

# Shari Lewis, puppets in Christmas show

Concert Series, Inc. will present its 11th annual Christmas show this year starring Shari Lewis, the petite ventriloquist, at 8:15 p.m. Dec. 5 and 13, in Detroit's Ford Auditorium.

Featuring familiar and traditional Christmas music, 40 singers and dancers under the direction of Farmington Hills resident Max Davey also will present special music and arrangements written for the extravaganza and provide accompaniment for Max Lewis as she narrates Charles Dickens' famous "A Christmas Carol."

Miss Lewis will tell the story through the eyes of her now-famous puppets Lamb Chop and Charlie Horse. Miss Lewis will portray Santa

Clas in a part written into the script. The audience will be invited to join in singing with the Max Davey group, whose members donate their services voluntarily to the nonprofit organization.

THE AUDIENCE may sing along on such standards as "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas," "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire" and the rousing "Hallelujah Chorus."

Music for the Davey productions is provided by a group of Detroit area musicians who perform under Max Davey's baton.

Choreography for the Christmas

Show will be done this year by Jim and Virginia Magor of Detroit. Magor is known in the Detroit area for staging musicals and industrial productions. Set designs and costumes will be designed by Gary Papierski, who creates (also for J.L. Hudson Co.'s annual Thanksgiving Day parades. Papierski also has gained a reputation as an artist and sculptor.

Davis Gloff, who has appeared as an actor and singer in Detroit area musicals and opera, will portray Scrooge.

MISS LEWIS' appearance in Detroit

is particularly timely since she is due shortly to open in a new television series on the NBC network called "The Shari Show." It will star 20 new puppets and, of course, Shari herself.

Shari Lewis grew up in show business. A native New Yorker, her father was the ventriloquist laureate of New York for 28 years, having been appointed by then Mayor Fiorello La Guardia during the depression.

Shari started out as a child in her father's act and has not stopped working since. She has authored 13 books on magic, puppets, reading preparation for preschoolers, has recorded

three albums for RCA Victor, and has been a fixture on television for the past 15 years.

She has won five Emmy Awards and the Humanitarian of the Year Award. She has had a hit TV show on the BBC in England for seven years and another in Australia for 12 years.

HER NEW NBC show in this country will resemble "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" in that it is set in a TV station called Bearly Broadcasting where all the positions are manned by puppets.

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