

At Meadow Brook

New artistic director plans some surprises

By DONNA OLENDORF

Although Neville Marriner's job as artistic director of the Meadow Brook Music Festival doesn't officially begin until next summer, the British conductor is already contemplating changes.

"For one thing, he wants to get away from the term 'music' festival. 'This is not just a festival of classical music,' he asserted in his clipped British accent. 'It's intended to be a more liberal festival of the arts.'"

For another, he wants to expand the program to include more kinds of music, more ballet, drama—perhaps even films.

"What we don't want," he said, "is a rerun of the subscription concerts in Detroit. We'll come up with a program of our own, using the particular works and artists we want to employ."

"We might have chamber music in smaller groups with players from the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in individual roles. I have a sneaking suspicion we might include drama. I'd also like to have cinema. There are many films, for instance, about music or theatre or ballet that would never make Detroit on a general release. They are for a very limited audience. Many of them are tucked away in archives and would never be shown on television. I would like to have access to some of these."

In addition to these offerings, which have limited appeal, Marriner would like to include "a modest film festival"—which would have a broader appeal.

"THE FESTIVAL SHOULD OFFER something to everybody—I think that's the beauty of it. The marvelous thing about going to a city like Salzburg that has a festival going for 100 years is to see the whole town gets involved," said Marriner, who hopes to kindle a similar enthusiasm here.

One of the ways he will encourage community involvement is by the example he sets.

"I think the artistic director's job is to identify himself with his own festival," said Marriner, who will conduct several of the concerts next year.

"I will certainly do the opening concert."

Cox reunion continues tradition

The Cox family annual reunion was hosted this summer by Mr. and Mrs. Herald W. Cox in their Fendt Avenue home in Farmington Hills.

The group of about 50 are the offspring of Mr. and Mrs. John G. Cox who came from Somershire, England, in 1890 and lived on Thirteen Mile, near Drake, until their deaths in 1904 and 1907.

Descendants have met once a year, since 1920. Only occasional get-togethers were held before then; one of which was the celebration of the John Cox's 50th wedding anniversary in 1963.

A gift to the families that attended the reunion this year came from Kay Briggs, a member of Farmington Historical Society, and daughter of Minnie Cox. Her gift was a 91-page booklet called "Our History." One of the pages was a reprint of a clipping from the Farmington Enterprise, dated Aug. 18, 1891, telling of a four-generation reunion of the Cox family.

even though you are using individual people to do it for you. All your concentration lies in achieving the balanced performance that you had imagined when you were learning the piece.

"The way I want the piece to sound may not be the way that anybody else wants it to sound. Therefore, I may be delivering an entirely idiosyncratic performance. So I'm always open to criticism. But it's not good just having opinions. If you are a conductor, you must have a conviction about the music and that conviction must be pretty unshakable."

He said that without conviction the conductor is weak and the music will reflect that weakness. What starts as a conviction when you're 30 can be seen from a distance of 20 years later as an imposture in a way, he explained.

"But you have to be convinced that that's the only way to do it."

Because Marriner has enough faith in his own abilities to believe in the

music he creates, his worries are of a different nature.

"Your big anxiety is that you're going to die before you've done it all. And you are. I mean no one is able to cope with all the music that's been written. An you have to make sure you get your priorities right—so you perform the pieces you really want to perform."

"It's a matter of economics with a festival like this," he maintained. "You have to ask yourself, 'who can we afford?'"

The fact is, that in spite of the festival's burgeoning popularity (subscription sales have increased fourfold since 1974), Meadow Brook isn't making a profit.

"THE ECONOMICS OF MUSIC these days are incredibly precarious. Meadow Brook might show a profit sometime if we lowered our standards, but not if we maintain the quality of the programs we have now."

"If you want to have a break even point economically, then you put on popular things which are cheap, like a solo pop artist."

He compared the cost of one such artist to the cost of a symphony plus a soloist and conductor, adding, "You see why art festivals operate in the red."

Does this ruffle the new artistic director? Not at all.

"A successful festival is considered to be one that continues," he said, pointing out that Meadow Brook is the third oldest in the country.

"It's been going on for 16 years now."

Although Meadow Brook is Marriner's most recent appointment, it is by no means the only responsibility he holds.

"I have to make records," he said. He recently signed a 10-year contract with Philips and Deutsche Gramophon calling for 20 discs in the next decade. He is also musical director of the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra.

In addition he works with the Stuttgart Radio orchestra in Germany, holds an appointment in Paris, and guest conducts for two-and-a-half months to boot.

"Generally speaking, I expect to work about 54 weeks a year," said the energetic Englishman who admits that he loves his job.

"Let's face it—the whole business of being a musician is very pleasant. It's a very fulfilling occupation, I think."

Marriner, now considered the most recorded conductor in history, came to his profession almost by accident. He started out as a violin player on the symphony orchestra circuit. When he organized his own chamber group in London, he would direct from the concertmaster's chair.

