

What's On At Douglas

by John McDonald

If "what's on in the arts" is the question, then stimulating entertainment is the answer, as Douglas College artists reveal their line-up of visual and musical treats for the upcoming season.

This year is a season of "firsts" with the introduction of an evening series of concerts featuring well-known Canadian artists and the first ever "full-blown" musical from the theatre department.

From the music department comes "Four Great Canadian Musicians" featuring locally and internationally acclaimed musicians.

The series features a pair of concerts in both fall and spring, starting with pianist Marek Jablonski performing an all-Chopin program. Following the Polish-born Jablonski, who's Chopin renditions have been called "simply brilliant", is a performance by Vancouver-born soprano Alexandra Browning, accompanied by pianist Robert Rogers. Browning, noted for her flair in "creating" her roles, has built an enviable international reputation and is a professor of music, along with Rogers, at the University of British Columbia.

After the New Year, pianist Robert Silverman, well-known around Douglas College for his Scholarship concerts, will perform, followed soon after by cellist Shauna Rolston, who winds up the series, accompanied by her mother, Isabel Moore.

The popular "Noon at New West" concert series continues this year with weekly noon-hour performances.

Highlights of the series include the Paul Plimley Jazz Octet, a local group noted for their wild but well-rehearsed performances, and the young piano sensation Michelle Mares. Only 15 years old, she has played with the Montreal Symphony and is soon off to Europe to continue her career.

Henry Waack, instructor and musical programmer of the two concert series, outlines the motivation behind the expanded concert offerings.

"We're trying to bring in the general public, in addition to the students," says Waack.

He speculates that the public might not realize they are welcome to attend performances. He also believes many people think you have to go into Vancouver to hear good music, an idea he dismisses.

In addition to his work with the concert series, Waack is also the musical director for the theatre department's fall offering, "Where's Charlie".

"It's a musical parody," explains director Dorothy Jones, "and it's also our first-ever

full musical, as opposed to a play with songs."

Described as a "musical spoof of an evergreen English farce," the play centers around the antics of Jack and Charlie, two Oxford University students, who invite their "lady friends" to dine with them in Charlie's home. Victorian tradition demands that Charlie's aunt chaperone the two couples, but when the aunt fails to show, Charlie is forced into "drag" to portray his aunt.

And the visual arts are not ignored either. The Fraser River will be the theme for an art exhibit entitled, "The Fraser River Show". The exhibit will be shown in a variety of places including the New Westminster Library, the "Gallery in the Park" as well as at Douglas College.

Scheduled to run from October 1st to the 31st, the show will encompass all age groups and a multitude of genres including photography, sculpture, pottery, glass work, fibre arts, video, illuminated calligraphy and poetry, as well as the more traditional painting and drawing.

Also this fall, the Humanities Institute returns with its offerings of socially-oriented films and lectures. Highlights of this year's lecture series include "Madness and Culture: An Examination of the Relationship between Diagnosis and Social Performance" presented by anthropologist Simon Foulds, and "South Africa and Israel: Nuclear Alliance and Social Parallels," presented by Mordecai Briemberg.

Video and film highlights include Charlie Chaplin's '30's classic "Modern Times", a satire on contemporary industrial life and a 1985 video entitled, "The Mythmaker." Narrated by David Suzuki, the video looks at the variety of myths and religions developed by humans and the evolution of modern science from its roots in the Judeo-Christian tradition.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MUSIC

"Four Great Canadian Musicians"

- Oct. 17, 1986 - Marek Jablonski
- Nov. 1, 1986 - Alexandra Browning with Robert Rogers
- Jan. 30, 1986 - Robert Silverman
- Mar. 4, 1987 - Shauna Rolston with Isabel Moore

"Noon at New West" concert series

- Sept. 11, 1986 - Horns 'R Us
- Sept. 18, 1986 - Paul Plimley Jazz Octet
- Oct. 2, 1986 - Baroque Trio
- Oct. 9, 1986 - Ethno-Electro-Percussion Quartet
- Oct. 23, 1986 - Vancouver Guitar Quartet
- Nov. 27, 1986 - Michelle Mares
- Dec. 4, 1986 - House Band
- Dec. 4, 1986 - Student Showcase

Other Musical Events

- Nov. 23, 1986 - Suzuki Violin Concert
- Nov. 27, 1986 - Douglas College Band Concert
- Dec. 6, 7, 1986 - Douglas College Choral Society
- Mozart's Grand Mass in C Minor
- Dec. 17, 1986 - Douglas College Community Concert

THEATRE

- Nov. 4-22, 1986 - "Where's Charlie"
- A musical comedy

ART EXHIBITIONS

- Oct. 1-31, 1986 - "The Fraser River Show"
- A multi-genre exhibit

HUMANITIES INSTITUTE

Film Series

- Sept. 11, 1986 - "Modern Times" (1939)
- Oct. 9, 1986 - "The Mythmaker" (1985)
- Oct. 30, 1986 - "Stephen Lewis: Public Education for World Citizenship (1985)
- Nov. 20, 1986 - "Crac." (1981) and "Bethune" (1964)

Lectures

- Sept. 25, 1986 - "Foundations and Futures: Civil Liberties and Rights in Canada," by Terry Farrell
- Oct. 16, 1986 - "Madness and Culture: An Examination of the Relationship Between Diagnosis and Social Performance," by Simon Foulds
- Nov. 13, 1986 - "The Victorian Woman: Biology Was Her Destiny and Pregnancy Her Career," by Jacqueline Gresko
- Nov. 27, 1986 - "South Africa and Israel: Nuclear Alliance and Social Parallels," by Mordecai Briemberg