

BOOKS AND MUSIC

Notes resound from area music scene

By FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER

Musical diversity and engaging performers distinguish several upcoming classical and jazz music concerts. The following is a list of outstanding programs:

■ **Southfield Symphony Orchestra** presents Grammy-nominated violin virtuoso Pip Clarke 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 9 at Hugo of the Hills Church, Bloomfield Hills. Clarke will perform Dvorak's "Symphony No. 5 in F Major," and Mendelssohn's "Hebrides Overture." Clarke has been called "the most exciting and formidable violinist talent to emerge from Great Britain this century."

Southfield Symphony Orchestra celebrates St. Patrick's Day 7:30 p.m. Sunday, March 16 with a concert featuring cellist Robert Bergman, mezzo soprano Barbara Burnham Fox and tenor Edward Kingins. A leading tenor in Michigan Opera Theatre's productions of "The Merry Widow" and "Carmen," Kingins has also appeared as a soloist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Tickets for both concerts are \$10 adults; \$7 senior citizens and students. For information, call (810) 424-9022 or (810) 851-7408.

■ The Simone Vitale Band with pianist David Syme will give a concert to benefit Walled Lake Central High School's Music Department, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 11 in the high school auditorium. Tickets \$8 adults, \$5 students. Call (810) 960-8678 for information.

The Simone Vitale Band has played for President Bill Clinton, Julie and Tom Arnold's wedding, and hundreds of corporate and charitable events throughout the country. Syme is considered one of the premier pianists in the Midwest.

■ Jazz-style Sabbath Service at Temple Beth El 8 p.m. Friday, March 15 and 7:30 p.m.



Soloist: Grammy-nominated violin virtuoso Pip Clarke performs at the Southfield Symphony Orchestra concert tonight at Hugo of the Hills Church.

Saturday, March 15: The New Orleans Klezmer All-Stars join Temple Beth El's Cantor Stephen Dubov and the temple choir in a mix of traditional klezmer and hard-edge free expression. Dubov has performed with the New Orleans Opera, the Louisiana Philharmonic and in Broadway's "Shenandoah," and "Pirates of Penzance."

Temple Beth El is at 7400 Telegraph. Admission is free for Friday's performance. Tickets for Saturday's concert: \$69 per person; \$40 for patrons under 30 years old. Call (810) 851-1100.

■ The genius of Mozart and Bernstein will be featured in the Detroit Concert Choir's 10th

Anniversary Celebration Concert, 8 p.m. Saturday March 15 at St. Hugo of the Hills in Bloomfield Hills.

Last summer, the choir won the prestigious "Choir of the World" title at the Llangollen International Choral Competition in Wales. The anniversary concert, conducted by Gordon Nelson, will include "A Grand Mass in C Minor" and "Chichester Psalms." Tickets are \$12. Call (313) 822-0118.

■ One of the country's most talented flutists, Jeffrey Zook will perform 4 p.m. Sunday, March 16 at the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield. He will be accompanied by pianist Michele Cooker. Zook has won several national

competitions, including the National Concerto Competition. A member of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Zook also records many of the major works of the flute repertoire for the educational series produced by the Music Minus One Label. Admission: \$10 for JCC members; \$15 for nonmembers. For more information, call (810) 661-7649.

■ Steve Wood Quartet will perform in the gothic sanctuary of First Baptist Church of Birmingham 6 p.m. Sunday, March 16. Admission is free, call (810) 644-0550 for more information.

The quartet will perform tracks from their CD, "Unanswerable Questions."

Wood, a well-known local jazz performer and educator, is past winner of the Creative Artist Grant for Jazz Composition. He has performed with legendary jazz artists Marcus Belgrave, Roy Brooks, Freddy Hubbard and at the Montreux-Detroit Jazz Festival.

■ The Michigan Bach Festival Choral is the next offering in the "Classics on the Lake" concert series at St. Mary's College at Orchard Lake. The choral, directed by Curtis Posuniak, will perform a varied program, including selections by Beethoven and Brahms, 4 p.m. Sunday, March 16 in the shrine chapel on the college campus at Orchard Lake and Commerce Roads. Tickets are \$10 and \$17.50, call (810) 683-1780.

The choral, founded in 1982 by Posuniak, has appeared at numerous private and social gatherings in the metro Detroit area, and throughout Michigan.

Remaining programs in the series include: The St. Clair Trio on March 23 and Dave Wagner with special guest Alexander Zonjic on April 6.

How birth order affects character



ESTHER LITTMANN

No one disputes that birth order is a factor contributing to individual differences among siblings.

Numerous psychologists have strongly pointed out that first-born and later-born children from the same family exhibit widely different personality traits.

For example, firstborns are said to be more dominant and achievement oriented; later-borns more conciliatory and sociable. Experience tends to confirm these descriptions.

A recent study reveals that birth order may also be responsible for an individual's openness to experience, creativity, and tolerance for change. It can even shape political orientation.

