

Women from page E1

because I heard it was the mecca for the recording industry. I decided to call and get the Nashville Red Book. The guy on the phone asked why I wanted it. I told him I was a musician and he said he was a producer," Amey explained.

Amey admits that she was skeptical at first so she went down to Nashville for three days to meet with him. She had a good feeling about him and went for it.

Influenced as a child by Simon and Garfunkel and Peter, Paul and Mary, Amey began singing at age 6. Her earliest gigs were for her family where she'd sing along with records with a microphone fashioned from a pen covered with tin foil.

Her grandfather, who mastered the guitar, mandolin and violin, played an important role in her future musical career.

"I'd love to get him to perform with me, but he's just not interested anymore," said Amey, 21.

She went from her living room to choir rooms as she got older. Upon graduating from Livonia Stevenson High School in 1994, she began playing the guitar.

Amey entered Michigan State University as a voice major but found the program to be too limiting.

"It was too much music and too many classes. But it was good training."

Moving from folk music to 10,000 Maniacs and R.E.M., Amey is now a senior studying

English, music and sociology.

"It keeps me sane," she said with a laugh.

Amey is a newcomer to the Detroit music scene having performed mostly at Cup O' Joe Coffeehouse in the Novi Town Center. Despite that, she said she's really not that nervous about performing at Lilith Fair where she will be joined by guitarist Eric Stener and percussionist Steve Harley.

"I thrive in a big crowd. I'm more nervous in front of a smaller crowd," said Amey who hopes to meet Sinead O'Connor.

"Everything that has happened has been beyond my wildest dreams. And it was all a result of the CD. I guess it was meant to be."

Disqualified?

Singers auditioning for Lilith Fair were told to have a limit of three people in their band. Multi-Detroit Music Award winner Theraetta Davis brought three musicians with her.

"I had three musicians behind me because I can't play any instruments. When I walked off stage, the lady who was one of the judges told me, 'You're only supposed to have three pieces and you have four.' I asked her if I was disqualified and she said no, but if I won I had to break it down, one more person," Davis explained.

"I left there thinking I didn't have a chance."

After winning two Detroit Music Awards on Friday, April 24, Davis returned to her Detroit home and received the call.

"I collected two awards at the music awards and then the phone rang and I found out I won a slot in Lilith Fair."

For Davis, Lilith Fair will give her the opportunity to reunite with Bonnie Raitt.

"The last time I saw her I opened up for her and she let me sing an encore song with her; I don't remember which song it was. But she came in my dressing room and taught me the song. Man, it was so cool. I'd love to talk to her for a minute."

Since the 1996 release of her gospel- and R&B-flavored debut CD "Sunday Morning Music" (Sub Pop), Davis has been writing new material and has been gigging locally. She performs with the Chisel Bros. at area blues clubs, Oo Papa Dah on Wednesdays at the Music Menu Cafe in Greektown, and with the rockabilly outfit Black Beauty.

For her Lilith Fair performance, Davis called upon Black Beauty's lead guitarist George Friend, formerly of the Twisted Taranulas, and upright bassist Jim Simonson.

"I only have 20 minutes so I'm gonna perform some of the stuff off my album. I've been rehearsing a tune by Oleta Adams called 'You Gotta Give Me Room.' If it works out in rehearsal I'm going to sing that too."

Rhythm from page E1

On Thursday, Aug. 13, Ensemble Kalinda will perform. The group was formed to explore the links of African music to the music of Latin and South America as well as the Caribbean. Founded at Chicago's Columbia College Center for Black Music Research, the nine-piece group, led by electric bassist Miguel Rivera, takes its name from the Kalinda, a universal Caribbean dance that was danced in that region by African slaves as late as the late 17th century.

The Africana Fete '98 tour of

African musicians began June 18 in Los Angeles and concludes July 12 at the National Black Arts Festival in Atlanta, Ga.

