9-13-1970

"New Look" for University Art Series for the 1970-71 School Year

Follow this and additional works at: https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls

Recommended Citation

https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls/3674

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Marketing and Communications at eCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in News Releases by an authorized administrator of eCommons. For more information, please contact frice1@udayton.edu, mschlagen1@udayton.edu.
DAYTON, Ohio, September 13, 1970 — A black dancer, who considers himself a
teacher, not an entertainer; a choral group whose watchword is innovation; a panto-
mimist who shows sensitivity, creates attitudes and stimulates the imagination; a
family who creates the most famous puppet theater in the world; a play written,
produced, directed and acted by a group of men who have spent 54 years behind bars,
and a controversial jazz composer make up the "new look" in the University of
Dayton's University Arts Series for the 1970-71 school year. It is the ninth year
for the cultural series.

Beginning on September 23, the Series will present for a two day run, the
internationally-known Eleo Pomere Dance Company, which has drawn mixed notices in
cities throughout the country. Called the black man's dancers, the Pomere group
depicts life as it has meaning to the black. Using reality, language, situations
and symbols, the group moves into the meaning of the slums through its original
creation, "Beginnsville."

Its message, according to a New York Times review, is that black progress will
come from the black poor, who, after taking a good, honest look at themselves and
"the man," will do what they must to survive and free themselves.

"Pomere's work in both Europe and America has been called 'exciting,' 'powerful,'
'innovative,' and 'undisciplined.'"

In this Pomere says: "I am not about show business. I'm not an entertainer. I consider myself a teacher, an interpreter of the black art of black dancing. The
very existence of black people is an art, and the things we create on the stage come
out of this art, this survival...."

The program will start each night at 8:15 p.m. in the Kennedy Union's Boll
Theater.

The Series will continue on Sunday evening, October 25, with the presentation
of the Gregg Smith Singers, an innovative choral group which deals in sounds,
particularly the stereo sound within the audience. This group has been lauded
throughout the country as a unique, melodic and highly entertaining contingent of
singers.

The silent world of Kenyon Martin, through his production, "Beyond Words,
drops into the Boll Theater on December 9 and 10 to add yet another new dimension
to the changing Arts Series. Called "an exciting experience in silence," Martin's
one-man performance is a series of original vignettes executed with artistry and
sensitivity of perception, creating attitudes and illusions to stimulate the
imagination of the audience, pointing out the essence of human behavior.

Martin, who is on the faculty of Brandeis University, has performed on stage
and television screens throughout the United States and Europe. Constantly in
demand he also has appeared at universities, at Carnegie Hall in New York and many

-more-
The Salzburg Marionette Theater, conceived and developed by the Aicher family, opens the 1971 portion of the Arts Series with two different performances of "Don Giovanni" and "The Magic Flute" are the shows.

Born in the living room of Professor Anton Aicher of the picturesque town of Salzburg, Germany, the hobby was originally utilized to pass away Aicher's free time and to entertain his children. Whittling puppets out of wood was Anton Aicher's hobby. Making people laugh was his avocation. He combined the two and it became his profession.

Now his descendants, mother, father, Gretl and Frick Aicher, travel the world to entertain, make laugh and to soothe their fellow men. The Aichers have built the little living room performances for the Aichers into a full-scale production which includes a director from the famous Vienna Burgtheater, scenery designed by the most prominent designer of the Vienna Staatsoper and music performed by the Vienna Philharmonic and internationally known soloists. Some of Europe's most noted sculptors now design the faces of the puppets.

From the original whittling of two wooden puppets by Anton Aicher, the son, Hermann Aicher, and his family now have more than 1500 marionettes. Despite this elaborate production, the Aichers maintain a close contact with their audience before and after the programs.

The fifth production in the Arts Series is "The Cage", a play that was born in prison, speaks of prison life and maintains a staff of men who have felt the sting of that prison life. This program will be shown on February 19 in the Boll Theater with 3 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. performances.

"The play," says its 35-year-old author, Rick Cluchey, "is an indictment of the universal world of prison. It tells what man does to his fellow man by locking him in a cage and stacking him five stories high. We've got to reach out for the good in people or someone will exploit the bad."

 Appropriately labeled Barwire Theater, the play has received rave reviews in California, Ohio, and Georgia among other states and led to the creation, in 1961, of the San Quentin Drama workshop. Cluchey and Ken Whalen, another inmate, put together 34 productions in the space of five years. All were written, directed, produced and acted by the men behind the bars.

"The Cage" received the most notice and has continued its success wherever it is shown. Cluchey was released on life parole in 1967 and has been producing plays since.

The 1970-71 Series closes with a one-week in residence appearance of Cecil Taylor, famous contemporary jazz composer whose music delights some, irritates others and entertains most. His main appearance will be made on Wednesday 31 at 8:15 p.m. in the Kennedy Union Ballroom. However, he will spend the week in special small groups and in classrooms where his expertise has been a source of satisfaction for many music lovers.