

# Orchestra Hall boasts a storied history

Continued from Page 1

Clara Clemens Gabrieliwitsch describes the event in her book, "My Husband, Gabrieliwitsch." "In spite of great haste to meet an inflexible date, the magnificent architect, Mr. Robert Crane, conceived and built a concert hall that not only Detroit, but all America may be proud of."

"The site was exactly right, both artistically and practically. It seated 2,300 people and the acoustics filled the requirements of musical sound. The soft decorations in blue-green shades gave esthetic pleasure — in fact, one fell in love with the place."

ON CONCERT nights, Parsons was designated a one-way street. The carriage trade would arrive in their chauffeur-driven autos at the side door and go directly to their boxes. Since the balcony can only be reached through the front lobby, the hot polio entered from Woodward.

Each chauffeur was given a

number before he drove off to park on Woodward. After the concert, an electronic device on the marquee displayed the appropriate number, signaling to the chauffeurs that their party was at the door.

Gabrieliwitsch conducted the DSO for 18 triumphant seasons. Tragically, he died of cancer on Sept. 14, 1936. He was only 58. At the public funeral in Orchestra Hall, the orchestra played Schubert's "Unfinished Symphony," as Gabrieliwitsch had wished.

Gabrieliwitsch had assisted in the foundation of the Palestine Orchestra. A grove of 1,100 trees was planted in his honor in Palestine. The Gabrieliwitsch Grove stands today, in Upper Galilee.

IT WAS the depths of the Depression and the orchestra was struggling for survival.

On July 17, 1939, the orchestra played its last concert at Orchestra Hall and moved to the new Masonic Auditorium. The magnificent hall, where Heifetz, Swartrout,

Stravinsky, Rubenstein and George Gershwin had performed, became a first-run movie house, re-named the Town Theatre.

There was a brief golden period, 1943-52, when, as the Paradise Theatre, the hall featured jazz greats such as Count Basie and Duke Ellington.

From 1953-58, the grand old building served as the Church of Our Prayer. It then was abandoned to the elements and to vandals.

The DSO, under maestro Antal Dorati, continued to record there, however, and groups such as the Cantata Society of Detroit rehearsed there, holding umbrellas from raindrops and from the pigeons who infested the crumbling interior.

IN 1959, the hall was sacked by vandals, chairs were smashed, ropes cut, and scenery and curtains torn.

On Sept. 17, 1970, Richard Marger, leasing manager for the Professional Plaza, across the street from Orchestra Hall, looked out his

window and saw ladders leaning against the Parsons wall of the building.

Inquiring, he learned that the hall was scheduled to be demolished in two weeks, to make way for a fast-food outlet.

Mager contacted DSO bassoonist Paul Ganson, who had joined the orchestra in 1949. The two of them convinced Gino's Pizza, Inc. to sell the hall for \$100,000.

All they needed was a down payment of \$25,000 to secure a mortgage.

IN 1971, David Dodge, an architect, a music lover, and a grandson of Horace Dodge, flew back to the United States from Switzerland for the express purpose of saving Orchestra Hall. His check for \$100,000 saved the day. In 1971, Orchestra Hall was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

A volunteer group, Save Orchestra Hall, Inc., was formed to raise money to pay for restoration. Concerts were offered to acquaint the citizens of Detroit with the acoustical marvel in their midst.

Paul Ganson recalls a concert given by pianist James Tocco in June 1971, to show off the hall's acoustics. "In the middle of a particularly delicate passage, Tocco was accompanied by the 'Coo, coo' of pigeons."

Today, Save Orchestra Hall owns the facility. Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall, a partnership between the boards of Save Orchestra Hall and the DSO, operates it. (Yes, the pigeons are long gone.)

IT TOOK 20 years, but the Orchestra Hall that thrills music lovers today is almost identical to the hall that Clara Gabrieliwitsch fell in love with in 1919.

The work was done in two phases.

The first, costing over \$5.3 million, covered the necessities, including a new stage and new stage and aisle lighting, a new sprinkler system and expansion of restrooms.

The second phase, almost as meticulous as the original four-month construction, cost \$1.5 million. In only nine weeks, the interior of the

hall was restored to its original elegance.

AIDED BY paint preservationist (and former Detroiters) Darla Olson, colors were researched and carefully matched. Working from old photos to reproduce the original artwork, Evergreen Painting Studio of New York effected the decorative painting. Twelve painters and one supervisor worked 10 hours a day, five days a week, to complete the painting.

Like the acoustics, the visual effect can't be described; it has to be experienced.

Paul Ganson, certainly the single person most responsible for the preservation and restoration of Detroit's treasure, said: "No matter how often a musician plays a great piece of music, there's always something to discover: some nuance that has escaped attention before."

"And every time I walk into the hall, as many times as I've been here, as closely as I've been involved in the restoration, I see something new and wonderful."



Music director Neeme Jarvi leads the DSO in the newly restored Orchestra Hall.

