Live theater, concerts keep night scene active

By ETHEL SIMMONS

Where do you go for fun? In south Oakland County, the summer season is filled with outdoor music. There's legitimate theater, too. And for more music, area night spots feature Detroit's best in jazz, pop, country and classics.

Meadow Brook Music Festival at Baldwin Pavilion on the Oakland University campus in Rochester continues the third week of its 17th season. The spectacular wooded setting centers around an open-air pavilion, while up on the hill more concertgoers gather to picnic and listen on the grass.

Thursday and Saturday nights offer classical concerts. Italian conductor Gaetano Delogu conducts the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in music by Rossini, Liszt and Tchaikovsky, with pianist Earl Wild as guest soloist at 8:30 p.m. Thursday.

Soviet violinist Gidon Kremer is soloist at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, again with Gaetano Delogu conducting the DSO in works of Schumann, Berg and Hindemith.

YOUNG PEOPLE are not neglected in the classics, with a children's concert at Meadow Brook at 11 a.m. Saturday. Along with Saint-Saens' "Carnival of the Animals," (and DSO flutist Erv Monroe conducting the Oakland Youth Symphony), there will be farm animals to pet from Upland Hills Farm.

Jazz-lovers have a fabulous opportunity to hear three of the all-time great jazz bands at 8:30 p.m. Friday when drummer Buddy Rich and his band, Woody Herman and His Thundering Herd and Larry Elgart and the Elgart Orchestra get together at Meadow Brook.

For more about these concerts, call the box office at 377-2101.

Other concerts in a popular vein are scheduled at Pine Knob Music Theatre in Clarkston, continuing its ninth season. Kenny Loggins and Firefall appear at 7:30 p.m. Thursday; composer and vocalist Barry Manilow at 8:30 p.m. Friday-Tuesday.

Pine Knob's pavilion and grass seats attract a crowd as colorful as the performers, a contrast to Meadow Brook's more sedately suburban audience.

For ticket information call 647-7790.

Free outdoor concerts include the Good Old Boys with country western music at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Jaycee Park in Troy; the 1st Marine Band — President Lincoln's own — on the In the Park series at 8 p.m. Thusday in Shain Park, Birmingham; and Eric Rosenow and his Continentals, Stan Adamus and his Orchestra, with continental and polka music, at 7 p.m. Sunday in the "Sun Bowl" at Prudential Tower Center in Southfield.

IN THE THEATER world, vocalist/actress Peggy Lee stas as the narrator who also sings Stephen Sondheim Broadway show hits, in "Side by Side by Sondheim" at the Birmingham Theatre.

The pre-Broadway run of this musical revue, also featuring four other fine voices, continues through July 20. For tickets call 644-3533.

Laughter fills the air at the Comedy Castle at Friday's in West Bloomfield. Young, professional comics are featured Wednedays-Saturdays, and the current star is one of Detroit's own talents, Thom Sharp.

A comic whose delivery is as incisive as his name, Sharp moved to Los Angeles three years ago and has appeared on Martin Mull's "America 2Night" and "Fernwood Tonight," "Merv Griffin," "Make Me Laugh" and the "Tonight" show.

There's one show at 9 p.m. Thursday and two shows, at 8:30 and 11 p.m., Friday-Saturday. For more information or reservations call the nightclub at 851-3252.

Children will be entertained with fantasy when a puppet theater production of "King Arthur's Legends" is presented at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday in Studio Theatre of Varner Hall on the Oakland University campus.

The show is offered by the School of Performing Arts and the Theatre Arts and Summer Arts programs. Performances continue July 22-23, 29-30 and Aug. 5-6, 12-13.

Tickets are available at the door; for details call 377-2000 or 377-3016.

THEATER COMBINES with a buffet from Alfred's restaurant, at Alfred's Dinner Theatre, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays at Somerset Mall in Troy. "Under the Yum Yum Tree" a satire is presented by Jimmy Launce Productions.

For reservations call 643-8865.

Classical music is paired with food at Concerts a la Carte, at Tweeny's Cafe in Birmingham. Misha Rachlevsky, violin; Linda Smedden-Smith, violin; I-Fu Wang, viola; and David Saltzman, cello, perform at 8:30 p.m. Monday. The concert is preceded by appetizer and entree, followed by dessert.

Dinner and concert are priced separately, with dinner reservations accepted for 5:30-7 p.m. Phone 644-0050 for more information.

A late-night "Nightcap with Mozart" series fetures Debra Fayroian, cello, and Maria Marielles, piano, at 11 p.m. Friday at the Birmingham Unitarian Church, Bloomfield Hills.

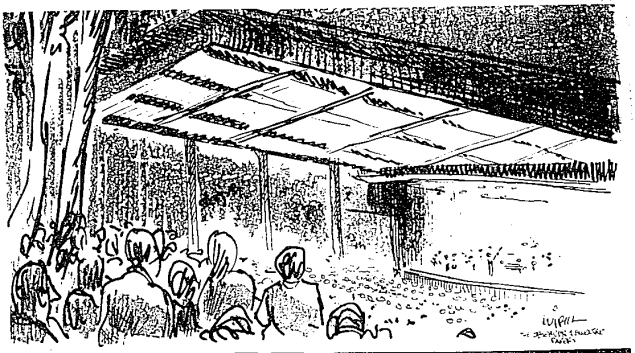
Wine and beverages precede the concert; an afterglow follows. More details are available by calling 851-8934.

ON THE NIGHT life scene, dancers who groove to the big band sound can find it at Roma's of Bloomfield from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturdays in Bloomfield Township and with Dick Murphy's band from 9 p.m. to midnight Sundays at Angie's in Farmington Township.

The Joe Grande Trio plays for listening and dancing 7:30-11:30 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays and 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Fridays-Saturdays at Eden Glen in Troy. Saxony, a six-piece dance group with vocalist Alice Morgan, performs Top 40 dance tunes 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Mondays-Saturdays through July 19 at Dewey's in the Michigan Inn in Southfield.

Jam sessions with jazz artists Gary Shunk on piano, Danny Jordan on bass, Larry Bell on drums and George "Sax" Benson on saxophone take place at 7:30 p.m. Sundays at Cafe Fior in Franklin Plaza, Southfield.

For blues fans, the Progressive Blues Band plays Mondays-Tuesdays at the Blue Parrot bar and grill in Franklin Shopping Plaza, Southfield. Detroit's rock and roll sound, as exemplified by the group Radio City, can be heard through Sunday at the Wagon Wheel Saloon in Troy.



Buddy Rich is one of three band leaders bringing their groups to the Meadow Brook Music Festival at 8:30 p.m. Friday. Sketch above shows the festival's Baldwin Pavilion.

Peggy Lee sings in "Side by Side by Sondheim," musical revue at the Birmingham Theatre through July 20.

Comic Thom Sharp appears through Saturday at the Comedy Castle in West Bloomfield.

Radio City plays rock and rock at the Wagon Wheel Saloon in Troy.

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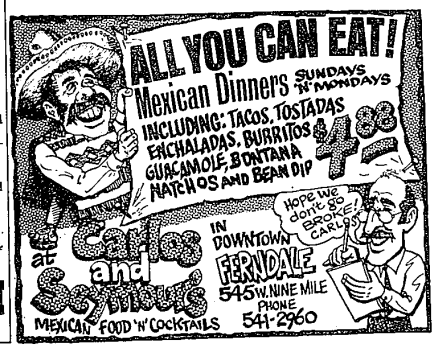

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