

THE WEEKEND

FRIDAY



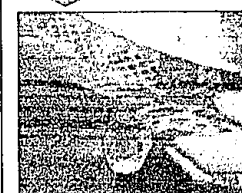
Guy Louis brings his musical family show, *The Chautauqua Express*, to Birmingham City Hall, Pierce and Martin, west of S. Old Woodward. Show begins at 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

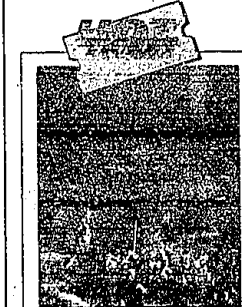


American Family Theaters' Broadway for Kids present the family classic "Aladdin" at noon at the Meadow Brook Music Festival on the campus of Oakland University. Tickets \$10 pavilion or \$5 lawn. Call (248) 645-6666 or online <http://www.palacenet.com>

SUNDAY



See live animals including snakes, turtles and frogs at Nature Place at Cranbrook Institute of Science, 1221 N. Woodward Ave. in Bloomfield Hills. Nature Place is open 1-5 p.m., the Institute of Science is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call (877) 462-7262 or visit www.cranbrook.edu



Hot Tix: Works by more than 400 artists and craftsmen, including Norris Hardeman, are featured at Art in the Park in downtown Plymouth, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, July 10, and until 5 p.m. Sunday, July 11. For more information, call (734) 454-1314.



Conductor: Marin Alsop will conduct the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's season opening at Meadow Brook this weekend.

DSO KICKS OFF SUMMER SEASON WITH FANFARE AND BACHARACH

BY ALICE RUEN
STAFF WRITER
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From casual classical music to fanfare, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's season opening at Meadow Brook this weekend, is eager to change that.

On Friday, Alsop, who is music director of the Colorado Symphony Orchestra and the Concordia Orchestra in New York City, will lead the DSO in back-to-back fanfare.

"Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman" uses the same instrumentation as Copland's. It's very different, but it makes the same statement," said Alsop, who just returned from an engagement with the London Symphony Orchestra. "I like to pair them together. The old and the new provide different perspectives."

The wisdom of youth

Different perspectives could be the operative phrase for this weekend's offerings at Meadow Brook.

Friday's "Opening Fanfare" is billed as a "family fun night" with fireworks following the evening's selections of the fanfare, Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 23 with Russian-born pianist Vladimir Feltsman, selections from Bizet's *Carmen* and Britten's "Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra" narrated

by WJBK FOX 2's Huel Perkins.

"Sometimes I think young people are the most open-minded creatures on Earth. They are open to new sounds and new ideas," said Alsop, a native New Yorker whose own desire to become a conductor came at an early age after she saw Leonard Bernstein conduct a young people's concert with the New York Philharmonic.

She later was able to study with the great conductor for two seasons at Tanglewood, the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

"That was a dream come true to have him as my hero all my life and then be able to study with him," said Alsop, who prefers her age to be given as "a little over 40."

On Saturday, Alsop, who attended Yale and received her master's degree from the Juilliard School, will conduct the DSO and violinist Pinchas Zukerman in selections by Bartok, Bruch, Adams and Beethoven's Symphony No. 7.

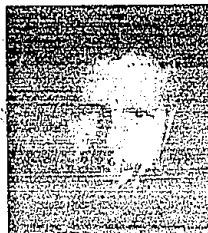
Of her two great artists Alsop said, "It's nice to work with the upper echelon of performers and it's great for Detroit to feature them in a summer series. You may get people who only go to one concert for the year and they are going to get fine quality."

Man, myth and legend

On Sunday, Alsop will lead the orchestra in a half-hour pops concert. Then, Mr. Music himself, songwriter Burt Bacharach, takes the stage to perform his greatest hits like "What the World Needs Now" and "I Say a Little Prayer."

Told that this concert was

Please see DSO, E2



Guest artist: Russian-born pianist Vladimir Feltsman will perform with the DSO on Friday.

WHAT: Detroit Symphony Orchestra at Meadow Brook Music Festival, on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester Hills.

TICKET INFORMATION: Four and five-concert packages, \$40-\$185. Single tickets for July 9-10 concerts, \$13-\$45. July 11 Burt Bacharach concert, \$15-\$40. Call (248) 645-6666 or (313) 576-5120, discounts for students under age 18. Visit the DSO Web site www.detroit-symphony.com

THIS WEEKEND

■ 8 p.m. Friday, July 9 - "Opening Fanfare," conducted by Marin Alsop. Program includes Copland's *Fanfare for the Common Man*, and Joan Tower's *Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman* No. 1.
■ 8 p.m. Saturday, July 10 - "Beethoven Outdoors," features violinist Pinchas Zukerman in a program of Ruch's *Violin Concerto*.
■ 7:30 p.m. Sunday, July 11 - The DSO with Burt Bacharach.

