ack of mass appeal stifled interest

By Avigdor Zaromp special writer

The Detroit Symphony Orchestra resumed its regular series last week following the holiday pause. Ford Auditorlum had a lot of empty seats on Thursday, with what probably was the lowest attendance of this season.

One possible reason could be that two of the three works on the program have not yet established a record of mass appeal. One of these, "Seven Early Songs" by Berg, composed in 1905, can hardly be classified as modern.

The other work, the Symphony No. 3 by Wi-

Program piece:

It's a tradition

THE CHALLENGE that Bach's mustor presents to the performers is more often mentioned than the performer of actual performance of everence the stander task, as evidenced at Varner Hall last week. However, the many rewarding moments made the event worthwhile.

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weil-known work to be earth-shaking in terms of ingenuity, a reasonable effort should be made to keep the interest alive.

Such interest was defi-nitely lacking here. Among the few diver-sions from the overall monotony were some out-of-tune horn blasts in the trio of the third move-ment's minuet.

Mezzo Soprano Flor-

carryling this point to its stage, excluding the applause, was less than 15 minutes. While it is true that content is nor important than length, engaging a guest artist for such a short time is a short time is whatsoever.

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This was true for Macs-tro Kord, for whom this

freedom to improvise within well-defined limits. I found several of the contrapuntal passages to be interesting. While I don't knew the work sufficiently to have a meaningful opinion of its quality, it seems to be worth a deeper exploration.

Kazimierz Kord will be the guest conductor this



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