Interest in African music has exploded in recent years. World Music is introducing the West to the rich rhythms that have influenced the development of reggae, jazz, salsa, reggae, rock and roll and hip-hop and, in turn, have been influenced by North and South American music and rhythms.

Cheikh Lo was born in 1955 to Senegalese parents in the small town of Bobo Dioulassa in Burkina Faso, near the border with Mali. This was a multi-lingual, multi-ethnic area where Cheikh heard every kind of music.

In a telephone interview and through an interpreter Cheikh Lo talked about his music.

"I started very young with Orchestra Volta, the biggest band in Burkina Faso," he said.

At 21, Cheikh started playing percussion but quickly became proficient in guitar and singing.

"I enjoy guitar when I am

singing, but my first instrument is drums. I play all the drums on my CD," Cheikh said.

He moved to France in 1986 where he worked as a session musician and immersed himself in the Parisian recording scene.

He is quoted as saying, "Studio - sleep - studio for two years. I love Zairean and Cameroonian music and I absorbed a lot of it during this period."

He was also influenced by reggae and says he listened to a lot of Bob Marley and Peter Tosh. Several music critics have compared Cheikh and Marley. Their often impassioned vocal styles are similar.

Like Marley, Cheikh's music is influenced by his religion. He is a follower of the Bays Fall, a Senegalese form of Islam. He said his religion has been an influence, but he tries to reach out to everyone.

A CD to promote the tour, "Africa Fete '98" on Island Records, contains a sampling of the four featured acts. It displays Cheikh's high, bright, emotional

voice; rhythmic acoustic guitar; and multiple drum patterns on two songs "No La Thians" and "Guiss Guiss."

"No La Thians" is about destiny, what your destiny can do, when your time comes, your time comes," he said. "Guiss, Guiss" is about observing things, being aware of what's around you."

Cheikh and his fellow musicians serve up a rich variety of roots music in this first of three African music concerts.

Celebration from page E1

Specially priced discount tickets, and the best available seating, will be offered to subscribers who purchase a two or three concert series on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. There are also specially priced subscription tickets for Sunday concerts for children and senior citizens.

For those who want to enjoy a catered dinner and remain at the table while listening to the concerts, the DSO is offering a VIP

■ Whether you're in the mood for "Mozart," "Romance Under the Stars," or "Beethoven," you're sure to find something to whistle about in this season's schedule.

"We're part of their two-week residency program," said Dunner. "There's a similar outdoor pavilion and concert theme."

Sixth Annual "Salute to America"

What's Concerts featuring the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the United States Army Field Band and Soldiers' Chorus, at Greenfield Village, Oakwood Boulevard at Village Road (west of the Southfield Freeway) Dearborn.

When: 7 p.m. (doors open) 7:30 p.m. (prélude concert with the U.S. Army Field Band and Soldiers' Chorus) 8:30 p.m. DSO concert. Fireworks follow all concerts. Thursday-Saturday, July 2-4.

Where: Greenfield Village, Oakwood Boulevard and Village Road, Dearborn (west of the Southfield Freeway and south of Michigan Ave.)

Tickets: \$18 adults, \$9 children (ages 6-12), children under 4 admitted free. Available at the Orchestra Hall box office, (313) 676-6111; all Ticketmaster outlets, (248) 646-6666; and Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village (313) 982-6177.

Program - Leslie B. Dunner conducts the DSO; Col. Jack H. Grogan, Jr. commander and conductor U.S. Army Field Band and Soldier's Chorus

■ Star Spangled Banner - Smith

■ Excerpts from "Rodeo" - Copland

■ "Lord of the Dance" - Hardiman/Moore

■ "Rocky Point Holiday" - Ron

Nelson

■ "Old American Songs" - Copland

■ "Gershwin Tribute" - Gershwin/Richards

■ "Armed Forces Salute" - Whitcomb

■ Medley from "West Side Story" - Bernstein/Hough

■ The Battle Hymn of the Republic - Steffe/Wilhouky

■ "1812 Overture" - Tchaikovsky

DSO at Meadow Brook Music Festival

Where: Oakland University campus, at the corner of Walton Boulevard and Adams Road, Rochester

Subscription packages: Offering 2 and 3-concert subscription packages, which range in price from \$106 for Premier Pavilion to \$22 for lawn seats. Limited VIP table packages of 4 are available for \$800 and \$600. Specially priced subscription tickets for three Sunday concerts at \$21 for children ages 6-12 and seniors 65 and over. Subscription

tickets are available at the Orchestra Hall box office, or by calling (313) 676-6111.

