

FRIDAY



"The Big Green," a comedy about a British school teacher who arrives in Elma, Texas, eager to share her love of soccer with her students opens at metro movie theaters.

SATURDAY



"Whitewater Rafting" floats into Second City, Detroit 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Call (313) 965-2222 for tickets.

SUNDAY



Meadow Brook Theatre presents "The Three Musketeers." Call (810) 377-3300 or (810) 646-6866 for tickets.



Hot like Autumn in the air means the season of plenty has arrived, bringing bushels of fun for the entire family during Greenfield Village's annual Fall Harvest Days, Sept. 27 to Oct. 1.

SPECIAL EVENT

Artist shares his vision of history

BY MARY KLECKO

DIARY WRITER

One of the first things Ralph Fasanello asked an interviewer as he arrived for their appointment was the location of the newspaper guild. The artist wanted to join the picket line at the Detroit newspaper to show his support.

It wasn't the type of question one would expect from a renowned artist in town for the opening of his exhibit at a local gallery. But Fasanello, who was at the Hill Gallery in Birmingham, has long been dedicated to unions and workers. His belief comes through in his colorful paintings, on display to Oct. 8 at the gallery, 407 W. Brown. "Daily News Strike" is one of the paintings in the show.

"You have to capture a period of history," said Fasanello, a self-taught artist who turned 60 this month.

Paintings should convey emotion as well, he said. His favorite artists include Picasso, Pissarro and Gauguin, who were active in social causes—Gauguin led demonstrations, he said.

The exhibit features paintings by Fasanello from 1948 to 1994. The works are mini-dramas that are capsules of history as well as slices of urban life. Rich in content, they are gaily colored and their figures have the purity of folk art, but they contain details that are reminders of serious events and of tragedies.

The center of "Watergate" is Yankee Stadium, where a game is in progress. A newswoman in front proclaims "Apnews Out Meets In." A newspaper plant on the

side displays the chronology of Watergate. A line of picketers is along the sidewalk, a horse-drawn cart bearing "Kent State" and reminders of other deaths is on the street. It's a bustling city scene: Buildings crowd the sky, streets and sidewalks teem with people.

Another work is a panorama depicting a strike. The strikers line the sidewalk in front of the factory. They aren't a faceless bunch; you can see the individuality of each person. Fasanello spent about 2-1/2 years researching the Lawrence Textile Strike of 1912, including talking to people ("I absorbed the feeling"). The painting was bought for and displayed at the Lawrence Heritage State Park Visitor's Center in Mass.

Artist continued inside

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

KEELY WYQONIK, EDITOR • 313-953-2105

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String quartet: The Cranbrook Guild will feature the Larh Quartet, one of the most sought after string quartets today, at their March 26th concert at Cranbrook House.

Music in an intimate setting, where you can get close to, and get to know the musicians are reasons why people enjoy chamber music.

While some of the groups occasionally play in big venues like Orchestra Hall, most play in smaller venues. Chamber music focuses on a few musicians rather than a group. Its popularity is growing as evidenced by the successful Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival, which celebrated its second anniversary this June.

"People who enjoy chamber music, enjoy the European salon atmosphere," said Rosemarie Kling of Birmingham, executive director of the Lyric Chamber Ensemble. "Because it's just a small group of musicians performing such as a trio or quintet, you can really focus your attention on the music and the musicians."

Here are some highlights from the upcoming season:

■ Cranbrook Music Guild Chamber Series will open its 44th year at Cranbrook House, 380 Lone Pine road, Bloomfield Hills 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 24 with a concert featuring the Michigan Chamber Players, an ensemble of 10 University of Michigan School of Music faculty members. They will perform as two quintets. The program will include Schubert's Piano Quintet in A Major (the "Trout").

"Cranbrook Music Guild has been presenting chamber music in Cranbrook House since 1952 and has hosted some of the world's most famous musicians," said Anita Gorr of Birmingham, series president. "Concerts are given in the oak paneled library of the Booth family home, an Albert Kahn designed grand English manor filled with art and antiques. The concerts are followed by candlelight and wine receptions in the Oak Room."

