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AMUSEMENTS

Symphony Names 'Pops' Soloists

Pianist James Tocco, violinist Gordon Stapler, and cellist Italo Babin have been named as featured soloists for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's 1968 Cabaret "Pops" Concerts. Arthur Fiedler will conduct the eight concerts, April 17 to 27 in the Detroit Light Guard Armory.

One other soloist is yet to be named, though it is known that he will be a pianist from the Boston area and will be selected by Fiedler.

Tocco will be heard in the Tchaikovsky Concerto No. 1 for Piano and Orchestra, B-flat minor, Opus 23 on April 17-18. He is a native Detroit who since last October has been concertizing in Europe.

Babin will perform Beethoven's Concerto for Cello and Orchestra, B-flat major, Opus 35, April 19-20. He is principal cellist of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Pianist To Solo

Lorin Hollander, the young American keyboard virtuoso, will make his eighth appearance with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra on Thursday and Saturday evenings, March 14 and 16, in Ford Auditorium. Concert time is 8:30.

Paul Paray will lead the Orchestra.

Hollander will play the Beethoven Concerto No. 2 for Piano and Orchestra in B-flat major, Opus 19.

Other works on the program are Mozart's Overture to "The Magic Flute" and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 in E minor, Opus 54.

Tickets for the concerts are available at Ford Auditorium Box Office, all 15 metropolitan Grinnell's stores, and all Hudson's.



DICK BENSEK

Whatever the occasion you want to enjoy your appetite for the delicious food that follows at DANISH INN, 32305 Grand River Ave., 476-5320 or KE 4-8300. Lunch Menu: 2 for \$3.95. Complete Dinner from \$13.95. Complete Dinner from \$13.95. Complete Dinner from \$13.95.

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Staples will be featured on April 26-27 playing Tchaikovsky's Concerto for Violin and Orchestra, D major, Opus 35. Staples, now assistant concertmaster of the Detroit Symphony, will be the seventh concertmaster after the retirement of Mischa Mischakoff in August. All concerts will begin at 8:30 p.m.

FIEDLER will present a different musical program with each soloist, including familiar light classics, stirring overtures, show tunes, movie themes, ballet excerpts and other orchestral music.

The Cabaret "Pops" Concerts lend themselves to a relaxed nightclub atmosphere with seating at attractive tables for four.

Tickets for tables seating four are on sale at the Ford Auditorium Box Office, Grinnell's, Hudson's and the Light Guard Armory.

'Shop' Is Schoolcraft Film Fare

"The Shop on Main Street," one of the most highly acclaimed films of recent years, will be presented on the Schoolcraft College Winter Film Series, Friday, March 22.

Showings are scheduled for 3 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. in the Forum.

Recipient of the U.S. Academy Award, the film is a tragedy of two people in Czechoslovakia during the early days of World War II. One is a simple, good-natured carpenter who is appointed "aryan controller" of a supposedly profitable Jewish drygoods shop. The other is the proprietor of the shop, an elderly widow.

The cast includes Josef Kronsberger, Ida Kaminska, and Hanna Sivkova.

There is no admission charge.

Area Residents To Tour

Four Observeland residents will appear in 11 concerts from March 10 through March 16 with the Oakland Singers of Oakland University.

Each concert will feature Mozart's "Missa Brevis in F Major" and will include works by Copland, Poulenc, and Brahms.

Singers from Livonia are Danielle Tobey, 28536 Cleveland, and Gary Ball, 34869 Grove Dr. Redford Township singers are Kathy Melnschick, 25957 Cathedral, and Ann Southart, 16103 Norborne.

Rapp Returns To 24-Karat

Frankie Rapp, veteran Detroit comic, will call up his fourth return engagement at the 24 Karat Club when he takes over the MC chores starting Monday, March 11.

Song stylist Vickie Carroll, scheduled for appearances through March, will share the spotlight with Rapp during his fifth booking at the club.

