

Sound quality vastly improved

By Ruth Zaromp
special writer

The latest program by the Renaissance Chamber Players featured pianist Leszek Bartkiewicz and percussionist Michael Udow.

Beethoven's Piano Quartet in E Flat, Op. 16, was performed by Bartkiewicz, and string players Sharon Stanla, violin; Joanna Hood, viola; and Martha Reikow, cello.

Bartkiewicz who has been studying in Ann Arbor with Theodore Levin, has played on numerous occasions in the area within the past couple of years. His playing reflects a lot of diligent work and portrays potential that has not yet reached its peak.

In Beethoven's Piano Quartet, he displayed

played uniformly and control of the touch, investing the composition with character and depth that one doesn't always find in it.

Stanla's efforts toward the blossoming of melody from within the confines of the string group were noticed as well. Even so, the overall string performance was a bit weak and didn't always project well. However, the sound quality was a vast improvement over that of a week earlier.

Colgrass' Variations for Viola and 4 Drums was performed by Margaret Lan Van Lunen, viola, and Michael Udow, percussion. Udow is professor of percussion at the University of Michigan. They performed Colgrass' piece with a feeling of unity and knowledge. The uniformity of tones between the

review

drums and the viola was striking, and the technique of both players, notable.

Van Lunen, who customarily has more subordinate viola roles, performed her part with distinction and conviction on this occasion.

Colgrass' composition, although it might sound strange and new to the unaccustomed ear, has much depth in it, managing to fashion fugues between the voices of the viola and the drums.

Following intermission was Tchaikovsky's Sextet for Strings in D,

Op. 70. The weakest points in this composition were in the separation of voices in the first movement and the fugue in the final movement. The piece carried well on an overall level in other parts, formed by solo performance versus a quintet that accompanies it.

The singing quality of the soloists' performance created a sense of beauty and tranquility while the accompaniment sustained the foundation of the musical movement.

Citizens group promotes better climate for arts

By Ruth Zaromp
special writer

The annual meeting of the Concerned Citizens for the Arts in Michigan (CCAM) was preceded with a short concert of the Renaissance City Chamber Players. This latter is one out of the two resident chamber groups in the whole of the United States.

The CCAM is a group of people who have an interest in all of the art forms as they are devel-

oping in Michigan — be it in the areas of music, painting, poetry, dance, theater, etc. This group came into being last year. It had its first meeting in Lansing with 300 members present, among them, Kitty Carlisle and Gov. James Blanchard.

Peter Stroh (Stroh's Brewery) is chairman of CCAM and Lee Hanson (WQRS) is president. Publicity is being handled by Warren Shwayder (Touche & Ross).

This is a statewide organization. There are four annual meetings, which are held at different places throughout the

state. To facilitate statewide coverage, a division into 10 regions with a vice president presiding over each of them has been performed.

MICHIGAN has about 20 major art organizations. In music, Michigan has the fourth strongest industry in the nation. A strong effort is being made to facilitate the arts in Michigan in whatever location they might be situated, and therefore, a strong effort is being made to attract people who are involved in the arts (either as participants or audience) to

this organization. Membership dues at this time are \$5 per year, although this might change in the relatively near future.

The CCAM has received a status of 501 (c) (3) in respect to the Internal Revenue Service. With this particular status, 20 percent of the funds of the organization can be utilized toward active lobbying, and all funds contributed to the organization receive the status of being tax deductible.

The firm of Dunn and Roth is providing the

CCAM with accounting services. For the past year, operating expenses exceeded \$28,000, which was provided partly by donations, membership fees, and other sources (\$22,481), and partly by an interest free loan of \$5,000.

A STUDY has begun to clarify the contribution of the arts to the economy of our state. The study is surveying some of the basic cash flows of the arts organizations. In particular, investigating the amount of cash flow that they might receive from

the state (in the form of grants, etc.) in comparison to the amount that they pay back (in the form of taxes, salaries, etc.).

This study hopes to involve about 2,000 arts organizations and, even though not all of the questions will be answered by all involved, a 40 percent answer rate is expected.

CCAM has established close ties with similar organizations in other states, in particular New York State and Missouri. Through these close connections and interests, mutual goals can be accomplished.



Muppets tour

Kermit the Frog and Miss Piggy are just a few of Jim Henson's Muppets who will make their stage debut in the "Muppet Show on Tour," Wednesday-Sunday, Dec. 26-30, at Cobo Theatre in Detroit. Others are Gonzo, Fozzie Bear, and Dr. Teeth and the Electric Mayhem Band. The show is designed for children from age 6, through adults. For ticket information, call 567-6000.

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