## Jarvi in full swing at the helm

Continued from Page 1

JARVI EMIGRATED to the U.S. in 1980, making his American orchestra debut with the New York Philharmonic. Since then, he has conducted major orchestras in North America and Europe.

He's equally renowned for his opera conducting, including with the Metropolitan Opera.

This year, he conducted with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Berlin Philharmonic, the Cleveland Orchestra and the Boston Symphony.

Jarvi has won awards for his recordings of the complete

Prokofiev symphonies as well as his ongoing project to record all of Sibelius' orchestral music.

Jarvi will be the guest at the pre-concert conversation at 7 p.m. Friday in the ANR Pipeline Friday Night Concert Series. There is no additional charge to attend the conversation, hosted by writer and music critic Lawrence B. Johnson.

Johnson will be guest for the AT&T Thursday Night Concert Series lecture, also at 7 p.m.

Activities of Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall are made possible in part with support of the City of Detroit Council of the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Michigan Council for the Arts.



organizing  
**Dorothy Lehmkuhl**

## Learning to organize: a key to secure living

ONE OF my seminar students had a story I felt might be helpful, interesting and possibly create discussion on several aspects of organizing (names are fictitious):

"I've been reading your column with intense interest as you mention right-brained people organize in a different way than left-brained people. This is of particular interest to me. I'm an artist, very right-brained and have found it difficult to organize."

"I've been working on my problem for about 10 years. When I began my business, I was highly motivated to organize my files, work and home in order to function more efficiently. The book 'Messies Manual' (by Sandra Fellen) helped me a great deal."

"My problem was that I made progress in this area, but I was ready to kill my daughter, Jane, who continued in her messy ways. Her room was so cluttered, one could not walk across the floor as there were clothes, books, garbage, etc. Trying out for the part of Mother of the Year and being a former school teacher, I decided to follow the advice of the experts and just 'close the door.'"

"Once when I had just folded some of Jane's laundry, I decided to place it in her dresser drawer to avoid having to wait for her to do it. She was 17 years old then, I opened the drawer and wondered why there was a dirty sock sitting in there. Lo and behold, the sock contained a box of assorted pills. I called the poison control center to find out one was a tranquilizer and the others were diet pills. It was then I realized my daughter was using drugs."

"That was five years ago. She was put in a recovery program and now has been sober for four years. Although she has made great strides in many areas of her life, such as getting a 3.5 grade average in college (when she got D's in high school), working as a legal secretary etc., she still does not clean her room."

**'I'm an artist, very right-brained and have found it difficult to organize.'**

"I told her to clean her room or move, so she moved out to an apartment on campus. I know her messy ways have gotten her in trouble with her roommates. Since I've suffered much pain and embarrassment because of my problem, I wanted to save her from the same pain. I know now that's impossible to do."

"I have five children; some of them are messy, some are not. My youngest daughter, Deanna, is messy. She is in the eighth grade. I have decided that she is living in my house and my house is going to stay neat and orderly, so I will not 'close the door.'"

"Instead, every day I go into her room and help her pick it up. I don't allow her to pile things under her bed, behind her dresser, etc. I so wish I had done that with my older daughter. I feel so guilty for not teaching her to organize. But I really didn't know how to organize. At any rate, that's my story. I hope it helps others who are struggling to find peace, order and contentment in their lives."

You can still enroll in the last three "Organizing For Success" classes at the Birmingham Community House. Call 644-5832 for information. Dorothy Lehmkuhl is a Birmingham-based time management consultant. Her column runs weekly in Creative Living.

## exhibitions

● **MUCCIOLI STUDIO GALLERY**  
Paintings and drawings by Jerome Cebalak are on display through Nov. 9. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 511 Beaubien, Detroit.

● **MESA ARTS**  
Paintings on wool by Cathy P. Aten are on display through Nov. 17. She is a Santa Fe artist who grew up in Bloomfield Hills, 3280 Franklin Road, Franklin.

● **CREATIVE ARTS CENTER**  
"The Day of the Dead: A Celebration" is the theme for the exhibit, which continues to Nov. 23. Eight contemporary artists will have individual installations or environments on this theme. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, until 2 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, 47 Williams, Pontiac.

● **SWIDLER GALLERY**  
"Table Settings" by Paul Kotule and Bill Brouillard continue on display through Nov. 17. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, until 5 p.m. Saturday, 308 W. Fourth, Royal Oak.

● **FEIGENSON/PRESTON GALLERY**  
Sculpture by New York artist John Crawford continues through Nov. 17, 796 North Woodward, Birmingham.

● **GALLERIE 434**  
Contemporary glass sculpture features new pieces by 12 artists. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, until 8 p.m. Thursday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 15105 Kercheval, Grosse Pointe Park.

● **ARTSPACE**  
"Lola Teicher: Small Sculptures and Drawings" continues through Nov. 15. There's more variety than ever since the gallery moved to larger space, 434 N. Woodward, Birmingham.