Individual concert tickets: \$18 to \$44 available at Orchestra Hall or the Meadow Brook Music Festival, call the Palace box office (248) 377-0100 or Ticketmaster (248) 646-6666.

Concert Schedule

■ Mozart Gala - 8 p.m. Friday, July 10; Jaime Laredo conductor & violinist. Fireworks

■ Roberta Flack - 8 p.m. Saturday, July 11; Leslie Dunner, conductor

■ Romance Under the Stars - 7 p.m. Sunday, July 12; Leslie Dunner conductor; Xiang Gao, violin

■ The Great Grieg Concerto - 8 p.m. Friday, July 31; Neme Jarvi conductor, Sergei Babayan, piano

■ Bravo Beethoven - 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1; Neme Jarvi, conductor; Mark Kaplan, violin

■ Summer's Fantastique - 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 2; Neme Jarvi, conductor; Ted Oien, clarinet

■ Top Down Pop! - 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 7; Erich Kunzel conductor, Cortes Alexander Trio. Fireworks

■ Tchaikovsky Spectacular - 8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8; Erich Kunzel, conductor, Stephen Prutsman, piano. Fireworks

■ Giants of Broadway - 7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 9; Erich Kunzel conductor, Kathleen Brett, soprano, Kevin Anderson, tenor, Daniel Narducci, baritone, Choral Union of the University of Michigan Musical Society.

Summer

THIS WEEK

Joe Piscopo **DOWN JUST SIX**
Fireworks following the show

Chumbawamba **DOWN JUST SIX**
Fireworks following the show

JULY

Huey Lewis & The News **DOWN JUST SIX**
JUST ADDED - FROM THE KNOW

The British Rock Symphony & Choir
Starring Roger Daffney Payne, The Music of The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, The Who, Led Zeppelin & Pink Floyd

Beauty & The Beast
The Live Presentation of The Disney Classic
Disney's Beauty & The Beast

Detroit Symphony Orchestra

Mozart Gala w/ Royal Fireworks Conductor - Jaime Laredo
1. Roberta Flack w/ The DSO Conductor - Neme Jarvi
2. Romance Under the Stars Conductor - Leslie Dunner

Pat Metheny Group

Air Supply **DOWN JUST SIX**

Steven Wright **DOWN JUST SIX**

Kansas w/ Symphony Orchestra **DOWN JUST SIX**

Alison Krauss & Union Station
Bela Fleck & The Flecktones

Art Garfunkel **DOWN JUST SIX**

The Mavericks w/ BB-45

Kevin Nealon w/ Victoria Jackson **DOWN JUST SIX**

Detroit Symphony Orchestra

The Great Grieg Concerto Conductor - Neme Jarvi

AUGUST

Detroit Symphony Orchestra

1. Bravo Beethoven! Conductor - Neme Jarvi
2. Summer's Fantastique! Conductor - Neme Jarvi

Pinocchio **DOWN JUST SIX**
Live Stage Presentation of The Disney Classic

Detroit Symphony Orchestra

7. "Top Down" Pop! Conductor - Erich Kunzel
8. Tchaikovsky Spectacular! Conductor - Erich Kunzel
9. Giants of Broadway Conductor - Erich Kunzel

David Grisman Quintet w/ Leo Kottke

Richard Jeni

Wizard of Oz **DOWN JUST SIX**
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