

MUSIC

The Oregon Bach Festival

"The Oregon Bach Festival has come a long way since those formative years in the early 70's. One need only slightly stir the memory to recall some of the concerts performed in the sweltering heat of an Oregon summer. . . . Memory is blurred, however, when it attempts to remember the Festival's first budget picture. Is it really possible that within the short span of 15 seasons this monetary image has increased in size nearly 150 times? This year the major challenge continued to be the move into the Hult Center. Last year was a milestone for the Festival when it took the formidable leap to a hall with a seating capacity nearly five times larger than the previous facility. The beauty and spaciousness of the Hult Center had to be balanced by increased audiences and greater financial support if the transition was to be justifiable and attainable.

"The format and schedule this summer reflect the luxury of having three halls available for programming, the Silva and Soreng at the Hult Center and Beall Hall at the University. No less than 43 events have been included in the two weeks, with more than one-half open to the public without admission charge. The festival has expanded to include children's concerts, classes on art, architecture and philosophy and an exhibit by local artists. All of these are in addition to the dual series of noon programs in Beall and the Hult, the unique cantata lecture performances (5:15 pm) and the superb array of evening concerts." These are the words of H. Royce Saltzman, executive director of the Oregon Bach Festival.

It does indeed look like an exciting event Eugene should be proud of. Begun in 1970 as one performance and two workshops, the Festival is now respected throughout the country. Helmuth Rilling, artistic director and conductor, is recognized as one of the world's leading interpreters of Bach choral repertoire. He has directed throughout Europe, Japan, South America and the U.S. He also records extensively. The Festival orchestra consists of players from such major Ameri-



Mezzo-soprano Florence Quivar is one of the soloists performing at the Bach Festival. She will be heard in Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* on Sat., July 7. She is one of America's most distinguished singers having appeared throughout the world.

can orchestras as the L.A. Philharmonic, L.A. Chamber Orchestra, and the San Francisco, Denver, Seattle and Oregon symphonies. The Festival chorus is comprised of trained singers from major professional and University choirs. Many are choral conductors who come to study with Helmuth Rilling. There are also many well known and respected soloists who perform throughout the Festival.

The Festival runs from June 25-July 8. Special features this year include two children's concerts on Saturday mornings. The Eugene ballet will perform Stravinsky's *Pulcinella*, and the Theater Mask Ensemble of Portland will perform mime, dance, acrobatics and music. The complete schedule may be found in *What's Happening's* calendar this issue and the next (July 5).

The evening concerts (all at the Hult) series tickets are \$33, \$45, \$85 and \$99 for Series I or II (seven concerts). Single admis-

sions are \$5.50, \$8.50, \$12.50, \$16.50, \$19.50. The afternoon Bach Cantatas: Series I (Hult Center) is from Mon-Thurs, Week 1, at 5:15 pm; Series II (Hult Center) is from Tues-Fri, Week 2, at 5:15 pm. Series price for either is \$11. Single tickets are \$3.50. Seniors, children under 12 and students with ID, \$1.50. Tickets are available at the Hult Center. Cost of tickets for the children's concerts are \$5.50 for adults and \$3.50 for children. They will be at 10:30 am in the Soreng Theatre.

The noon concerts at both the Hult and Beall Hall are free. There is also a benefit picnic where patrons meet the musicians on Sunday, July 1 on the lawn behind Beall Hall at 5:30 pm. The cost of \$15 covers two box suppers, wine and entertainment for the patron and the musician. You may buy tickets for the supper at the Beall Hall box office. Call 686-5667 for more information.

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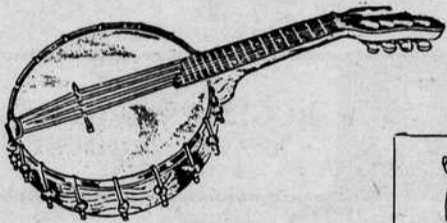
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World Music Festival Dates

The dates of the World Music Festival at the Catlin Gabel School in Portland are July 21 and 22. They were inadvertently left out of the article in the June 7 issue.

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