"After a while we started recording rather more complicated repertoires which I couldn't direct sitting down. So I began to stand up," he recalled.

One day he was spotted by Pierre Monteux, principal conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra, who admonished him to "stand up and conduct properly."

Under this maestro's tutelage, he learned to do just that, and, once he started conducting in earnest, he was hooked.

"It's what every musician wants," he said, "as a conductor you have the ultimate responsibility for the total performance."

"When you are performing you are unaware of either the individuality of the orchestral players or the fact that the audience is present. It is as if you were playing the piano. You are actually playing the piece yourself



Neville Marriner gained conducting experience when he and 15 fellow musicians formed an ensemble, "The Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields." It later became highly acclaimed and he conducted from his first chair violin position.

Cancer education supported

When you give to the United Foundation Torch Drive, you help support cancer research programs by the Michigan Cancer Foundation. MCF provides cancer education information through pamphlets, films and exhibits as well as special services to cancer patients and their families through extended research.

Research boosted

Your Torch Drive dollars support research in cancer, leukemia, arthritis, epilepsy, heart disease, alcoholism, multiple sclerosis, sickle cell anemia, hemophilia, kidney disease, cystic fibrosis and cerebral palsy.

Disaster victims get help

Victims of tornadoes, floods, severe winter storms and other major disasters receive aid from the American Red Cross with the help of United Foundation Torch Drive funds.

If you're not wearing it, Sell it.

You can't enjoy your jewelry if it's sitting in your safe deposit box. Sell it for immediate cash. We purchase fine gems, Diamonds, and Gold jewelry. A service to private owners, banks, and estates.

Norman Allan
Jeweler & Diamondologist ESTABLISHED 1919
30400 TELEGRAPH ROAD SUITE 134
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35210 (205) 642-5575

decorator mirror sale!

up to 30% off

- contemporary
- traditional
- colonial
- oriental
- graphics

Choose from the largest selection of framed mirrors anywhere!

don't miss it!

reflections

The Ultimate in Mirrors and Glass
33491 Seve Mile at Farmington Rd.
476-8410

save energy

Use your dishwasher only when it is full. Turn it off when the final wash cycle is completed and open the door. Your dishes will air-dry. It's best to use your dishwasher in the cool of the evenings.

Bloomfield Nursery School

APPLICATIONS NOW BEING TAKEN

Mother - Toddler Nursery School	18 - 36 mos.
Kindergarten	2 1/2 - 5 years
	5 - 6 years

Round trip transportation available.
State licensed Hot lunches
Certified teachers Field trips

851 - 4666
4230 Middlebelt at Long Lake - W. Blvd.

You Can Join (and Enjoy)

The Sewing Class of Classes

After 8 easy, inexpensive lessons you will have made at least:

- One T-shirt
- One pair of perfect-fit pants
- Three fashion tops
- One skirt
- One sweater
- One suit jacket
- One swim suit

Using the unique Ann Person™ sewing method, you sew in a fraction of the time of ordinary sewing. You'll learn to fit and to design. And it's so simple. The classes are fun—like a special club meeting. You learn. But you love it.

8-2 hour Classes Meet Once A Week Starting

Thursday, September 7 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Thursday, September 7 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Monday, September 11 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Saturday, September 23 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

For Information About Other Classes
Phone 477-8777

The ANN PERSON Method Stretch & Sew
North America's Fabric and Sewing Center

38503 W. 10 Mile Road Farmington In the Freeway Center
9 to 9 Daily 9 to 6 Daily 10 to 5 Saturday

denny regals hair people
19199 merrimon road-livonia, michigan - 477-5540

Presents **British Stylist Robert Pearson**
Director of Studio International New York

Models needed for our three day seminar. We will be introducing the latest techniques and hairstyles for fall and winter.

Appointments now being accepted for **Aug. 20, 21, 22.**

For further information 477-5540

Announcing the **Grand Opening** of **ANDY'S Country Boy FRUIT MARKET**

42409 GRAND RIVER, NOVI EAST OF NOVI ROAD-348-2386

Featuring the finest in

- Fresh Fruits & Vegetables
- Farm Fresh Eggs
- Quality Milk Products

By Melody Farms

OPEN MON. thru SAT. 9 A.M. to 8 P.M. SUN. 10 A.M. - 7 P.M.

BEST BUYS THIS WEEK AT ANDY'S

FREESTONE TREE RIPENED PEACHES 99¢ 3 Lbs.

CALIFORNIA SOLID HEAD LETTUCE 3/\$1.00

CHIQUITA BANANAS 19¢ Lb.

Bushel Prices Available for Canning on Most Fruits & Vegetables

MELODY FARMS HOMOGENIZED MILK \$1.38 Gallon Jug

U.S. GRADE A FARM FRESH EXTRA LARGE EGGS 65¢ Dozen