

The longest running musical in town reopens tonight



By RUSTLE SHAND

When the Detroit Symphony Orchestra opens its 65th concert season tonight at Ford Auditorium under the baton of Antal Dorati, the Detroit area will have something new — a world class orchestra.

In honor of the occasion, the Women's Association for the DSO is hosting a pre-concert Opening Night Dinner at the Detroit Athletic Club, with Barbara Tucker as chairwoman.

Among the principles of the orchestra who will be closely watching Maestro Dorati's baton will be Concertmaster Gordon Staples, percussionist Bob Pangborn, tuba player Wes Jacobs and flutist Erv Monroe.

And among the proud patrons at the concert program will be Nancy Dewar, Virginia Mirabito, Valerie Straith and Mrs. Tucker.

Opening night at the symphony traditionally marks the beginning of the fall fashion season. Since the fashion look for fall '79 heralds a return to elegance, incorporating the ambience of dining, dressing and enjoying the arts, what better way to convey the elegance than to photograph principles of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra with members

of the Women's Association, whose dedication to fund raising and support of the orchestra takes much of their time and effort.

For a preview of what concertgoers will see tonight at the opening, we gathered four leading musicians together with four leading patrons for a photographic session.

It was a soft, somewhat breezy, balmy September afternoon and all was very quiet on the gracious grounds at Cranbrook. Quiet, that is, until the talented musicians were tempted by the interesting looking acoustics. Flutist Monroe began to play and fiddler Staples quickly joined in. Suddenly, people began to appear, as if from nowhere.

Children, graduate students and faculty members drifted toward the music, as if drawn by magic. The classic drama of the musicians and the patrons, posed to capture the promised elegance of "Opening Night at the Symphony," caught fire as eyes began to glow and lips began to smile with the thrill of the music, the majesty of nature and the elegance of dress.

DRESSING for opening night is

not a matter of getting all dolled-up in the latest trends, said Mrs. Tucker, who is also past president of the Women's Association and a member of the DSO Board of Directors.

"There is a whole etiquette surrounding dressing for theater and concerts," she said. "Opening night at the symphony calls for something very dressy because it is an opening

would be uncomfortable," she said. For elegance in dress while still combining comfort and ease in sitting, Mrs. Tucker recommends something soft and long or short, beaded, and slender in keeping with the season's silhouette.

Considering the revival of good taste, Mrs. Tucker also said appropriate dress would include a chic

but they also go to listen and their dress should not impose on the ability of all to enjoy the music."

WARMING to the subject, Mrs. Tucker continued to draw on many years of experience as a patron of the arts to further describe the etiquette of proper dress for theater and concertgoers.

"Some no-no's to keep in mind when dressing for elegant evenings," she said, "are noisy things that distract such as jingly bracelets, or earrings that threaten to drop off. Avoid carrying a large handbag that is hard to control. Such things as feather boas and shedding fur pieces really have no place when combined with the black tuxedo dress of the men."

"Avoid a heavy perfume that becomes too overpowering in close quarters. High ornamental hairdos and hats will obscure the vision of those seated behind you and are to be avoided," she said.

The code of manners for concert- or theatergoers includes "sitting quietly and not fussing with accessories, no gum chewing or candy nibbling. Conversation and comments

should wait until after the performance, because bobbing heads are most distracting."

WHEN asked to share their views on dressing for the elegant fall symphony season ahead, the four patrons revealed differing philosophies.

While all agreed that beautiful dressing is a necessary part of the whole ambience, it plays a minor role compared to their enthusiasm for the great success of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. The role dress plays for the occasion is a tribute to the orchestra and a display of good manners rather than a showcase of the latest fashion trends.

"The orchestra is very important to Detroit," said Mrs. Tucker. "We are one of the big cities of the country and we have tried very hard and succeeded in making our orchestra one of the best. It takes a lot of effort to achieve that and most of it is done through support work on the part of volunteers."

"The Detroit Symphony Orchestra has become a major force in the

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— Barbara Tucker, dinner chairwoman

night. But, dressing must still be appropriate for the occasion."

One would not, for example, wear rustling taffeta which is not only noisy but tends to be bouffant. "The sound of the fabric would be distracting and the bulk of the fabric

dinner suit or simple dress with a sequined jacket. "Evening pajamas are also good," she added.

"Clothes have to be fairly simple so you don't annoy those seated nearby. Of course," she said, "people do go to opening night to be seen,

Guests will get fashion tips at Community Center benefit



Master craftswoman

Betty Haynes is a master of many crafts but her special love is decoupage. Madeline Borman and Ruth Donovan (at left and center) chat with Ms. Haynes, a member of the National Decoupage Guild, about classes that begin Friday, Sept. 28 in Farmington Community Center. With expert instruction, sharp

scissors, prints and varnishes, students may choose to work on decoupage under glass or on wood under varnish. Reservations for the morning sessions are being taken now by calling the center, 477-8404. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

A bonus for those who buy tickets for the Farmington Community Center's benefit this month is the running commentary of fashion tips from Kay McClure of Lichfield's of Birmingham.

The fall fashion show and luncheon begins with dutch treat cocktails at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 26, in Vladimir's Restaurant.

The entire fashion parade will be made up of shades of purple and mocha, "and an exciting presentation of six basic black outfits that has been a show stopper every place we've showed this season," Ms. McClure said.

She continues, "The word from New York is that our handbag color will match our basic suit color, with the shoes and hats on their own. But an important tip is that our hose will match our shoe color."

She is convinced women will readily take to the look which will feature a slimmer silhouette, gathered waists, lots of plaids, arty combs, good jewelry, and Dolman sleeves.

She adds, "It will be a look which will make women feel more feminine than they've felt for some time."

In spite of the all-pervading classic look, one of the fads of the season to be shown is the handkerchief hem on the evening gown.

THE BENEFIT's general chairman, Judy Antishin, has 16 models lined up, each representing a subdivision in Farmington or Farmington Hills.

Maryanne Cernak represents Independence Commons, Penny Tribbi represents Canterbury Commons, Mary Foran models for Kimberly, and Anita Solomon, Churchill Commons.

Mary Daly comes to the runway from East Lincolnshire, and Nancy Gilbert from Echo Valley. Jan Saundry represents Pebble Creek and Mae Attard, Meadowbrook Hills.

Lucille Kern represents Forestbrook Hills, and Bonnie Palza, Colony Park. Mariela DeVeto represents Chatham Hills and Suzie Gergia, Woodbrook.

Audrey Turmalis is the model for Woodstream, and Virginia Sturtegger for Greencastle.

Grace Bulman represents Pebblebrook Estates, and Rosemary Fitzpa-

trick represents The Historical District of Farmington.

"The benefit has been coordinated by Farmington area women in a community effort to support the Farmington Community Center," Mrs. Antishin said. "All of us are volunteers."

Her door and raffle-prize chairwomen are Carol Timmer, Sandy Rossin and Marlene Pyko.

Hostesses for the day are Barbara Titus, Joan West, Pat Hamlin and Pat Coleman.

Hospitality chairwoman for the event is Gail Perrin.

TICKET SALES are handled by Kay Blakeney, Dixie Barth, Catherine Gaul, Betty Schwehr, Dorothy Carruthers and Elaine Hogewerf.

Artistic help comes from members of the Farmington Artists Club, Anita Solomon, Gwen Tomkow and Pat Zucato.

Luncheon, preceding the fashion show, begins at 12:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$9 each and may be reserved by calling the center, 477-8404.

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