In "Born to Rebel" (Pantheon Books, 1996, \$20), Harvard graduate and M.I.T. research scholar Frank J. Sulloway maintains that one's identity as conservative or revolutionary is not the product of class warfare, as some have assumed, but of intra-family dynamics. History, in other words, is determined on the home front.

Grounded in a modern interpretation of Darwinism and the new theories of evolutionary psychology, Sulloway explains that sibling competition for parental favor is not a struggle for existence in which there are winners and losers. Instead, children compete by using the adaptive strategy of "divergence," which affords potential success for all.

When the first child is born, for example, he enjoys his parents' exclusive attention and rewards them by championing their values and fulfilling their expectations. Later-born children, however, must find new ways to distinguish themselves, avoiding competition with an older sibling by creating a different niche within the family structure. The search for an unique niche, writes Sulloway, encourages flexibility, a trait that will eventually make the later-born more open to experi-

ence, more creative, and more rebellious. It is therefore not surprising that "most innovations in science, especially radical ones, have been initiated and championed by later-borns."

Sulloway's findings are not simply based on anecdotal evidence. The author has computerized more than half a million biographical data points taken from "tens of thousands of biographies." In his book he includes biographical sketches of scientists and religious, political, and social reformers like Charles Darwin, Martin Luther, Mao Tse-tung, and Harriet Beecher Stowe, respectively, to illustrate how birth order shapes personality and outlook.

A particularly intriguing story concerns Eisenhower's 1953 nomination of Earl Warren to the Supreme Court. As a former Republican governor of California, Warren was considered a safe bet who would surely remain on the conservative side of the issues. After the justice took his seat, however, he had a change of heart and presided over a wide range of social reforms. As the younger of two children, writes Sulloway, Warren was disposed toward liberalism from the start and became more liberal after joining the Court. Later, Eisenhower admitted that choosing Warren was "the biggest damn fool thing I ever did."

If birth order is, indeed, as significant as Sulloway says it is, will we see a more conservative political climate as families become smaller? Or will variables like "substantial conflict with parents" and "minority status" make firstborns rebellious and turn them into radicals and innovators? The combination of human-interest stories and 25 years of probing scholarship make "Born to Rebel" a fascinating book to read and discuss.

Esther Littmann is a resident of Bloomfield Township. She is a private tutor with Una Duorhain and Associates. You can leave her a message from a touch-tone phone at (313) 953-2047, mailbox number 1893. Her fax number is (810) 644-1314.

BOOKSTORE HAPPENINGS

Bookstore Happenings features various happenings at suburban bookstores. Send news leads to Hugh Gallagher, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax them to (313) 591-7279.

BARNES AND NOBLE BOOKSELLERS (WEST BLOOMFIELD)

Ted Gish, associate professor of biology at St. Mary's College in Orchard Lake, will experiment with "Fun and Science for Kids of All Ages." 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 13; Storytime features "Winter Days in the Big Wood" by Laura Ingalls Wilder, 10 a.m. Monday, March 17, and 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 18; "The Role of Satan in Classical Jewish Literature," is discussed and explained by Rabbi Aaron Bergman of Congregation Beth Abraham Hillel Moses, 7 p.m. Monday, March 17; The Greater Detroit Chapter of the Romance Writers of America will meet at the store at 6 p.m. with a meet-the-author hour with Anne Eames, Marian Edwards, Elizabeth Manz, and Shelly Thacker. The business meeting starts at 7 p.m. and features a panel of owners of area used book outlets including Joan Adis of Westland. At 8 p.m. Eames, Edwards, Manz and Thacker will meet visitors and autograph copies of their works. Tuesday, March 18; Children's storytime features works by Patricia Polacco, Janel Cannon, and Aiki, 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 19; Michael Best, president of the Astronomical Society of Michigan, visits with a slide-illustrated presentation about Comet Hale-Bopp, which will be visible in the next few weeks, 7 p.m. Thursday, March 20; at the store, 6800 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. (810) 626-6804. Willis and trusts are explained at the Senior Men's

Breakfast Club meeting, 10:30 a.m. Thursday, March 20. Reservations are required. \$3.50, \$4 non-residents. (810) 739-2500

DORRIS BOOKS AND MUSIC (DEARBORN)

Dr. Paul Pearsall signs and discusses his book "The Pleasure Prescription," 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 13; Classics book discussion group talks about "To Kill a Mockingbird," 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 13; Two of a Kind visits story circle.

11 a.m. Saturday, March 15; Intermediate fiction book discussion group for kids ages 7-12 reads "Sarah Plain and Tall" by Patricia MacLachlan, and "Sideways Stories from Wayside School" by Louis Sachar, 2 p.m. Sunday, March 16; Salina and McDonald school bands perform in honor of Music in the Schools month, 3 p.m. Sunday, March 16, and the Lower School band performs at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, March 16; David Sosnowski discusses and signs copies of his

book "Rapture," 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 18; Sci-Fi/fantasy book discussion group reads "Fahrenheit 451" by Ray Bradbury, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 18; Za Za's baby brother joins the family at story circle, 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 19.

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