

A recent program in the Chamberworks series had a different format than usual. Normally, this mostly baroque series features a relatively large number of short works. In many instances the list of composers, not to mention their music, is dotted by names never heard of by the average listener.

This latest program, in contrast, consisted of only two longer works. The French composers — Jean Marie Leclair, *L'Aine* (the Elder) and Francois Couperin are among the better known French harpique masters. Few are familiar with their music, however.

This program was the last on the regular subscription series this season. It was presented at Christ Church, Cranbrook by the regular members of the group consisting of artistic director Thomas Kuras,

violinists Victoria Hutton and Mary Richards, and cellist Paul Willington.

The first of these works was *Première Recreation de Musique Op. 6* by Jean Marie Leclair. It is, in fact, a 'super-suite,' consisting of movements with common suite dance titles, but considerably more complex. The second and longer work was an intricate program piece of Couperin which was a tribute to Lully.

The language of music may be universal in many instances, but in this instance it required considerable translation. This was capably provided by Kuras, whose remarkable knowledge in the field is unsurpassed by anybody I know.

Few of us may have heard that Leclair (1697-1764) was assassinated and the culprits have never been

The Couperin part consists of many movements with programmatic titles describing various episodes.

These reflect the conflict between the French and Italian styles, represented by Lully and Corelli, respectively.

The stylistic controversy persists even after the ascent to Parnassus until some treaty of coexistence is worked out. This work is remarkable in the way Couperin actually utilizes these stylistic elements. It

would provide only limited motivation, however, to the casual listener unaware with the music's context and structure.

To keep the programmatic context alive, Kuras announced each movement's title in almost perfectly enunciated French. The English translation of these titles was printed in the program for the benefit of those who don't speak French. This event was one of the more enchanting trips into the unknown and little explored domains of baroque music.

The Salute to Mozart sub-series of Chamberworks will present its final event on May 29 at the Belian Art Center in Troy. Seating is limited, get your tickets early. Call 643-7788.

DANCE

■ DETROIT DANCE COLLECTIVE

Detroit Dance Collective, featuring many area dancers, presents a concert 8:30 p.m. Friday, May 8 and Saturday, May 9 at the Lila Junies-Johnson Theatre, Oakland Community College, Royal Oak campus. Tickets \$10 and \$8.

Call 544-5559 for reservations,
information.

CONCERTS

B CASSINI ENSEMBLE

The Cassini Ensemble will present a concert celebrating the birthdays of Brahms and Tchaikovsky, 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 19 at Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Street.

Ann Arbor Performers in-
clude Marla Smith of South
field Admission: \$9 general,
\$7 students and seniors, \$12
reserved. Call 769-2999 for in-
formation.

■ DETROIT CHAMBER WINDS

Classes its 10th anniversary season, 8 p.m. Friday, May 1 with a performance entitled "Brassissimo" at Christ Church Cranbrook. Tickets

\$15, students, seniors \$10
Call 851-8DCW.

■ **DETROIT CONCERT CHOIR**

music of Spring, featuring an array of classical, folk and contemporary music 8 p.m. **Saturday, May 16 at Kingswood School, 855 Cranbrook road.** A reception will follow. Tickets at the door, \$10 adults, \$8 seniors, students.

■ GROUP DU JOUR
Group du jour presents their final concert of the season, chamber music 7 p.m. Friday, May 15, 8 p.m. symphony performance at Mercy Conference Center, 28600 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills. Admission \$10, seniors and stu-

depts \$8. Call 478-2075 for information.

■ KALEIDOSCOPE CONCERTS

"Artful Strings" 2:45 p.m.
Sunday, May 17, at the Bit-
tingham Community House
Hallroom, 380 S. Bates. Tick-
ets \$11, seniors and students,
\$9. Call 855-9299 or 855-0458.

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