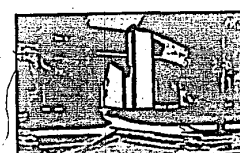
RANCH ESTATE in Rochester's appealing Stratford Knolls. Two fireplace accent bay windowed living room and family room. The completely finished rec room has indirect lighting. Large kitchen with breakfast nook to augment formal dining room. 2 1/2 baths. 631-8850. \$69,500.



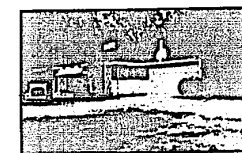
JUST AS SUPER inside this professionally decorated Southfield Condo. Highlights include superbly finished rec room, fireplace in living room, 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, gourmet kitchen, Central Air and great patio with storage shed. Must see! 626-9100. \$36,500.



ROCHESTER'S rolling Christian Hills is the location of this big 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath ranch with two fireplaces in large living and family rooms (with wet bar). PLUS handy first floor laundry, lovely enclosed porch, BBQ and 2 1/2 car garage. 631-8850. \$59,500.



NORTH WOODS setting but close to all conveniences in Bloomfield Hills. Immaculate grounds and interior. New carpeting, roof, furnace and Central Air within last 2 years. Family room, fireplace and heated garage doubles as rec room. 646-6000. \$44,900.



HEAVILY TREED privacy for this sharp 3 bedroom Ranch within walking distance of shopping and schools. Ideally located in Rochester's Golden Hills area. Abundance of cupboards, full basement, large porch and patio. 631-8850. \$40,900.



COZY brick home for the young family — excellent in-town Birmingham location, 1/2 block from grade schools. Featured are 3 bedrooms, study, paneled rec room in basement, nicely fenced yard and garage in back. TREES. 646-6000. \$35,900.



SECLUDED Ranch on 200' deep lot. More than meets the eye inside with 2 fireplaces in family and recreation rooms with open kitchen, 3 bedrooms, formal dining room, interior, attic fan and heated 2 1/2 car garage with openers. 689-8900. \$39,900.



GET THIS 288-PAGE DECORATING BOOK Full-color illustrations of home furnishings editors give you hundreds of decorating ideas plus a lot of historic American homes. A \$7.50 value. FREE at our store.

Colonial House
19332 W. McNichols (6 Mile) East of Evergreen
KE 2-7900
Open Monday, Thursday & Friday 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Chamberlain REALTORS

BIRMINGHAM 646-6000
BLOOMFIELD HILLS 647-5950
WEST BLOOMFIELD FARMINGTON HILLS 626-9100
TROY 689-8900
ROCHESTER 631-8850