

upcoming things to do

● NOSTALGIC MUSIC

"Detroit's Shake Rattle and Roll," a musical revue of the '50s and '60s, followed by '50s and '60s dance music, is presented Friday nights at Cruzado's Comedy Club at Cruzado's Entertainment Center in the Allen Park Motor Lodge. The revue spoofs stars such as Sonny and Cher, Bill Haley and the Comets, and Elvis Presley. Dancing to music played by a deejay runs until 12:30 a.m. For more information, call 386-6900 or 683-174P.

● AVON PLAYERS

Musical hit "Woman of the Year" will be presented by Avon Players from Thursday, April 30, through Saturday, May 16, at the playhouse in Rochester Hills. Becky MacIntyre of Troy stars as Tess and Tony Matter of Bloomfield Hills as Sam. For ticket information, call 739-4660.

● SPANISH DANCER

Flamenco dance Maria del Carmen and her Spanish dancing group will appear in concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, April 11, at Cranbrook Kingswood's Performing Arts Center in Bloomfield Hills. The event is sponsored by Cranbrook Kingswood School's La Sociedad Honoraria Hispanica, Chapter Juan Carlos I. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for students and senior citizens. For more information, call 645-2440.

● 'MUSIC MACHINE'

Two area residents will appear on the second show of "The Music Machine," which goes national beginning April 4 for its fourth season on Channel 4, WDIV-TV. Karen Newman of Bloomfield Hills and Russ Parks of Birmingham will appear on the broadcast Saturday, April 11. The syndicated, talent show hosted by Curtis Gadsden features competition between singers.

● ACTOR'S WORKSHOP

A one-day intensive training for actors will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 25, at the Actors Workshop in Southfield. The session is designed for beginners and advanced actors, as well as models. Cost is \$60 per person, not including meals. For more information, call the Actor's Workshop at 443-0052.

● BENEFIT NIGHT

A performance of the Pulitzer-Prize-winning play "Talley's Folly" will be presented by St. Dunstan's Guild to benefit Cranbrook House at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 9, at St. Dunstan's Theatre in Bloomfield Hills. Tickets at \$10 per person include dessert and coffee served at 7:30 p.m., as well as an afterglow following the performance and shuttle bus service from the Christ Church parking lot. For tickets and information, call 398-5735 or 644-6527.

● SPRING CONCERT

Dan Ross will be featured soloist at the annual spring concert of the Farmington Musicale at 8 p.m. Friday, April 10, at Farmington High School Auditorium. Ross, a French hornist, is a former first-place Musicale Scholarship winner. He attends the University of Michigan on a full-tuition scholarship from Interlochen. Tickets at \$4, \$2 for students and seniors, will be available at the door. An afterglow will follow the concert.

● ARTS PROGRAM

"The Public Access program 'This Week in the Arts,' seen at 9:05 p.m. Wednesdays on Channel 52 of the United Cable Television of Oakland County, has changed its name to 'This Month in the Arts.' The program will change on a monthly basis, rather than weekly. Featured are regular segments on television, theater and film, as well as explorations into all other forms of art.

Music for piano and viola is limited

By Avigdor Zaromp
special writer



Avigdor
Zaromp

While there are quite a few established chamber music series with a good track record, there is always room for more. The latest on the scene is "Chamber Music, Unlimited," taking place at the McAuley Auditorium, in Mercy College of Detroit.

The first featured pianist Jaqueline Schmitt, a frequent chamber performer. Her efforts in behalf of quality music are unrelenting and uncompromising. On this program, she was joined by Detroit Symphony Orchestra violist Vincent Lioni. Most of the program was works for piano and viola.

The repertoire for this combination is limited. It is a real challenge to come up with a program for these instruments which is sufficiently rewarding and eventful.

Needless to say, most of the works on this program are seldom performed. They were by unknowns such as Rebecca Clarke (1886-1979) and Adrian Cruft (b. 1921).

Some of the better known composers were Liszt, Pisto, Martini and Brahms. In between, Schmitt gave a solo performance of the first 12 preludes by Chopin, preceded by the first Bach prelude from the "Well Tempered Clavier."

The Passacaglia on an old English tune by Clarke was a well crafted

work by a composer who had a long life, but without much artistic immortality. Overall, the correlation between the quality of the music and the fame of the composer was hardly a surprise.

Of the 20th century works, the sonata by Martini seemed to be the best, a subjective evaluation. Liszt's "Romance Oubliee" is a subtitled work, completely different from his fast-moving, dazzling technical displays.

While the more obscure works offered some interesting insight into the piano and viola repertoire, the

first portion of the program had one drawback. For the most part, the selections were slow, low-key movements. After a while, it became difficult to maintain the attention span.

The second portion was far more rewarding. While the Bach prelude sounded stylistically more like Chopin than Bach, the subsequent Chopin preludes were more in place. The performance of these became more convincing as they progressed.

The program culminated with its best item (at least in my opinion) — the Sonata in F Minor for Piano and Viola. It is better known in its original form — for piano and clarinet. The higher caliber of this work was reflected in the impressive performance. It is always a good feeling to return to the great masters.

Next program in the series, on April 25, will feature piano trios by Haydn and Beethoven and a piano quartet by Dvorak. Satisfaction guaranteed — no lemons.

Flutist plays Friday night

Flutist Julius Baker will be the guest soloist for the Detroit Chamber Winds concert at 8 p.m. Friday at Wallace Smith Theatre, Orchard Ridge Campus, Oakland Community College, Farmington Hills. Baker was principal flute for the New York Philharmonic for many years. He currently does solo and chamber music performances and is on the faculty of the Juillard School and Curtis Institute of Music.

With the Detroit Chamber Winds, he will play Kennan's "Night Soliloquy" and join the ensemble in Gounod's Petite Symphonie. Detroit Chamber Winds will conclude the program with Mozart's Grand Partita, Serenade No. 10.

Detroit Chamber Winds musicians are from the ranks of the Detroit Symphony and Michigan Opera Theatre orchestras. It was founded in 1982 and has received many favorable reviews.

Tickets are \$9 and \$7 for students and seniors. For information, call 651-0DCV.

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