

Vonk delicately balances prevision/emotion

By Avigdor Zaromp
special writer

Hans Vonk was the most recent guest conductor with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Among the most prominent Dutch conductors, Maestro Vonk has appeared with many major Dutch and European orchestras. Since 1983 he has been the chief conductor with the Dordrecht Staatskapelle and the Dordrecht State Opera.

Judging from his appearance here, his impressive European reputation is well deserved. Among the attributes that I found striking in his approach was a rare combination of artistic inspiration and knowledge of the material.



Avigdor Zaromp

THE TWO mainstream symphonies works on this program — Haydn's Symphony No. 82 ("The Bear") and the Symphonie Fantastique by Berlioz — ventured beyond the predictability of their familiar themes on Sunday's afternoon performance at Orchestra Hall.

The Haydn symphony, the first of his set of six "Paris" symphonies in

numerical order (which differs from the chronological one), was performed with a larger orchestra than Haydn may have ever seen.

Yet, the stylistic incongruities were kept to a minimum. In fact, this performance sounded more convincing and vibrant than most alleged "authentic" performances with period instruments.

Vonk is one conductor who knows

how to use his orchestral resources economically and to the point.

Thus, the Haydn symphony, while sounding somewhat more powerful than a more compact performance, was nevertheless clear and transparent, with all its themes well defined and carefully outlined. The intimate aspects of it, such as in the Trio, remained pretty much intact.

BERLIOZ, WHO is recognized as a lavish orchestrator, is too often performed with an emphasis on this aspect to the detriment of his musical ideas.

In this performance, Vonk demonstrated that a large orchestra isn't merely a means to produce a larger noise. Here, the various instrumental sections talked to each other in a

language that could be understood, with smooth transitions and an excellent sense of balance.

Artistic inspiration is frequently confused with undisciplined emotion, whereas technically precise performances are sometimes derided as cold or heartless.

BUT JUST as an artist can't survive without some tangible nourishment, music based on undisciplined emotion can't survive artistically.

The clarity and consciousness of this performance would have been impossible without impressive, artistic results.

Thus, the early movements of the Symphonie Fantastique were kept low key, yet alive and expressive. The third movement came across as

a giant, yet idyllic landscape. These scenes served as a natural foundation to the more intense "March to the Scaffold" and the final, climactic movement.

But even in the most intense portions of that movement, an overall sense of order prevailed. But the necessary artistic elements were there — including dynamic shifts, raptures in appropriate places and judicious rubato.

However, the overall discipline focused these artistic nuances into their most effective impact, avoiding the chaotic aspects of those renditions that are based on pure, but undisciplined emotion.

Hans Vonk is one conductor who deserves to be invited here again.

