10-7-1982

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News Release

UD ARTS SERIES PRESENTS
A NOVELIST AND A CHOIR

DAYTON, Ohio, October 7, 1982 — The University of Dayton Arts Series continues with two events scheduled in October. On Monday, October 18, novelist John Barth will discuss his work in the Kennedy Union Ballroom at 8 p.m. On Thursday, October 21 at 8 p.m., the 40-voice Westminster Choir will perform in Boll Theatre.

John Barth is one of the first American writers to win both popular and academic acclaim for his self-consciously experimental fiction. His early novels drew heavily on the philosophy of existentialism and the fiction of Albert Camus and Jean Paul Sartre. In his later works Barth abandoned conventional storytelling and moralizing in favor of a literature that criticizes itself through the use of burlesque and parody.

Barth has been strongly influenced by his experience as an English professor at Pennsylvania State University, the State University of New York at Buffalo, and The Johns Hopkins University, and by the literary theory of the Argentine writer Jorge Luis Borges.

The Westminster Choir was founded in 1920 by the late John Finley Williamson. Since that time, critics have singled out the choir for its virtuosity and consistent good singing, conductors have praised its musicality, and composers have written special works for the choir.

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The choir, in its first tour of Europe in 1929, was the first American choir to appear in concert in England. In 1934, it was the first to appear in Russia after diplomatic relations were resumed. On three occasions, by three different U.S. presidents, the choir has been commissioned to represent the United States on goodwill tours to other countries.

The Westminster Choir's repertoire includes music from all periods and all styles from Renaissance a cappella madrigals and motets to oratorio and large modern symphonic works.

The choir has appeared with almost all of the major East Coast orchestras and has made some 60 recordings. The choir is under the leadership of Joseph Flummerfelt, head of Choral Activities at Westminster Choir College.

Other events in this year's UD Arts Series include The Acting Company performing on December 9 and 10, pianist Panayis Lyras on January 20, and the National Opera Company on February 16.

The UD Arts Series is presented with the aid of the University of Dayton and the Ohio Arts Council. Tickets will be available only at the door for both events. For more information, call 229-2347.

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