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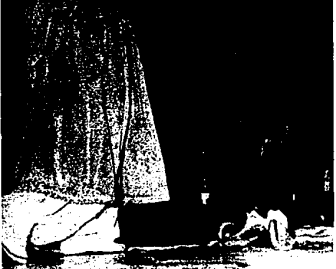
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OPERA FARE-Majorie Gordon and Robert Angus are featured in the Piccolo Opera Co.'s version of Carl Marie von Weber's "Abu Hassan," a one-act opera which will form one-half of an evening of opera at Schoolcraft College on Friday, March 15. Joining "Abu" on the program is "A Quiet Game of Cribble," by Marti Kalmanoff. Curtain time is 8 p.m. in the Lois L. Waterman Campus Center. The operas are open to the public at no charge.

Mercy Slates Overture

Mercy College of Detroit will present the first student musical performance of Overture to Opera, VII, a joint undertaking of the Detroit Grand Opera Association with Oakland University and the University Center for Adult Education of the University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan University and Wayne State University.

The opera selection is "The Medium" and it is to be presented in McAuley Auditorium at 1 p.m., Wednesday, March 13. There is no admission charge.

Music Planned

An evening of chamber music will be presented in a Wayne State University Faculty Recital, Monday, March 25, in the Community Arts Auditorium at Cass and Kirby Aves.

There is no admission charge and the public is invited to attend. Concert time is 8:30 p.m.

Four of the participants are members of the Applied Music faculty at Wayne: Irvin Gilman, flute and saxophone; Salvatore Rabbio, percussion; Frank Simon, string bass; and Darwin Swartz, piano.

Robert Lawson, who will conduct an experimental Japanese selection, is chairman of the

Children's Matinees Planned

Spring matinees of "The Servant-League Books" will be staged by the Wayne State University Children's Theatre Touring Company at the Bonstelle Theatre on two consecutive Saturdays, March 16 and 23.

Curtain time is 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. each day.

Weather Biting

Mild weather has been good for ice fishing, according to the state Conservation Dept. district office in Pontiac.

The conservation men also predict that concentrations of migratory birds will be seen on about 10 days as spring approaches.

While fishing has been good, they point out that the ice is unsafe for cars, and ice fishermen are warned to be alert for open water, particularly on lakes affected by the currents of streams.

Some of the year's best bluegill fishing came last week on Pontiac, Cass, Crystal, Bailey, Lake Orion, Long and Lakeville lakes.

Perch were reported moving into three to five feet of water in Lake St. Clair with excellent fishing recently in Anchor Bay near Belvidere Field and the Conger Bay boat basin at Metropolitan Beach.

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BY STATION LORENZ
Special Writer

JUST FOR OPENERS

Two weeks ago I received a call from one of Farmington's senior citizens. This charming lady, whose name was offered, asked me to recommend a champagne for a modest price and one that would please a group of ladies.

Her questions answered, I asked a couple myself regarding her experience with opening champagne bottles. Her understandable lack of experience in this department and enthusiasm for the correct method prompted me to save this column...just for openers.

Champagne is a naturally carbonated wine which achieves its bubbly state through a second fermentation. Saving the champagne process for another time, let it suffice to say that CO-2 becomes entrapped in the wine and builds a tremendous pressure on the internal walls of the bottles and bottom faces of the corks used to seal the bottles, up to 98 pounds per square inch or about eight atmospheres.

YOU CAN READILY see why champagne corks need little prodding for their rapid removal. Consequently these corks are wired down by means of a wire "hood" placed over the inserted cork and fastened securely by twisting the wire around the neck of the bottle.

Champagne leaves the winery in a gaily packaged state, often wrapped in tissue and always attractively labeled and decorated with bright and colorful foil on the top and neck. Careful opening will preserve much of the original appearance of your guests will readily discover the brand you chose. You will not need to present your wine wrapped entirely in napkin as was the custom during prohibition when one never knew what was being served.

Sparkling wines are all opened in the same manner and I suggest you respect the potential danger offered by careless guidance of exploding corks. I have seen eyes glassed broken, noses upturned, and chandeliers shattered...all by champagne corks improperly removed.

STEP ONE: Chill the wine with ice and water in a deep container or bucket for fifteen minutes. This makes the wine ready to serve when opened and also reduces the amount of CO-2 that will want to escape. As the temperature increases the greater the explosive quality becomes as in warm beer or soda.