upcoming things to do

- Film seminar**
 "Update '90" is an all-day event featuring the final products of the dreams and ideas of some of film and video artists both locally and from around the world. This gathering of mostly short subjects has been presented annually for the last 20 years as Update. It will be held Saturday, Feb. 17, at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills. The Detroit Association of Film Teachers and the Detroit Producers Association presents independent filmmakers and video artists who have projects completed within the last year to submit their works for consideration in the Independent section of this year's Update. For information on entering, call the DPA office at 737-4240 by Friday, Feb. 2.
- Country music**
 With one show each month beginning in January and running through April, the Palace's 1990 Country Music Series will be highlighted by a dozen country music-world stars. Series ticket packages feature four shows for the price of three and offer the same seats for the following shows: Charlie Daniels Band, Exile and Sawyer Brown, Thursday, Jan. 18, 7:30 p.m.; Roy Clark, Mel Tillis and Ray Stevens, Wednesday, Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m.; Statler Brothers, Conway Twitty and George Jones, Friday, March 16, 7:30 p.m.; Loretta Lynn, Crystal Gayle and Gary Morris, Saturday, April 7, 7:30 p.m. Series tickets are \$55.50 (four shows) per strip, which represents a savings of \$18.50, the price of an individual ticket for each show. Series tickets are at the Palace box office and all Ticketmaster outlets including Hudson's, Harmony House and Great Stuff! stores. Tickets may also be charged by phone at 645-6666. Subscription deadline is Thursday, Jan. 18, at 7:30 p.m. Individual tickets at \$18.50 for the Jan. 18 Charlie Daniels Band, Exile and Sawyer Brown show also are on sale. For more information, call the Palace box office at 377-6660.
- Hilberty theatre**
 "Execution of Justice," by award-winning playwright Emily Mann, opens at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 13, following a preview Jan. 12, at the Hilberty Theatre at Wayne State University in Detroit. It will run in rotating repertory through March 8. "Execution of Justice" is based on the controversial trial of former San Francisco Supervisor Dan White for the 1978 double murder of San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk, a gay activist. For more information, or to order tickets to "Execution of Justice," call the Hilberty Theatre box office at 577-2972.
- At bonstelle**
 "The Amen Corner," James Baldwin's drama of conflict and compassion, opens at the Bonstelle Theatre in Detroit on Friday, Jan. 19, for a two-weekend run. Performances begin at 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. The production includes choir members from the Oakland Avenue Baptist Church. For more information and tickets call the box office at 577-2969.
- Dorothy Hamill**
 Ice skating star and Olympic champion Dorothy Hamill will make her theatrical musical comedy and acting debut in the national tour of "Broadway on Ice," Tuesday, Jan. 30, through Sunday, Feb. 4, at the Fox Theatre in Detroit. Tickets are on sale at the Fox Theatre box office, open 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; the Joe
- Louis Arena box office**, open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and all Ticketmaster outlets. To charge tickets by phone call 645-6666. For more information, call 567-6000.
- Rock group**
 Canadian rock group Rush will appear at the Palace of Auburn Hills at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 8. Tickets at \$20 (reserved) are on sale at the Palace box office and all Ticketmaster outlets including Hudson's, Harmony House and Great Stuff! stores. Tickets also may be charged by calling 645-6666.
- Indian music**
 A sitar recital by internationally known virtuoso Ustad Inayat Khan will be performed at 7 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 20, at Ford World Headquarters Auditorium in Dearborn. Tickets are \$25, \$15 and \$10 (students). Contact the Institute of Indian Music at 557-8066 for details.
- January shows**
 The New Year starts off at the Attie Theatre with three shows in January. These include "What Fresh Hell is This?" — an Evening with Dorothy Parker; Monday, Jan. 8 and 15, at 8 p.m.; Second City Touring Company, Friday-Saturday, Jan. 12-13, at 7:30 and 10 p.m., and Sunday, Jan. 14, at 2:30 and 7 p.m., and "The Meeting," Thursday-Friday, Jan. 18-19, at 8 p.m., Saturday,
- Jan. 20, at 5 and 9 p.m. and Sunday, Jan. 20, at 2:30 and 7 p.m. There will be a student matinee of "The Meeting" Thursday, Jan. 18, at 10 a.m. Tickets may be bought by calling the Attie Theatre box office at 875-8284.
- Cathy Rigby**
 The 35th anniversary production of the musical "Peter Pan" starring Olympic Gold Medalist Cathy Rigby flies into the Fisher Theatre for two weeks only Tuesday, Feb. 20, through Sunday, March 4. This new "Peter Pan" based on Sir James M. Barrie's 1904 novel is a classic tale
- for children and adults and is part of an 18-city national tour. Performance schedule and ticket prices are as follows: Tuesday-Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 4, at 7:30 p.m., \$27.50 and \$20. (Note: No performance Sunday evening, Feb. 25, or Tuesday, Feb. 27). Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. and Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 1 p.m., \$25 and \$20; Friday-Saturday at 8 p.m., \$30 and \$22.50. Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster outlets and the Fisher Theatre box office. For more information call the theater at 872-1000. To charge tickets by phone call Ticketmaster at 645-6666.

The Office

15415 Telegraph
Redford, MI
3100 North of Five Mile
533-4477

**Cocktails • Dancing
Live Entertainment**

50's, 60's Rock and Roll
featuring IMAGINE

Band Starts at 8:30 Tuesday and Saturday

Mr. Z's STEAK HOUSE
Phone: 537-5600
Corner of 5 Mile & Inkster

Limited Engagement!

