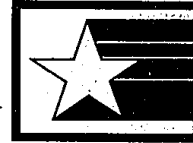


# Entertainment

Ethel Simmons editor/644-1100



Thursday, November 8, 1984 O&E

(B, R-7C) O&E

## Orchestra's own players get to shine

By Mary Jane Doerr  
special writer

**R**ARELY DO THE principals of orchestras perform in solo with their orchestra to give us an opportunity to enjoy the talents of these instrumentalists. This is not only true of professional orchestras but particularly of community symphonies.

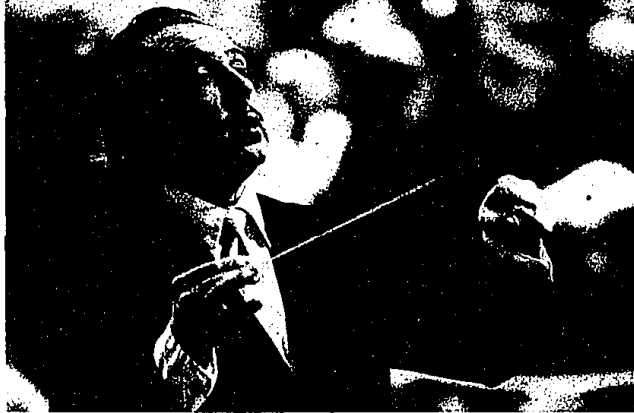
Oakway Symphony Orchestra's Conductor Francesco Di Biasi programmed a pleasant concert Sunday featuring six of his principal players, oboist Emily Frome, clarinetist Lauran Mitchell, bassoonist Gary Caperton, hornist Carl Karoub, flutist Roger Welton and Concertmaster Emily Mutter Austin.

Probably one of the most beautiful solos in all of violin literature is Massenet's "Meditation," Austin's choice. She had some problems with a broken string but once she got into "Meditation," the lovely tone that typifies her and the string section of the Oakway Symphony Orchestra came through in the very romantic melody.

Roger Welton, principal flutist, came through with a strong performance of Kolar's "Bagatelle." Former principal Pamela Hill was in the orchestra Sunday, but demands on her as the principal of the Michigan Opera Theatre orchestra in the production of "Magic Flute" limit her time with Oakway.

ONE OF THE delightful numbers of the afternoon was the "Symphonie Concertante" by Mozart. The first movement was performed by Frome, Mitchell, Caperton and Karoub with the orchestra in a very pleasing rendition of the classical composition. It was a straightforward, clear and precise interpretation.

The Oakway Symphony Orchestra has a dominant string section that has quite a pleasing sound. It was interesting Sunday to hear its brass section featured in a solid performance of Gabrielli's



ART EMANUELE/staff photographer

"Cantata Noul Tonl for Three Brass Chords." Three groups played, each featuring two trumpets, one French horn and one trombone. The work was well done, with strong performances from the three groups.

For a conclusion to the first half, Oakway's frequent guest conductor, Ernest Jones, came out and conducted music from the 1950's TV series "Victory at Sea."

The concert came to a climax with Symphony No. 4 by Robert Schumann, a romantic symphony if there ever was one. It is not the brightest of Schumann's larger works, something he was not appreciated for. His smaller pieces seemed to be more accepted. In his four symphonies, Schumann's darker moods become more and more apparent up to this, his final symphony.

WITH ITS SLOW introduction and its rambling away from any format, coupled with his dark agitated themes, the symphony is not one of my favorites. Di Biasi's interpretation of the work gave it excitement, integrating the various phrasing and themes, for a very favorable performance.

Oakway Symphony's music director and conductor, Francesco Di Biasi, led the orchestra in a concert Sunday afternoon that featured solos by its members rather than guest soloists. Musical highlights of the program "Soloists from the OBO" included the "Symphonie Concertante" by Mozart and Symphony No. 4 by Robert Schumann. Three more concerts will be presented on the season's schedule, plus a cabaret concert.



Mary Jane Doerr

There is only a brief pause between the first and second movements, which gives a continuity to the symphony. Di Biasi provided meaning to the work by emphasizing the themes as they were repeated during the different movements.

Oakway Symphony Orchestra will perform the "Nutcracker Ballet" on Friday, Dec. 7, at Harrison High School in Farmington Hills. Winners of the Young Artists Competition will be presented at Harrison on Feb. 24, and Bach Concertos for Two, Three and Four Pianos is scheduled for April 28 at Harrison.

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