STEP TWO: Using a sharp knife cut the foil beneath the

Nature Programs Offered

Special nature interpretation programs have been scheduled in two areas of the Michigan spots by the State Conservation Department next week.

They are being held in conjunction with National Wildlife Week, March 17-23.

GUIDED HIKES will begin at the area headquarters in the Proulx Lake Recreation Area on Saturdays, March 16 and 23, and Sunday, March 24. Hikes begin at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. each day.

Aulo tours of the Proulx Lake area will begin Sunday, March 17 at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., also at the park headquarters.

Proulx Lake Recreation Area is in western Oakland County, about five miles north of I-96 along Wixom Rd.

WATERFOWL TOURS will be offered in the Waterloo Recreation Area on Sundays, March 17 and 24, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Portage Lake campground.

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wines in two motions, the first will fill the glass two-thirds full and frothy bubbles will rise to the edge and the second allows you to fill the glass the rest of the way. Never use wet glasses.

Still wines, the kind without bubbles, are frequently sealed with real corks and offer some challenge to the most professional. We needn't discuss screw cap "closures" or similar methods of contemporary man as the hands are the only tools necessary.

Corks made of bark are soft, brittle, supple, flammable, crumbly, dry, hard, good and bad...to name but a few. Corks have been used and discussed for decades. They are either easy to "get out" or "son-of-a-gun", hence, the numerous inventions which plague the market place with the dubious label of "cork pullers".

Careful observation, on my part, has shown that no two "wine experts" seem to be in complete agreement on the perfect cork puller.

General concessions by the majority point to several requirements for such an instrument and they are:

The worm should have a hollow center large enough for a paper match to be inserted within, the length of the worm should be two or 2 1/4 inches in length to penetrate fully the longest corks, the outside diameter of the worm must be just under 3/8 inches (according to a study by Almaden vineyards as reported in the Wall Street Journal), the outer edge of the worm should be round, not sharp, so that the cork will not be cut as the worm penetrates and lastly, the point should be a continuation of the worm's spiral.

Various levers, wings, handles and contraptions are attached to this perfect worm so that it resembles a cork puller. The T-shaped puller, found in party stores, conforms to the above standards but I personally find it inconvenient and awkward to place a bottle of wine between the knees so that the T-puller can be used properly, as no other leverage mechanism exists on same.

THE LEAST AMOUNT of disturbance, shaking or tipping, is desirable when opening wine and although more care is required with its use, I prefer the amateur use the "wing-

pullers" which rarely have the hollow worm spiral. These pullers are chrome plated, available everywhere and will outlast the user. The spiral is called on "sugar" on these models as the cork is solid, like a drill or wood auger, and consequently the user may actually pull the cork right out of the cork unless he is careful. Minimal physical effort is required and women can develop a professional style after opening one bottle to get the feel of it.

Here are some fast tips on using a cork puller.

STEP ONE: Cut and remove the lead foil "capsule", covering the cork, just below the bulge. Wipe away the mold, dirt and moisture accumulated on the cork and top.

STEP TWO: Begin insertion of the worm or lever by placing the tip on or about the center of the cork and twist the instrument into the cork using sufficient pressure to allow penetration without punching the cork into the bottle. When the spiral is completely through the cork or when no more spirals show...stop.

STEP THREE: Using the "wing-type", pull the wings down (they automatically released themselves as the spiral penetrated the cork) with a slow, even pressure being careful to observe the very center of the cork. The cork should break away from the bottle making a little "crack" sound, however, if the cork of the bottle begins to pull out before the cork breaks away from the bottle then you must turn the spiral in further...then proceed.

STEP FOUR: Once the cork is out, wipe the lip and inside of the bottle neck with a clean napkin and serve the wine.

Should you pull the center of the cork or break the cork in half (caused by not inserting the spiral through the cork entirely) then use a T-shaped puller with a hollow spiral and carefully but not too hard, if possible, penetrate the remaining cork that is intact and draw the cork out slowly.

I am currently experimenting with a new version of a very old cork puller utilizing two thin strips of spring steel attached to a handle which enables one to remove a cork without puncturing it in any way. You'll be the first to learn of the results.

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