



Talented sisters: Duo-pianists Yuki and Tomoko Mack will be featured at the Southfield Concerts in the Garden series on March 28.

Concert features talented piano duo

Southfield's Concerts in the Garden series will feature duo-pianists, sisters, Elena Yuki Mack and Tomoko Mack 11 a.m. Sunday, March 28 at the Marriott Hotel, 27033 Northwestern Highway in Southfield. Concert and continental breakfast served at 10:30 a.m. are \$7.50. Concert and coffee only are \$4. For information, and reservations, call 354-4717.

Born in Tokyo, the sisters came to the United States in 1977. Both have earned bachelor degrees in piano performance from Oakland University and have gone on to graduate school at the University of Michigan.

As duo-pianists, they have performed at the World's Fair in Knoxville as well as with the Warren, Livonia and Pontiac Oakland symphonies. They have also been selected as one of four finalists in the Ellis Duo Piano Competition conducted later this year in South Carolina.

The Southfield Symphony will present a concert 7 p.m. Sunday, March 28 at St. Hugo of the Hills Church in Bloomfield Hills. The Ann Arbor Cantata Singers will perform Leonard Bernstein's "Chichester Psalms" with the orchestra. The concert will conclude with a performance of the Fifth Symphony by Dmitri Shostakovich. For ticket information, call 354-4717 or 851-7408.

Show takes audience on a 'Magic Journey'

BY KEELY WYCONIK
STAFF WRITER

Written with children in mind, "The Magic Journey," to be presented by the Players Guild of Dearborn Youth Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Fridays March 26 and April 2, and 2:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, March 27, 28 and April 3 and 4, will entertain adults too.

"The show is ageless," said playwright Lisa Andres of Livonia. The show, with a cast of 34 ranging in age from 2 to 14, opens 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 26, at the Players Guild of Dearborn playhouse at 21780 Madison, at the intersection of Outer Drive and Monroe in Dearborn. Tickets are \$3.50 and available at the door or in advance by calling 477-2178.

Andres, author of "Once Upon A Time," which debuted at the Players Guild of Dearborn in the spring of 1992, said she enjoys writing shows for children.

The mother of Brooke, 9 and Nicholas 7, with another child on the way, said she always liked the theater, and especially working with children.

A graduate of Churchill High School in Livonia, Andres continued learning about theater while attending Schoolcraft College in Livonia. In high school she started directing children's shows at elementary schools, and continues today.

"I love working with kids, and I wanted to do something that would involve a lot of kids," she said explaining why she wrote "Once Upon A Time," and "The Magic Journey."

In "The Magic Journey," the cast takes the audience on an extra-terrestrial journey that's peppered with quick-paced dialogue and peppy song and dance numbers ranging from rap, ballads, country and modern music.

There's even an Elvis impersonator — John Donovan of Farmington who portrays Elvis, son of the wicked Octavia and the evil Gundl.

"I saw him do his Elvis impersonation, and wrote it into the show," said Andres. "It's really funny."

There are special lighting, sound effects, flashpots, fog, a pair of Samoyeds and a rocket ship in the play that tells the story of a little boy who lives on another planet. The princess on the planet gets sick, and the boy brings two Earth children back to find a cure for her.

The story has a happy ending, but there are lots of aliens, mythical creatures, and inter-galactic bad guys that get in the way.

Andres is directing the show; assistant director and producer is Penny Link. The cast includes Steven Jones of Redford as an Alien, Lauracindy Plaque of Canton as Princess Chloa of the Planet Chloentha, Brooke Andres of Livonia as Willamena, Janet Patton of Farmington as the Wicked Octavia, Parker Plaque of Canton as the Evil Gundl, Rachel Link of Livonia as Loba, Jaimie



Rock 'n' role: John Donovan of Farmington portrays Elvis, son of the wicked Octavia and the evil Gundl in "The Magic Journey."

Steele of Westland as Pilar an alien, Nicole Link of Livonia as Samantha an Earth child, Elizabeth Tiffany of Livonia as an alien, Mari Susami of Livonia as an alien, and Molly Susami of Livonia as a fairy.

UPCOMING THINGS TO DO

CLASSICAL

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY
Oakland University's Department of Music, Theater and Dance performance ensemble Meadow Brook Estate will present a spring concert 3 p.m. Friday, March 19 and 8 p.m. Saturday, March 20 in the Varner Recital Hall on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester. Tickets \$19, \$8 seniors, \$3 students. Call 370-3013.

BRAVO BERTSTEIN
Michigan Opera Theatre returns to the Auburn Concert Series, 8 p.m. Friday, March 19 at the Performance Space, Building F, Room 119 on the Auburn Hills Campus at 2900 Featherstone Drive in Auburn Hills. Tickets \$7, students and seniors over 65, \$5. For information, call 340-6546.

wood Community Center in Garden City. Tickets \$6 adults, \$4 children ages 2-11. Call 525-8846 for information.

"The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" will premiere in a new adaptation by Charles Nolte at Oakland University's Meadow Brook Theatre in Rochester Hills, 8 p.m. Thursday, March 18. Shows Tuesdays through Sundays until April 11. For tickets, call 377-3300 or Ticketmaster, 646-6666.

CLASSIC BRUNCH

Brunch with the Classics features Marci Schulman, vocalist singing the music of Andrew Lloyd Webber including selections from "Phantom of the Opera," noon to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 21 at the Somerset Collection Rotunda, 2801 Big Beaver Road, Troy. Call 643-6360 for tickets.

THEATER

BIRMINGHAM THEATRE
"Nunsense II" continues at the Birmingham Theatre, 211 S. Woodward, through March 21. Call 644-3533 or Ticketmaster, 645-6666 for ticket information.

MARQUIS THEATRE
"Jack and the Beanstalk," 2:30 p.m. Saturdays, March 20, 27 and April 3; 2:30 p.m. Sundays, March 14, 21, 28 and April 4. Easter break performances 2:30 p.m. April 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18. Tickets \$6. Call 349-8110. The theater is at 135 E. Main Street, Northville.

SRO
SRO productions presents "Harvey" by Mary Case, 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, March 19 and 20 and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 21 at the Burch on the northeast corner of Civic Center Drive and Berg Road in Southfield. Tickets \$7 and \$6, call 827-0700.

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Singers sought for chorus

If you love to sing, the new Southfield Community Chorus affords you the opportunity to venture into the world of musical theater, pop, vocal jazz or gospel.

High school students and interested adults are welcome to attend the first rehearsal 7-9 p.m. Monday, March 29 at Birney Middle School, Evergreen Road at 11 Mile Road in the vocal music room. Residents of the community are invited to join.

Choir director Joanne Roth-Bokas has created two award-winning choruses, produced, directed and written musical theater, and has had leading roles in "The Sound of Music," "Oklahoma," "The King and I," and numerous musicals.

Glenn Carlos, an accomplished baritone soloist has performed in opera, oratorio, musical theater and has served as Director of Wayne State University's Vocal Jazz Ensemble.

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