● **GALLERY ARTERIA**  
"Marilyn Spencer, My People My Places," is this artist's palette of lifestyles in acrylic on paper and canvas. Continues through Nov. 10, 112 Penbody, Birmingham.

● **PARK WEST GALLERY**  
"A World of Color, 22 paintings and 29 lithographs by Marcel Mouly's 55-year career, are on display through November. He is one of France's most celebrated artists and has had more than 50 one-man shows around the world. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, until 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 29469 Northwestern, Southfield.

● **ROBERT KIDD GALLERY**  
New paintings by Deloss McGraw and sculpture by Gary Kulak are on exhibit through Nov. 19. Hours are 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 107 Townsend, Birmingham.

● **CLAUDIA BROWLIE**  
Group show marks the change of location from the Michigan Design Center to downtown Birmingham for this gallery, which carries very contemporary art both functional and decorative, 574 N. Woodward, Birmingham.

● **DOS MANOS**  
"The Days of the Dead, A Mexican Tradition" includes a variety of crafts relating to this holiday celebration. Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday, until 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 210 West Sixth, Royal Oak.

● **CENTER GALLERIES**  
Exhibition of work by the crafts department faculty continues through Nov. 21. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, until 4 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, 15 E. Kirby, Detroit.

● **DETROIT FOCUS**  
"Continuum," a show that expresses the pluralistic contours of contemporary American art, continues through Nov. 10. Hours are noon to 6 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, 743 Beaubien, Detroit.

● **CITY ARTS GALLERY**  
"Wildlife Design," an exhibit of photographs by Kerry D. Bowman, black and white and color, taken over 1 1/2 years at Detroit Zoo, continues through Nov. 11. Regular hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, 47 E. Adams, Detroit.

● **T'MARRA GALLERY**  
Sculpture by Russell Thayer and paintings by Richard Brooks continue through November. Hours are 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Saturday, until 9 p.m. Friday, 111 N. First St., Ann Arbor.

● **ARNOLD KLEIN GALLERY**  
Original lithographs, etchings, woodcuts and drawings with bird and fish themes are on display through Nov. 17. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 4520 N. Woodward, Royal Oak.

● **SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES GALLERY**  
"Cultural Exchanges," with paintings by Virginia Makymowicz and photography by Blaise Tobin, continues through Dec. 26, 45 E. Adams, E. Adams at Grand Circus Park, Detroit.

● **SUSANNE HILBERRY GALLERY**  
"Jun Kaneko — Ceramic Sculpture" continues through Nov. 10. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 555 S. Woodward, Birmingham.

● **XOCHIPILLI GALLERY**  
New work by Stephen Hansen will be at the gallery through Nov. 3. His humorous, close to full scale, paper-made people scenes are more involved than ever. Hours are 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 568 N. Woodward, Birmingham.

● **PRINT GALLERY**  
Paintings by Detroit's Janet Anderson continue through Oct. 30. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday, until 9 p.m. Thursday, 29203 Northwestern, Southfield.

● **KINGSWOOD LOWER GALLERY**  
"Wall Pieces and Photo Installations" by Andreea Elia continue on display through October. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays, 500 Lone Pine, Bloomfield Hills.

● **ROUTE 10 GALLERY**  
Joseph Kendrick's highly textural paintings explore the possibilities of acrylic mixed media. Large abstract studies on canvas are featured. 32430 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills. Hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday; Thursdays until 9 p.m.

● **J. GIORANDO GALLERY**  
Exhibition featuring the works of Detroit-area artist Tom Roy — oils, watercolors, cartoons, wearable art, pen and ink, pencil drawings — continues through Nov. 9, 426 S. Main, Northville.

● **HENRY FORD CENTENNIAL LIBRARY**  
Four paintings by V. Janus Benda of Farmington Hills are hanging in the library rotunda through October, Dearborn.

● **GALVEZ GALLERY**  
"Ruins of the Fox" by Gloria A. Halcomb-Ivan Kendle continues through Nov. 27, 3356 Bagley, Detroit.

● **DAM STUDIO**  
Features many local artists. Large floral watercolors, oil paintings, pen and ink drawings. Hours are noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, 710 Mill, Plymouth.

● **RADISSON ON THE LAKE**  
Water media invitational includes works by 30 students of Igor Begita. This is the Radisson EMU Corporate Education Center, 1275 Huron, Ypsilanti. Art work is for sale, continues through Dec. 28.

## Music event slated

Jeffrey Zook and Michele Cooker will perform in concert Wednesday at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia.

Pianist and flutist Cooker is well known to chamber music audiences throughout the country. She has appeared in concert series in the major cultural centers of the United States.

She has recorded with members of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and is a faculty member at the Detroit Institute of Music and Dance.

Zook is one of the Midwest's rising young artists. He has won several competitions and has performed with the DSO. He has since appeared as guest soloist with several orchestras in the United States and Europe.

All Music Club concerts are scheduled for 1-3 p.m. Wednesdays in the Liberal Arts Theatre. There is no admission charge.