WHAT: Playscape '99, a festival of new plays

WHEN: Thursday-Sunday, July 15-18
WHERE: Performance Network, 408 W. Washington, (2 1/2 blocks west of Main St.) Ann Arbor

TICKETS: \$12 general admission to onstage production, \$8 students. Staged readings \$5 suggested donation. Call (734) 663-0681 or <http://comet.org/PNetwork> on the Web

MAINSTAGE

■ "Mainstream," a full-length, original comedy - 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, July 15-17, and 2 p.m., Sunday, July 18.

STAGED READING SERIES

■ "Talk Show," a comedy in two acts - 1 p.m. Saturday, July 17.
■ "Dance Like No One's Watching," a new full-length play - 4 p.m. Saturday, July 17

Heartlande showcases new works

BY KEELY WYGONIK
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Most theater companies pick up where Heartlande Theatre Company leaves off — after the play is polished and ready to go.

The process of creating new works is what excites Jan Radcliff, executive director of the theater company which is presenting "Playscape '99," Thursday-Sunday, July 15-18, at Performance Network in Ann Arbor. "It's exciting to get a play on its feet and see what it looks like," said Radcliff, a Birmingham resident.

Playscape showcases new, original works by local playwrights, which are presented and directed by local actors and actresses. Two of the three featured writers, M.V. Patton and David MacGregor, have been participating in Heartlande's New Plays Initiative. A new work by Kitty Dubin of Birmingham was also selected.

"This is the fifth year we're doing it," said Radcliff. "The plays are worth the money. They're

showing entertainment. What we do, I think is unique. We're the only theater completely committed to writers."

A theater company without a home, Heartlande works to develop works by artists such as MacGregor of Livonia, an instructor at Wayne State University, through its New Plays Initiative formed two years ago.

"It's good stuff," said Radcliff. "People come in with low expectations and they're blown away. This is a great way to support local artists."

Presenting new works is just part of the process. MacGregor and the other five writers in the group meet every two weeks.

"We run through an act or two and get feedback on what worked and what didn't," said MacGregor. "These people have a passion for the theater. I value that. When I write stuff it's a pretty solitary experience. It's validating to know you're not a lone voice in the wilderness."

In some way, you could call Playscape a dress rehearsal. This year three works are being presented — "Mainstream," a full-length comedy by MacGregor and two works in process, "Talk Show," a comedy in two acts by M.V. Patton, and "Dance Like No One's Watching," a new full-length play by

Please see HEARTLANDE, E2

MUSIC

Bad Company working together again

BY CHRISTINA PUOCO
STAFF WRITER

Riding in a taxi cab throughout the streets and tunnels of New York City, Simon Kirke is taking in the role of Mr. Mom.

Never mind that he, vocalist/guitarist Paul Rodgers, bassist Boz Burrell and guitarist Mick Ralphs have reformed to tour as Bad Company and cut a few new tracks. His priorities have changed temporarily.

"I'm going into a tunnel so bear with me if we get cut off. I'm in a New York taxi cab. It's amazing isn't it? I'm calling you from this cell phone. I have to pick up my daughter from school. If we don't get to do it all, we can get together later," Kirke said referring to an interview.

WHO: Bad Company featuring Paul Rodgers, Mick Ralphs, Simon Kirke and Boz Burrell

WHAT: Perform with special guest David Lee Roth

WHERE: 8 p.m. Friday, July 9

WHERE: Joe Louis Arena, 600 Civic Center Dr., Detroit

HOW: Tickets, \$25, \$35, \$45, are available at the Joe Louis Arena box office and all Ticketmaster outlets. For more information, call (313) 983-8600.

The quintessential English gentleman, Kirke is even as polite and thoughtful when he describes Bad Company's make-up and break-up.

"I have to say straight-up it's been fantastic," the drummer said. "We're all a lit-

tle bit wary because when we sort of parted company all those years ago, it wasn't under the best of circumstances. We were a little bit cautious of working together again," Kirke explained.

The quartet was relieved of its reservations when a pay-per-view concert early in the tour went especially well, he explained.

"The vibe was just fantastic. I think there's a newfound affection and respect. It had been eroded away in 1980 or 1981, whenever it was," said Kirke, who along with the rest of Bad Company, will perform at Joe Louis Arena on Friday, July 9.

"We just got tired of each other basical-

Please see TOGETHER, E3



Reunited: The recently reformed Bad Company performs with special guest David Lee Roth on Friday, July 9, at Joe Louis Arena. The band released an anthology on Elektra Records.