

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

KEELY WYGONIK, EDITOR • 313-953-2105

THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1986 • PAGE 1 SECTION B



Sean Connery (left) stars as top-secret federal prisoner John Patrick Mason, and Nicolas Cage as FBI chemical weapons expert Stanley Goodspeed in "The Rock" opening today at metro Detroit movie theaters.

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Young People's Concert features the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and "Vivaldi's Ring of Mystery," a Classical Kids presentation, at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. Call (313) 833-3700 or (810) 645-6666

SUNDAY

Peter Statin is one of the artists featured at Art of the Eye: An Exhibition on Vision, Cranbrook Art Museum, 1221 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, (810) 645-3312.

EXHIBITION

Katja Schumann, Max Schumann and Katherine Schumann Binder in the Big Apple Circus' all new production, "Jazzmatazz" at Oakland Mall. Call (810) 645-6668 for tickets, or (313) 923-8259 for information.

Fest encourages musical eavesdropping

By Matt Jacfman
Staff Writer



Zoo music: Victoria King (left to right), Glenn Mellow, Maury Okun and Larry Liberson, of the Detroit Chamber Winds, rehearse for the upcoming Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival.

Two Oakland County religious communities and a pianist with international stature have turned an annual "musical conversation" into a major cultural event.

Pianist James Tocco, a Detroit native, returns this year as artistic director of the third Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival, a series of nine concerts over seven days. The opening performance is at 8 p.m. Saturday in the sanctuary of St. Hugo of the Hills Church, Bloomfield Hills.

"I want to focus on chamber music," said Tocco, who describes chamber music as a gathering of friends having a "musical conversation" before an eavesdropping audience. "It's very important that we enjoy one another's music, one another's company," Tocco said.

Tocco joined with St. Hugo, where his brother, the Rev. Tony Tocco, is the pastor, with Temple Beth El in Bloomfield Township, and with the Detroit Chamber Winds and the Chamber Music Society of Detroit to organize the festival.

This year, two concerts will take place at St. Hugo, five at Temple Beth El. Two family concerts are scheduled for Sunday at the Detroit Zoo's new Wildlife Interpretive Gallery. (See complete schedule for program details.)

The festival's first two years drew braves from participating musicians and classical music fans alike, well beyond our wildest expectations, and we have pretty high expectations," said Maury Okun, a trombonist and the executive director of the Detroit Chamber Winds, which provides

local musicians for the festival. "Critical responses have been very positive."

"We went in the first year with great trepidation," Tocco said. "I think that our audience has proven to be very enthusiastic about the festival."

Another Detroit native, pianist Ruth Laredo, will be returning to the festival, as will the Amernet String Quartet, recent winners of the Banff International String Quartet Competition.

Cellist Paul Katz, violinist Yehonatan Berick and violist Barbara Westphal will be guest musicians new to the festival. Emmanuelle Boisvert, Detroit Symphony Orchestra violinist, will also perform.

The six regular concerts after opening night will be preceded by a "Prelude," a half-hour performance and lecture that will start an hour before the show. Preludes are free to ticket-holders.

Tocco said organizers have slightly increased the number of concerts the festival offers. Next year, he expects to expand it to two full weeks.

Festival expansion has been done conservatively, he said. "I don't want it to mushroom into something unwieldy."

In the future, Tocco said, he would like to see the festival include an education program that pairs seasoned musicians with less-experienced ones.

Tocco said he appreciates the spiritual qualities of music but that the festival is not based on religious music, even though it is sponsored by religious institutions.

1986 GREAT LAKES CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

Concert locations:
 ■ St. Hugo of the Hills Catholic Church, corner of Opdyke and Hickory Grove, Bloomfield Hills.
 ■ Temple Beth El, corner of Telegraph and 14 Mile Road, Bloomfield Hills.
 ■ The Detroit Zoo, Woodward Avenue at 10 Mile Road (1-696), Royal Oak.

Ticket information:
 For regular concerts, a five-concert subscription is \$90, \$50 for students and senior citizens. Single tickets are \$20, \$21 for students and senior citizens. Family concert tickets are \$5 each. For more information, or to buy tickets, call the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival (810) 362-6171 or Ticketmaster (810) 645-6600.

OPENING NIGHT

■ **Sanctuary, St. Hugo of the Hills Church, Bloomfield Hills, 8 p.m. Saturday**
 James Tocco, piano; Ruth Laredo, piano; Yehonatan Berick, violin; Paul Katz, cello, performing Beethoven's Trio in G Major for violin, cello and piano (Op. 3, No. 2); Bachmannoff's Symphonic Dances for two pianos and Mendelssohn's Trio (Op. 1 in D Minor for violin, cello and piano (Op. 49).

