

Music, art mix well in Sunday series

Thursday, March 6, 1980

(F13)

BY ERIC PETERS

The event was Music at the Galeria on the beautiful campus of St. Mary's College, Orchard Lake. It's a wonderful setting for a Sunday series of music, art, coffee and conversation. In the midst of a showing of vivid watercolor paintings, a delightful chamber recital was given by accomplished performers Ginka Ortega, flutist, and Fedora Horowitz, pianist.

Fertilizer orders taken by phone

Boy Scouts of Troop 179 launch their annual Early Bird Fertilizer Sale this weekend when they will be out in force knocking on neighborhood doors. For those who happen to be out when the scouts call at your door, orders will be taken by calling Gerald Spitzer, 474-5795.

The sale, which is the major fundraising event for the troop, continues through the end of March. The sale offers attractive discounted prices.

The musical duo played works by Schumann, Rachmaninoff and composers from Poland and Bulgaria. Surrounding the audience was a crowd of pictures in the theme "Nature and Interpretation" by Bloomfield Hills artist Berta Cohen.

The program opened with Sonata No. 4 of Michel Elvet, "La Lumagne." The adagio has a lovely flute melody and piano counterpoint, in allegro moderato, the flute leads piano on a merry chase. "Scilleme" is a lilting folksong with piano chord support and presto begins with piano dominant and leading with flute accenting and following, then leap-frogging to take the initiative. In the concluding allegro vivace, the flute and piano match and mirror one another with few excursions.

THE MAJOR WORK for piano solo was Schumann's great "Phantasia" Op. 17, which was begun as a commissioned sonata to Beethoven for the purpose of raising money for his mausoleum.

It became a work dedicated to Schumann's love, Clara, written during an enforced separation from her. He called the first movement the most passionate thing he had ever written. It is an outpouring of full, emotional

splendor. The second movement is a grand march in forte, which resembles, more than coincidentally, a wedding march. The third is a mood of fulfilled, even sentimental contemplation as with an accomplished love.

The second half of the program included a sonata by Polish composer Tadeusz Szulcowski and an Air and Burlesque by Alexander Raitchev, one of Bulgaria's leading composers. Two Etudes Tableaux for piano by Sergei Rachmaninoff, the Op. 33 and 39, bright, scintillating, and with dramatic direction, were played with strength and finesse by Ms. Horowitz.

Swedish Concert by Romantic composer William Popp concluded the recital. Allegro assai is intense and the adagio, moody and sentimental. Allegro vivo is bright dance music with Mrs. Ortega's flute sweetly spinning out a web of rococo embellishments onto the sprightly waltz-time melody.

Founder and director of Music at the Galeria, Mrs. Ginka Ortega is a fine artist with a light touch of great sensibility and delicacy of expression. She plays with a good deal of both warmth and, when needed, severity.

FEDORA HOROWITZ is a strong pianist of highly developed technical ex-

pertise, controlled feeling and polished interpretive ability.

St. Mary's Galeria is one of a cluster of crated red brick buildings on a tree-lined overlooking the frozen lake. Once the seminary chapel, it is now an art gallery run by resident restorer, sculptor and curator Marian Oweczarski, who has acquired a small but select permanent collection of Polish paintings and drawings.

The special exhibit of Mrs. Cohen's work included crayon and pastels, primarily black on white with dashes and blocks of color, of angular figures twisted, seated, reclined. Her watercolor-collages are dense, dark with flames and swirls of red, pink, orange, as in fireworks of the Mardi Gras — or they are brilliant, light and lucid fruits and flowers. Subjects like heavy, grazing cattle or racing horsemen have density and compactness. Brazilian street scenes are looser in design, more pastiche, more open and free.

Next concert for Music at the Galeria will feature guest artist from New York, Elizabeth Szczygielska, mezzo soprano, accompanied by Richard Phipps, cello, and Curtis Pospisil, piano. Music for the March 23 concert will be by Pergolesi, Brahms, Kodaly, Tchaikowski, Moniuszko, Szimanowski, and Lutostawski.



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