

Solisti Barocchi to make Southfield debut

Story: GRETCHEN McHUGH
Photos: CYNTHIA ABATT

"We chose the name, which is Italian for Baroque soloists, because each of us, soloists in our own right, has chosen to make music together."

Q. Why have you chosen to play music of this period?

A. We all happen to enjoy playing Baroque music very much.

Q. Do you see a resurgence of interest in Baroque music today?

A. Yes, and I think there are several reasons. In this music, written between 1580 and 1750, there is a range of masterpieces from deep philosophical works to rather simple but charming pieces written for specific occasions—almost what you'd call "pops" music of the 17th century.

The fact that churches, courts, and all sorts of private patrons commissioned works, sometimes even supporting the composer with a pension,

accounts for this variety. It also accounts for the vast output of some of these composers. Although the quantity is immense, the quality is consistently high. Therefore—and this surely relates to the popularity of this music today—a concert-goer can go frequently to hear works new to him and be assured that they'll be worth listening to.

Q. How would you defend Baroque music against the charge that too much of it seems monotonous to some people? For instance, Stravinsky once said that Vivaldi, who wrote over 400 concertos, really wrote one concerto 400 times?

A. Well, the musical language of Vivaldi is identifiable as his very own by the trained ear, just as Stravinsky can be recognized as Stravinsky. I would love to know what a composer

300 years hence would remark about Stravinsky's output. Will Stravinsky's music stand the test of time the way Baroque music has? And, speaking of forms—has anyone ever accused Shakespeare of writing one comic 114 times?

Q. What are your plans for the future of Solisti Barocchi?

A. We hope that next season we'll be able to have our own series. In this week's concert we'll present an example of each of the Baroque schools—German, English, French and Italian. Later, in a series of concerts, we will be able to explore these schools in more depth.

Q. Do you have any comments about St. David's Episcopal Church, where you'll be playing Sunday?

A. The people have been marvelously supportive. The acoustics are outstanding. The organ, too, is excellent.

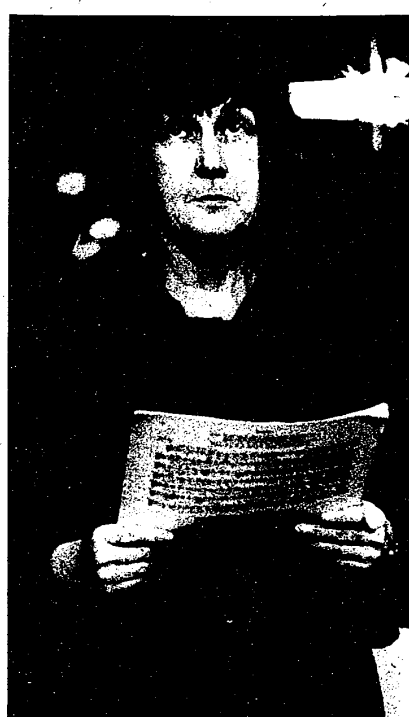
Mrs. Foster, a native Detroit, has studied and/or worked with Kenneth Jewell, Avery Crew, Bernard Katz and Lawrence La Gore, and has been a frequent participant in the local chamber performances of Amici Musicae.

Ms. Ortega, born in Bulgaria, received her music degrees at Oberlin College and the University of Michigan and studied under Jean Paul Rampaal, among others. She has been on the faculties of several local colleges and has performed frequently here and abroad.

Rachlevsky, a member of the Detroit Symphony since 1976, began violin study in Moscow at age five and has been an orchestra, chamber and solo performer around the world.

Ms. Fayrolan, a native Detroit of Armenian parents, has studied cello at the University of Michigan, Interlochen, and at the Aspen Music Festival where she played chamber music under the tutelage of the Juillard String Quartet. Presently a Detroit Symphony member, she teaches at the Schoolcraft College music school.

Tickets for this Sunday's concert are \$3 with students, high school and under, \$2. Call 557-5430 for information.



Faith Foster, soprano, is a popular soloist in metropolitan area.



Detroit Symphony violinist Misha Rachlevsky recently organized the new ensemble which will debut Sunday.

Cafe and ballet set for June 23, 24

Metropolitan Ballet Company of Michigan, the young dance group which brought the Joffrey and Winnipeg Ballet companies to Southfield for master dance classes and demonstrations, will have "Cafe Et Ballet" on Friday and Saturday, June 23 and 24.

teaches dance at Wayne Community College in Detroit.

The company has performed on Channel 20 and on Channel 56, has appeared at Detroit Riverfront festival, the Masonic Temple, Richmond's Landing, Orchestra Hall and in April of this year appeared at the Crowell Opera House in Adrian, and at Wayne State University.

Guest artist at "Cafe Et Ballet" will be the resident company of the Birmingham Community House.

"Cafe Et Ballet" will be performed at 8 p.m. at Southfield Lathrup High School in Southfield. For tickets or further information, call 339-7824 or 354-3603.

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