

# Art and Entertainment

## 'Spring Celebration' — ambitious program

By JOHN SOMMER:  
From Rome to the cafetorium of the Georgetown District High School, where the Achill and Georgetown Choral Societies presented an evening of music called "Spring Celebration", last Saturday. The program was an ambitious one.

First came "A Sea Symphony" by composer Ralph Vaughan Williams with lyrics by the great American poet Walt Whitman.

This is a stupendous poem and the music Williams composed for it in 1910 is lofty and agitated and very grand. The poem draws an analogy between the voyager on the ocean and the journey of the human soul through life.

The work was presented in an interesting musical, visual, and narrative format.

During the hour long concert, slides of sea and ship paintings by artists like Friedrich, Monet, van Gogh, and Turner appeared on a screen behind the two choirs.

Most of the poem was sung by the choirs and two soloists, soprano Susan Murlay and baritone Bruce Armstrong, other parts of the poem were recited by the soloists. What words:

Ah who shall soothe these feverish children?

Who justify those restless explorations?

Who speak the secret of impassive earth?

The conductor was A. Dale Wood and the accompanist was

Christopher Dawes.

After intermission, in a lighter mood, the choirs gave us 10 more songs, from the delightful "I Got Shoes" to "The Impossible Dream."

If you have missed the concert and want to catch it somewhere

else: The Achill and Georgetown Choral Societies will present the same program on Friday at Holland Christian Homes in Brampton, and on Saturday, at Orangeville District High School in Orangeville, Ontario, at 8:00 p.m. each evening.



Rockwood artist, Carole Black, displays two of the prints she's donating to the Acton YMCA's auction to be held May 10 at Holy Cross Church Hall on Maple Avenue in Georgetown. The watercolor paintings are called 'High House' and 'A Summer Day on Charles Street'. (Herald photo)

## YMCA auction feature artist

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT  
The Herald

Carole Black's love of the styles, fashions and designs of the Victorian Era is apparent in her dress, her decorative house and the watercolor paintings she creates; of which several will be up for auction at North Halton YMCA's auction sale to be held Thursday (tomorrow) at Holy Cross Church Hall in Georgetown where she is the feature artist.

The Rockwood artist is actually donating two of her limited edition paintings to the auction. They capture the intricate architecture and grandeur of old houses. 'High House' and 'A Summer's Day on Charles Street' are the two prints she donated but other pieces of her work will also be on sale.

"My subjects have always been the old-fashioned things," said this former kindergarten teacher turned artist. "I especially like the Victorian Era where the things were very feminine and the woman's dresses were decorated with beads and lace."

Women in period costume often accentuate her watercolor paintings of old houses. "In my mind, when I'm painting, I go back to the time when the house was new," she said.

Her love of historic objects and a desire to replicate the beauty of the past is what eventually led Ms. Black to take a few workshops in watercolor painting back in 1981.

"After a lot of trial and error, I developed my own style," she said and soon people started to notice her work. Not long after, a company called Simon Art took an interest in her talent and decided to make her name known across the country by distributing limited print editions of her work.

Today, her prints can be seen in art galleries and on a Christmas card sold by Carlton. Her originals now sell for anywhere between \$1200 for a smaller, less intricate painting to \$7500 for a 'work of art'.

Besides painting, Ms. Black

also designs and creates dolls, usually dressed in Victorian age dresses. She finds her doll-making, along with a musical talent (she sings, plays piano and violin) keep her balanced.

"I feel lucky that I'm able to move back and forth," she said. "Because I can, I don't get tired of either medium." She hopes to exhibit some of her dolls, along with her paintings, in a studio she is planning to build onto her Rockwood home this summer.

Ms. Black said she's pleased to be contributing some of her work to the auction. "I've made use of the YMCA my whole life," she said. "As a child I went there and now my own daughter goes swimming there."

Ms. Black will be present at the auction as the feature artist to talk about her work. The auction will be held Thursday with previewing at 7:00 p.m. and the auction beginning at 8:00 p.m. at Holy Cross Church Hall on Maple Avenue in Georgetown.

Heather Ferris, director of community progress for the North Halton YMCA and co-ordinator of the auction, said other local artists work will also be available. Georgetown artists Shirley Deville, Jack Reid, Joe Walterson and Elsie Monaster along with Glen Williams artist Barbara Reade have all provided pieces for the auction.

Other items buyers will be able to bid on include a summer membership to the Georgetown Racquet Club, season tickets to Georgetown Little Theatre, four Buffalo Bills tickets, two tickets to the Canada Cup (team Canada) games, two rounds of golf at the North Halton Golf and Country Club, dance lessons from Cheri Lindsay Dance Studios and a Zaph doll from the Doll Emporium in Acton. All the above-mentioned businesses donated the items to help make the auction a success.

The money raised will go towards sponsorship, said M's. Ferris. Sponsorships allow everybody, no matter what their financial situation, make use of what the YMCA offers.



Approximately 250 people attended the Achill and Georgetown Choral Societies Spring Celebration concert Saturday night at Georgetown District High School. Local Georgetown resident A. Dale Wood led the 100-member choir through a series of selections including "A Sea of Symphony" by noted composer Ralph Vaughn Williams. Toronto pianist Christopher Dawes was the accompanist during the performance. (Herald photo)

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Pictured above are shopping spree winner Jean Peeters and Georgetown Food Market owner Bob Creasey



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