

# PSO spotlights English music

Plymouth Symphony continues its 49th season 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4 with a concert featuring a wide variety of English composers, including a rarely performed trumpet concerto by Edward Gregson, at Belleville High School.

Those attending are invited to attend an afterglow reception following the concert at Pine Creek Golf Course.

Tickets are \$12 adults, \$10 seniors \$10 and \$5 students in K-12. Call (313) 451-2112. Advance tickets are available at Chasley Odom Designs and Main Street Floral in Belleville, Beltner Jewelry and Viola Music Center in Plymouth, Bookstall on the Main and the Giftfinder in Northville, and Dearborn Music in Canton.

The trumpet concerto will feature Ramon Parcells, principal trumpet of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

"It's a pleasure to do a new and exciting work," said PSO Music

Director Russell Reed. "To my knowledge, this work has never been commercially recorded, and it's a real audience pleaser. I hope music lovers will take this opportunity to hear it."

Parcells has performed the work only twice — with the DSO, and the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, in 1990.

"I discovered the piece through a friend in Toronto, and liked it right away," said Parcells. "When the Detroit Symphony asked me to perform a concerto with them, this piece was my first choice. The writing is strong — yet tonal and lyrical."

The Nov. 5 concert will also feature Mendelssohn's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," well-known to brides everywhere as the triumphal "Wedding March."

"Finally, we can all hear the complete performance, not just the first few measures that are always played at weddings," said Reed.

Also featured on the program



Guest artist: Ramon Parcells will play a rarely performed trumpet concerto at the Nov. 5 concert.

will be Elgar's "Enigma Variations," and Vaughn Williams' "The Wasp's Overture."

## Artist Series marks 25th year

BY HELEN ZUCKER  
SPECIAL WRITER

Claire Bloom, an actress of enormous range, will be giving Shakespeare's women their due at Kingswood Auditorium on the Cranbrook campus, 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 6 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the American Artists Series. Tickets are \$30, call (810) 651-5044 for information.

The single afternoon performance — "Then Let Men Know, Portrait of Shakespeare's Women" — is a pre-season special to raise money for one of our area's treasures — the sophisticated concerts and performers brought to Oakland County by the American Artists Series.

Bloom, who has been acting since her early teens, has done everything from Terese, the ballerina in Charlie Chaplin's "Limelight," to playing a teacher in "Charly," a powerful film about retardation and artificial intelligence with Cliff Robertson.

Her poignant beauty and velvet voice served her well as Lady Marchmont in "Bridges at Midnight" with Lawrence Olivier,

and in "Crimes of the Heart" with Woody Allen. She's won awards for her portrayal of Blanche de Bois in a London production of "A Streetcar Named Desire," and as Joy in a television version of "Shadowlands." But she began her career with Shakespeare; her first major role, at 16, was Ophelia with Paul Scofield as Romeo.

Throughout her long, varied career, Bloom has always returned to Shakespeare's women. Dividing her time between England and the United States, between roles as varied as Nora in "A Doll's House" and the governess in Henry James' mystery, "The Turn of the Screw," Bloom has found time to play Juliet, Cordelia, Viola, Miranda, Katherine of Aragon, Gertrude, Lady Constantine in "King John," and the Queen in "Cymbeline," for the BBS Shakespeare TV series.

Joanne Freeman, American Artist Series artistic director, is a longtime fan of Bloom's. "The musical phrasing of her voice makes her a perfect choice for the informality of the auditorium," Freeman said. "Bringing Claire here is a wonderful way to begin

the season."

Freeman, a familiar figure in the Michigan music world, is also a theater fan. Over the years she has brought artists of great stature such as Brian Bedford, Agnes de Mille and Slobodan McKenna to the packed auditorium. "No matter where people sit there's a warmth, an intensity because they're close to the stage," she said. "It's a treat to have wonderful performers near enough to touch people; the small auditorium means we get to see every expression and hear every word."

Bloom will bring a fun-tuned performance to Kingswood. She first did part of this program for the 92nd St. Y in New York in 1981. The 92nd St. Y is famous for informal readings by famous writers, actors and poets.

After doing "Shakespeare's Women" at Kingswood, Bloom will read English translations of children's books, and she'll be recording some of her readings.

There will be an afterglow after the performance, and a chance to meet Bloom.

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