

## Entertainment

### Concert gets raves but could use piano

By Ruth Harris

St. Andrew's College auditorium was the setting of an excellent program of music provided by the York symphony orchestra—conducted by Clifford Poole—and the youthful pianist Chia-yue Chou, one of the outstanding pianists on today's musical horizon.

The program was played Friday evening and repeated Saturday to an enthusiastic and appreciative capacity audience of approximately 500 music lovers. The highlight of the evening was Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue, in which both orchestra and soloist met its challenging demands, playing with enjoyment, verve, and strong rhythmic drive.

Chia-yue Chou, who at 16, has won a \$1,000 scholarship, is in his first year bachelor of music performance program at the University of Toronto. He played with assurance, sensitivity, and dexterity, but needed a concert grand piano to provide a correct balance between orchestra and piano. He received a standing ovation, richly deserved.

Piano needed

This area is fortunate in having several fine pianists, but lacks a

worthy instrument for their performance and also a suitable auditorium for occasions such as these. Dare we hope for a performing arts centre in this region at some not too far distant date?

The clarinet soloist, Steve Clark, was most impressive in the opening theme, as were other soloists, Bob Watson, Dawn Valley, Steve Fuller, Fred Sussman; the whole orchestra gave a most vital and compelling performance throughout.

Friday night's lack of confidence and security in Beethoven's Egmont Overture and Vaughn Williams' Fantasia on "Greensleeves" had been rectified, resulting in a much improved performance Saturday. Spirited

The second half of the program opened with a spirited rendition of Die Fledermaus by Johann Strauss, followed by Suite No. 1 from Carmen by Bizet.

This work gave the various soloists in the orchestra a chance to display their virtuosity; there was some fine playing in all sections, with special mention to the harp and flute duet by Valerie Raeburn and David Thompson, and John Tuet with Thompson. The audience demanded an encore and

"Les Toreadors" was repeated much to everyone's delight. The popular symphonic poem "Finlandia" by Jean Sibelius was full of dramatic intensity and excitement and brought an enjoyable evening of music to a climactic close.

Mr. Poole and the orchestra received three curtain calls from the enthusiastic audience many of whom are subscription members. If you would like to become a subscriber and supporter of this very fine orchestra call Judy Craig, 895-8713.

Next season's four concert series is already in preparation and will feature a choral program, plus pianist Zena Kuschpeta, violinist Eileen Bordessa, and soloists from the orchestra.

This group of gifted and dedicated musicians is worthy of your support, and attendance at their concerts will greatly enrich your musical life and enjoyment.



### Cantabile Chorale in concert

The music will be both sacred and secular when Cantabile Chorale of Thornhill presents its spring concert May 11 at St. Luke's Church, 39 Green Lane, Thornhill, at 8:15 p.m. Tenor Nihal Fonseka, a native of Ceylon, will be guest soloist. Among the

selections during the evening will be music from Brigadoon. The chorale is conducted by Robert Richardson, foreground, shown with the members. For information, call 881-0591.

### Broadway hit for Aurora

"The Pajama Game," the Broadway musical of 1954, which ran for 1,063 performances, will be Theatre Aurora's final production of the season at the Factory Theatre, May 6-7 and 12-14.

Produced by Tim Baker-Pearce and directed by Margaret Mason, the famed musical features Julie Wood who played Maria in the club's fine presentation of Sound of Music last year.

Other well-known performers are Gwen Duchesne, Jim Patterson, Cy Buck, Arnold Falusi, Art Rossiter, Joan Paul, Gary Hubbard, Eleanor Warren, Lee Henry, JoAnne Spitzer, Don Wilson and Alan Mitchell.

Gwen Duchesne is also musical director, choreographer is Joan Barret.

A chorus of 10 singers and a team of six dancers round out the cast.

Written by George Abbott and Richard Bissell, and based on Bissell's book, "7½ cents," the story revolves around the labor-

management difficulties at the Sleep Tite pajama factory.

By pretending to have an interest in Gladys, the firm's bookkeeper, the plant superintendent takes her out for an evening to Hernando's Highway, and thus gains access to the firm's

books.

What he discovers and what happens as a result, is what the play's all about.

Among the songs are such old favorites as Steam Heat, Hey There and Hernando's Highway. For tickets, call 727-6086 or 727-8439.

### Final word

The final paragraph in a review of the Glenvale Players' production of Yes, My Darling Daughter, was omitted in the Apr. 27 edition of The Liberal. The last three paragraphs then should have read: So far as the direction was concerned, there could be a little more "business among the actors, while waiting around for someone on the phone, or while just sitting around talking.

Also, one expected to hear a few doors close after the performers presumably went through them.

But these are minor points and directors Joan Fullerton and Lucy Lunansky can be proud of their achievement. They opened other doors and no one wants to see any of those closed.



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