FAMILY CONCERTS

■ **Wildlife Interpretive Gallery, Detroit Zoo, 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Sunday**
 James Tocco, piano; Ruth Laredo, piano; Detroit Chamber Winds performing Saint Saens' "Carnival of the Animals" and Berlioz's "Opus Number 20"

AT ST. HUGO

■ **In the chapel, 7:30 p.m. Sunday**
 Paul Katz, cello; Amernet String Quartet performing Boccherini's Night in G Major for two violins, viola and two cellos; Debussy's String Quartet and Schubert's Quartet in G Minor (D. 810); "Death and the Maiden" Prelude; 6:30 p.m., cellist Lawrence Liberson & Amernet String Quartet, Mozart's "Clarinet Quintet."

AT TEMPLE BETH EL, BLOOMFIELD HILLS

■ **In the chapel, 8 p.m. Monday, June 10 and Tuesday, June 11**
 James Tocco, piano; Yehonatan Berick, violin; Barbara Westphal, viola; Amernet String Quartet performing Haydn's String Quartet in B-flat Major (Op. 70, No. 4); "Sunrise," Shostakovich's Sonata for viola and piano (Op. 147) and Chausson's Concerto in D for violin, piano and string quartet (Op. 21) Prelude; 7 p.m., Ruth Laredo, Yehonatan Berick, "Three Romances," Clara Schumann, "Sonata No. 1," Johannes Brahms.

■ In the chapel, 8 p.m. Wednesday, June 12, and Thursday, June 13

Ruth Laredo, piano; James Tocco, piano; Yehonatan Berick, violin; Barbara Westphal, viola; Paul Katz, cello; Amernet String Quartet performing Barber's Souvenir for piano, four hands (Op. 28); Mendelssohn's Quartet in B-flat Major for two violins, two violas and cello (Op. 87) and Schumann's Quartet in E-flat Major for violin, viola, cello and piano (Op. 47) Prelude; 7 p.m., Paul Katz, James Tocco, Mendelssohn's "Sonata in D Major, Op. 58," Faure's "Trio."

■ In the sanctuary, 8 p.m. Saturday, June 14

James Tocco, piano; Ruth Laredo, piano; Yehonatan Berick, violin; Emmanuelle Boisvert, viola; Barbara Westphal, viola; Paul Katz, cello; Amernet String Quartet performing Mozart's Quartet No. 2 in E-flat Major (K. 493) for violin, viola, cello and piano; Shostakovich's "A Quiet Day for Strings and Piano and Mendelssohn's Octet for strings. Prelude: 7 p.m., joint performers

Paintings provoke thought about migrant workers

LINDA ANN CHOMIN
SPECIAL WRITER

Nora Chapa Mendoza uses brushes and paint to educate the public about the plight of migrant farm workers and women living in poverty in the current exhibit at the Livonia Civic Center Library Fine Arts

Gallery. The internationally exhibited West Bloomfield artist created the works as illustrations for the book "Al Norte: Agricultural Workers in the Great Lakes Region 1917-1970" by Dennis Nolin Valdes.

Forty of the works were exhibited in 1983 at the George Meany Memorial Archives in Washington, D.C. The paintings were done from sketches made during visits

to migrant camps, from old photos, and her own memories.

Born in Weslaco, Texas, on the United States-Mexican border, Mendoza's mother died when she was 4 years old. Shortly thereafter, an aunt tied potato sacks onto her back and front and took Mendoza to pick cotton with her in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. She spent days in the fields exposed to sun and unbearable heat, working from sun up to sundown.

Through her paintings, Mendoza strives to tell the story of faceless peasants breaking their backs to work in order to eat and survive. Their shack-like homes were on wheels so that they could follow the succession of crops. She tells of a hoe, since outlawed, which forced workers to remain bent over at all times because of its short handle. The symbol of

stoop labor for two generations, the hoe caused ruptured discs, arthritis of the spine and torn back ligaments.

"I hope the paintings give the viewer some insight to struggles and issues of migrant workers. I paint to tell a story or document what's happening or what has happened that people will learn from it," said Nora Chapa Mendoza, a Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs board member.

Growing up in a poor household, Mendoza learned to mix and match colors from her father, a house painter. She began painting at age 14 when her father brought home canvas and pigments and asked her to copy a picture of a bullfighter for him. Two years later she was illustrating books including the book of poetry "Why am I so Brown" by Trinidad

Hanchez.

A Chienna Indian, Mendoza uses her work to not only speak proudly of her heritage but the trials and tribulations of people suffering worldwide. Mendoza feels a social consciousness and sense of loyalty to support the human rights of all people. She paints three subjects: migrant workers, women and Indian people in an effort to make a statement about their lifestyles, struggles and pain.

Although she was unable to attend college that did not stop her from learning about the world. Her travels have taken her to the mountains of Peru to paint a village of abandoned women living in poverty, and to other countries in the Third World. In 1985, Mendoza met Cesar Chavez who



Mother and Son: This touching painting was created as a design for greeting cards used as a fund-raiser for migrant children.

PAINTINGS BY NORA CHAPA MENDOZA

What: An exhibit of work focusing on the struggles of migrant workers and women by West Bloomfield artist Nora Chapa Mendoza

When: Through June 28. Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, until 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday.
 Where: Livonia Civic Center Library Fine Arts Gallery, 32777 Five Mile Road east of Farmington.