■ Detroit Chamber Winds "Nightnotes" series is presenting trombonist Ava Ordman 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29 amidst the Oriental rugs at Hagopian's World of Rugs in Birmingham.

Ordman is the principal trombone with the Grand Rapids Symphony and has also performed with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. She will present both traditional and modern works at the Sept. 29 recital.

Chamber music series are noteworthy

STORY BY KEELY WYQONIK
STAFF WRITER

Detroit Chamber Winds is an organization of winds and brass players drawn from the members of the Detroit Symphony and Michigan Opera Theatre Orchestras.

■ Lyric Chamber Ensemble's 16th season is comprised of 11 concerts at a variety of venues including Orchestra Hall, The Gem Theatre, the Grose Pointe War Memorial, and Temple Beth El in Bloomfield Hills.

Their season opens with "Strictly Chamber Music" at the Grose Pointe War Memorial 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 29. Set in the ballroom which overlooks Lake St. Clair, light and graceful music will be performed by soprano Valeria Yova, pianist Fedora Horowitz, flutist Johanna Both Bowers and cellist Nadine Delany. Program includes trios for flute, cello and piano by Hummel and Weber.

Two Sunday afternoon concerts at Temple Beth El will highlight the Autumn season. The first one a family concert on Nov. 6 features members of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf." On Dec. 3, the Lyric presents "The Bridge Ensemble. They will perform works by Mahler and Dvorak.

■ The Chamber Music Society of Detroit, which is celebrating its 62nd year, continues its 1995-96 concert season 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10 at Orchestra Hall with the Modern Jazz Quartet.

■ Chamberworks, comprised of keyboardist Thomas M. Kuraz, violinist Victorin Holtom and Mary Richards, and cellist Paul Willington, begins its ninth season 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13 at First United Methodist Church, Royal Oak. The concert titled "The Birth of the Piano Quartet," features music by three composers who "invented" the piano quartet—Johann Sebastian Bach, Mozart and Beethoven. The Troy-based arts organization specializes in Baroque and Classical Era repertoire.

■ Concerts by the Arad Guitar Duo and the Orion String Quartet will highlight the American Artists Series 26th season. The Brazilian guitar duo, Sergio and Odair Assad will be the guests for the opening concert 7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 6, at the Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham. See Metro Chamber groups inside

American Artists Series

Concert venues: Kingswood Auditorium, Cranbrook, 1221 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, except for season opener at The Community House.

Ticket Season ticket \$25. Individual concert tickets also available. Call (810) 651-6044.

Season schedule

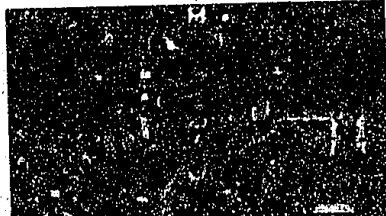
- Duo-Guitarists Sergio and Odair Assad—7 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 6, The Community House, Birmingham. Tickets \$20 advance, \$22 (door).
- American Artists Series Chamber Players—pianist Joann Frooman, series artistic director, and members of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra—3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3. Program includes the romantic Schubert Trio, Op. 100 for piano, violin and cello. Tickets \$14.
- American Artists Series Chamber Players—3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18. Program includes Beethoven's Archduke Trio in B flat major, opus 97 for violin, cello and piano. Tickets \$14.
- Orion String Quartet—3 p.m. Sunday, March 17. Quartet-in-residence at the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, will perform living quartets by Beethoven, Bartok, and others. Tickets \$10.
- American Artists Series Chamber Players—7 p.m. Sunday, April 21. Program includes Britten's Fantasy Quartet, opus 2 for oboe, violin, viola and cello. Tickets \$14.

Ralph Fasanello

Whisper Hill Gallery, 407 W. Brown St., Birmingham, (810) 540-9288

Gallery hours: 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.

Closing: Exhibit continues to October 8.



"Watergate": Ralph Fasanello's paintings, exhibited at the Hill Gallery in Birmingham, are capsules of history as well as slices of city life.