

Odetta

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That first day in California, was perhaps her first real encounter with the blues. Since then she has come to know the mood well.

In junior high school she joined the glee club.

"I was fooling around at the top of the scale one day," she recalls, "and when the instructor heard me she decided I should have music lessons. She wanted to make me another Marian Anderson."

Even then, Odetta felt there was something wrong with the idea of being ANOTHER — anyone. She promptly caught what she terms "a psychological cold" and the lessons were discontinued.

AFTER HIGH school she found employment as a housekeeper during the day while she studied music at night — art songs and the classics. To folk music she had never given a thought.

Her first professional break as a singer—and, in fact, her break with the classics—came when she was cast in

a West Coast production of "Finian's Rainbow," which toured to San Francisco. It was the first time she'd ever been away from home.

"I felt so bad," she relates, "that when I met a couple of Bay City Folk singers, I was probably more receptive to their songs than I might normally have been."

"They sang the song, 'I'm My Mother's Child,' for instance, and I was so homesick."

FROM THOSE singers she also heard for the first time the powerful work song, "Take This Hammer," which is now one of her most poignant numbers. She listened to their music for four hours and in that time underwent conversion.

"It was a revelation that came to me with a wallop. The beauty and richness of these songs lay in their expression of truth, of our own heritage. And I was fascinated by the freedom they allowed the singer."

Odetta then taught herself to play the guitar. Her first effort was "Down in the Valley", and it was an effort indeed. It took her five minutes to change each chord! Today she can make the instrument comment as though it had a mind of its own.



Let's Go to the Movies

Wednesday night will be movie night during the Arts Festival. One of the old art movies to be shown is "The Golden Age of Comedy," starring Will Rogers, Carole Lombard, Laurel and Hardy, Jean Harlow, Harry Langdon and Ben Turpin. It is a Twentieth Century-Fox release.

Studios

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McIntyre, painter and art photographer, of Timberlake Road, Bloomfield Hills.

EXHIBITS

Visitors to the Arts Festival can see 11 special exhibitions in art galleries and other establishments throughout the area. Mrs. John Beard is general chairman of the exhibitions.

At the Little Gallery, work by members of the faculty of Kingswood School, Cranbrook will be displayed from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, except Monday.

Exhibitors are Lillian Holm, Martha Moody, Robert Kline and Clifford West.

SHOWCASE will display the work of members of the Terra Cotta Sculptors group.

The ceramics will be on view at 136 Brownell from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily and until 9 p.m. on Tuesday, June 20, and Friday, June 23.

BIRMINGHAM area artists will be featured in an exhibition arranged by Herbert Cohen of the Raven Gallery, Detroit. It will be on display at Ceresia and Offen, 536 N. Woodward, Birmingham, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily.

Artists whose work is entered include Joseph Ballone, Betty Conn, Laura Cowman, Lillian Cantor, Betsy Webster, Madeline Wynkoop, Malcolm Moran, Don Buby, Svea Kline and Mary Beard.

GRINNELL'S Gallery, 299 W. Maple, will contain a photography exhibit, during regular store hours.

Photographer Robert Osborne is chairman of the exhibit. He is being assisted by Mrs. Jane McIntyre.

Photographers whose black and white and color pictures will be shown are Rob-

ert Hughes, Glenn Gardiner, Baltazar Korab, Ray West and Donald Dancer.

Robert Servis will conduct a special stereo show from 2 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, June 20, in the galleries.

COUNTRY GALLERY, 1941 Telegraph will present a graphic show on June 17-24 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Participating artists include Suga!, Pellet, Music, LeCarbusier, Adams, Ernst and Zan-Wau-Ki.

ON JUNE 20-21 from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., Birmingham Community House will present a craft and hobby show.

Exhibits include silver, ceramic, enamel, flower arrangement, gardening, millinery, painting, sewing and tailoring and youth paintings.

DOC WHITTLE'S Young People's Theatre on Brown Street and Ann will be open from noon until 5 p.m., June 17-24.

Baldwin Library will present an Art Book Display arranged by Miss Lee Tuttle.

Michigan State University Oakland will have a faculty collectors exhibit arranged by Dr. John Galloway.

Students at Cranbrook Academy of Art on Lone Pine Road, will display their work from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., June 17-24. Closed Monday.

ARTS MARKET

Mrs. J. Vinton Birch is chairman of the 40 by 60-foot tent where a Festival Arts Market will display paintings, sculpture, jewelry and craft work for sale.

The tent will be located on Henrietta Street, between Martin and Maple streets.

Assisting Mrs. Birch with arrangements are Mrs. Denis Alison, Mrs. Robert Bender and Mrs. Albert Childs.

Others are Mrs. George Carter, Mrs. Harold Drew, Mrs. Frederick Murray, Mrs. Robert Owen, Mrs. Robert Thom, Mrs. Carl Rogers and Mrs. Thayer Cowman.



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