

Symphony features young artists in May 2 concert

By Linda Ann Chomlin
special writer

From the 19th century classicism of Mozart to the 20th century modernism of Russian composer Shostakovich, the Livonia Symphony Orchestra's 6 p.m. Saturday, May 2, concert featuring the winners of its Young Artists Competition promises an evening of drama and youthful energy.

The final concert of the season is in the Church Hill High School Auditorium, 1500 Newburgh, Livonia.

Tickets are \$10, (\$5 seniors/students). The Livonia Civic Center Library, Farmington Road, at Five Mile Road, Livonia, University, Schoolcraft and Levan, Hammett Music, 15634 Middlebelt, and at the door the

night of the concert.

"EVERYTHING WE'RE playing on this concert whether the audience is familiar with it or not is very listenable. They will hear orchestral colors, they'll never hear anywhere else," said conductor Francesco DiBlasi.

Guest soloists performing with the orchestra, Dana Lentini, soprano, and Jeremy Van Hoy, euphonium, won first place in vocal and instrumental categories at the 1990's 14th Young Artists Competition held in January at Madonna University.

Lentini, 25, of Harper Woods, and Van Hoy, 19, of Detroit, competed against 36 promising young artists from Michigan for \$3000 in prizes, taking home \$1000 each.

"Both of them can get on a concert stage tomorrow. They sound finished like they've been playing or singing professionally for years," said DiBlasi.

Along with the cash prizes, Lentini and Van Hoy were awarded the opportunity to perform with the Livonia Symphony.

"Everytime you perform you gain more control in your own performance. With each performance, the more polished you become," DiBlasi said.

ONE OF the most favorite overtures in all of music literature from Mozart's tragicomic opera, Don Giovanni opens the program. Shostakovich's "Symphony No. 5 in D minor," follows.

"The orchestration is marvelous," DiBlasi said. "Shostakovich to get through school, played in the old movie houses. There's some connection between his early symphonies and the movie houses."

Following the dramatic music of the Fifth, "Battli, Battli" from Mozart's Don Giovanni, and "Musetta's Waltz" from Puccini's opera, La Boheme spotlight Lentini's vocal talent.

"It's a great opportunity. I would have been elated even if I hadn't won the cash prize because of the opportunity to perform with the Livonia Symphony and Maestro DiBlasi," Lentini said.

Lentini graduated from the University of Southern California with a Bachelor of Music degree in performance. She will sing in the chorus of upcoming Michigan Opera Theatre productions of "Samson and Delilah."

After intermission, "Koncert in F minor," originally written for trumpet by Oskar Bohme showcases Van Hoy.

A JUNIOR, majoring in euphonium performance at the University of Michigan, Van Hoy studies with Fritz Kaenzig.

"It's one of the greatest feelings. I've ever had going up against flute and trumpet and piano, and winning," Van Hoy said.

"I'm looking forward to playing with the orchestra. It's pretty rare for a euphonium to solo. It's a special chance for me."

A trombonist with the Jackson Symphony, Van Hoy also plays euphonium with the symphony at the University of Michigan.

"Van Hoy is fantastic. The euphonium is a classy baritone. It's the Cadillac of the brass family," DiBlasi said.

The final selection of the evening is the overture to the romantic German opera, "Tannhauser" by Wagner.

Substituting for concertmaster, Victoria Hattom, who is rehearsing for performances with the MPT, is Julia Kurtyka from the Dearborn Symphony.

The concert is sponsored in part by the Livonia Arts Commission, and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.

table talk

Punchinello's
Punchinello's, near the Birmingham Theatre in Birmingham is celebrating its 10th anniversary. Fine food, cabaret shows downstairs 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday nights for \$15 per person. Friday nights include a go with free hors d'oeuvres. New coffee and vodka bar. Call 644-5211 for information/reservations.

Dinner theater
"Don't Drink the Water" Fridays and Saturdays through May 2 at the Holiday Inn 2537 Rochester Court in Troy. Buffet dinner 7:30 p.m. show starts 9 p.m. Show and dinner \$22.50

Roma's
Big band dance party featuring the Joe Vitale Orchestra, 8 p.m. to Midnight, Saturday, May 2, at Roma's of Bloomfield, 2101 South Telegraph, in Bloomfield Hills. Tickets \$10 per person in advance, \$12.50 at the door. Call 332-9237 for information. Dinner and dancing package available for \$24.95 a person.

Jimmy's Restaurant
Music faculty from the Center for

Creative Studies in Detroit with suburban branches in Plymouth and Southfield, will perform during the noon lunch hour and after business hours at Jimmy's Restaurant, 630 Woodward in Detroit. Bass Bonifier and bassist Paul Keller will perform 6-8 p.m. Thursdays. For more information, call 954-3200.

Machus Sly Fox
Machus Sly Fox presents murder mystery dinner theater, 7 p.m. Saturday, May 16. Cost \$99 per couple includes wine, appetizer, salad, dinner entree, non-alcoholic beverages, dessert, tax, gratuity. For reservations, call 642-6900.

Max & Erma's
Jazz at Max & Erma's Restaurants, 31205 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, 9:30 p.m. to midnight Sundays.

Hudsons
Celebrate Mother's Day at Oakland University's Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tickets \$10 mom, \$7.50 friend, of mom, on sale now, includes boxed lunch of honey-grated turkey topped with cheddar cheese and served on multi-grain bun, fresh fruits and vegetables, gift for mom, and other surprises. Students from St. Michael's Choir School in Toronto

will perform at 12:30 p.m. on the Oakland University Meadow Brook Music Festival grounds. A portion of the event proceeds will be donated by Hudsons for restoration and preservation projects benefiting Meadow Brook Hall.

American Harvest Restaurant
Schoolcraft College's American Harvest Restaurant featuring gourmet specialties prepared by Schoolcraft's master chefs and culinary arts students is now open for lunch noon to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. On Fridays, a gourmet buffet is offered for \$8.25. Call 462-4488 for reservations.

Pals
Wednesday's 8:30-11:30 p.m. are sit-in jam session nights with the Pals Swing Trio at Pals Chuck Muer restaurant, 5656 W. Maple, east of Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield. Call 855-5584 for information.

Josh White Jr. to perform at Schoolcraft May 2

Folk and blues singer Josh White Jr. known for his powerful voice, brilliant guitar playing and grass roots music will perform 7 and 9 p.m. on May 2, at Schoolcraft College in the Waterman Campus Center.

Influenced by his legendary father, Josh White, he began performing at the early age of 4 and starred in live Broadway plays, including "The Long Dream," "Only in America," "Touchstone," "The Man" (with

his father) and "How Long Till Summer," (with Lillian Gish).

White has produced 15 albums, one film score and received numerous honors and awards.

Tickets are \$10 and can be ob-

tained by calling the office of Institutional Advancement, 462-4417. All proceeds benefit athletic scholarships.

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