CHATEAU
Internationally Famous Dance Band
2 WEEKS ONLY • JAN. 16 thru JAN. 27

JANUARY SPECIAL
Sunday thru Thursday
DINNER FOR TWO...\$14.00
Your Choice BBQ RIBS • WHITEFISH
KANSAS CITY STEAK • PRIME RIB

OPEN 7 DAYS
A WEEK
Sunday from 2 P.M.

Kevin's 27189 Grand River
East of Lakeville
537-4510

FINE DINING • COCKTAILS • LIVE MUSIC • BANQUET ROOM

NEW YORK STRIP
BBQ RIBS
ALMOND CHICKEN
BROILED ROUGHY
PORK CHOPS

\$13.90

INC. SOUP, SALAD, POTATO OR RICE, BREAD BASKET

Le Bourdeaux
Casual Dining in an Elegant Atmosphere at Reasonable Prices!

DINNERS FOR TWO AVAILABLE THURS., FRI. & SAT.

LASAGNA	\$12.95	CHICKEN STIR FRY	\$12.95
FISH FRY	\$11.95	ROAST SIRLOIN	\$12.95
BROILED BLUEFISH		\$12.95	

Above "Dinners for Two" includes wine, salad, vegetable, soup or rice, bread & butter and available Thurs., Fri. & Sat. ONLY

ENTERTAINMENT MONDAY-SATURDAY BY
WALLY GIBSON & CO. MUSIC 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's

30325 W. 6 MILE RD. LIVONIA 421-7370

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY BRUNCH
Served 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

\$6.95 per person
ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT!

Leather Bottle Inn
20300 Farmington Road
(Just S. of 8 Mile)
Livonia 474-2120

**DO YOU HAVE A PERSONAL DOCTOR...YES
DO YOU HAVE A PERSONAL LAWYER...YES
HOW ABOUT A PERSONAL TRAVEL AGENT?**
Please Call: "DAI-ICHI TRAVEL SERVICE"
353-8999

Our experienced and professionally trained staff will help you with all your corporate or personal travel needs.

Bring us this ad and we'll give you a \$10 discount off the purchase of an air ticket or tour package valued at \$200 or more. Also, we have a special gift for you with any purchase.

DAI-ICHI TRAVEL SERVICE
3000 Town Center
Suite 835
Southfield, MI

Before

After

You won't notice any difference, but your country will.

The five minutes you spend registering with Selective Service at the post office won't change you. But it will make a difference to your country. So when you turn 18, register with Selective Service. It's quick. It's easy. And it's the law.

A public service message of this publication and Selective Service System.

Winter Whirlpool Weekends
Are Wonderful!

Huge in-room JACUZZIS with wet bars

NOW \$50 OFF
It's unbelievable...a Jacuzzi room for only

\$75

Including In-Room Movies & Continental Breakfast

OFFER GOOD FRIDAY OR SATURDAY NIGHTS

Quality Inn

LIVONIA SUITES-WEST
6 MILE & I-275
464-0050

THE Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

PRESENTS THREE 1990 VACATIONS
• Tour with others in your community • Visit exciting places • Make friends

TOURS INCLUDE:

- Round trip airfare via scheduled airlines
- Inter Island flights (Hawaii)
- Professional native escort
- Fine resort hotels
- Sightseeing (see brochure)
- Airport hotel transfers
- To-your-room baggage handling

ARIZONA LAS VEGAS

GRAND CANYON PHOENIX Laughlin-Lake Havasu

8 DAYS

DEPARTS FEBRUARY 25, 1990

\$639

HAWAII

15 GLORIOUS DAYS Visiting all 4 main Islands

DEPARTS MAY 8, 1990

\$1374

CALIFORNIA

SAN FRANCISCO LOS ANGELES BIG SUR COASTLINE TV TAPING AND MORE!

9 DAYS

DEPARTS JULY 10, 1990

\$674

For additional information or descriptive brochures, call our TRAVEL DESK at: **278-4102** or 1-800-736-7300