

## Judith Rau Dances Lead In Severe Ballet 'Fiesta'

Judith Rau, Bloomfield Hills resident, will dance the female ballet lead in the Severe Ballet production "Fiesta" May 12, 8:30 p.m., at the Ford Auditorium.

Five additional Birmingham-area residents are serving on the Severe Board of Trustees.

The event, with Wayne Dunlop conducting members of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, will mark "Serenade," "Night Reflections,"

and "Rhapsody." "Fiesta" was able to be shown in Detroit due to the work done by the Women's Committee.

Serving on the Board of Trustees from the Birmingham area are: Eugene Bordinat, 6659 Vachon Center, Bloomfield Township; Edward B. Emery, 705 Fairfax, Birmingham; Mrs. William H. McGaughey, 131 Gilford, Bloomfield Hills; S. M. Vass, 817 Pilgrim, Birmingham; and Mrs. Walker A. Williams, 1564 N. Gleggery, Birmingham.

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## Potpourri

(Continued from 1-D)

ROBERT BENDER, president of the BAA, explained that "since the art center is a community project located in a city owned building, it seemed logical to schedule the major events in this area."

He added that this move should more fully acquaint Birmingham residents with the facility and encourage them to associate community art activities with the new art center.

THE ARTS FESTIVAL committee feels that this move not only centralizes activities, but also eliminates the problem of rain, which affects outdoor events, such as the popular artists market held in a tent last year.

In view of the new location, it was decided to shorten the festival from a week to four days. In this way, Bender said, "we will have the opportunity to determine the practical direction and scope of future festivals."

JUST AS THE NEW Fisher Theatre opened in Detroit last fall, a handsome new magazine, "Impresario," appeared on the newsstands.

Published by Steve Booth and Granville Ryan (of Booth Ryan Associates, Inc. in Birmingham), "Impresario" is the only magazine now published devoted to the performing arts in and around Detroit.

"We introduced the magazine at the time of the Fisher opening because it was a dramatic and exciting event pointing to tremendous increase in the activities of the performing arts throughout the area," says Booth.

FOUR ISSUES were published this year with articles covering music, dance, art films, as well as theatre presentations at the Fisher, the Vanguard and a number of little coffee houses.

The fourth issue (now available at the newsstands) has an excellent article on the history of the Greek theatre at Cranbrook. There is also a lively article on the opera included in the Metropolitan's performance in May.

The success of the magazine this year has been an indication to Booth and Ryan of the widespread interest in the performing arts. They are now planning five issues for next year with even greater coverage, extending out to the suburbs.

JUDY RAU, 17-year-old senior at Bloomfield High School, will be a featured dancer in the Severe Ballet program Saturday, May 12 at Ford Auditorium.

She will be dancing in "Night Reflections" and is scheduled to dance the solo in "Fiesta," if a foot injury of a few weeks ago heals in time.

Judy may be waiting until 8:30 curtain opening night to see. In the meantime, she is crossing her fingers and attending daily rehearsals.

This is the most ambitious program Severe Ballet has yet undertaken. Four new and varied ballets have been choreographed for this event — "Serenade," a classical ballet; "Rhapsody" and "Night Reflections," ballets in the modern idiom; and "Fiesta," a ballet based on Latin American rhythms.

SEVERAL BIRMINGHAM women are working on the first concert being sponsored by The Detroit Institute of Technology Saturday, May 19, at Ford Auditorium, to benefit the school's library and scholarship funds.

The concert will be presented by The Detroit Symphony Orchestra with Gregory Millar of Kalamazoo conducting. Rice Stevens will be the guest soloist.

Mrs. A. Frye Ayers, chairman of publicity, was somewhat concerned at the outset, faced with 2,963 empty seats and a newspaper strike.

"But tickets have sold very well already," she said, which she attributes to the top flight quality of the program.

THIS IS THE FIRST in what the trustees hope will be an annual spring benefit concert.

It seems that institutions and organizations are turning more and more frequently to some type of artistic program as a means of gaining public support. This is, to me, another indication of the increasing interest in the arts springing up, especially in this area.

## Women Painters See Barnes Museum

Nine women from the Birmingham Society of Women Painters and their husbands completed a tour of the Barnes Museum in Merion, Pennsylvania last week.

While in the East the party also visited the Winterthur Museum and Longwoods Gardens on the Pierre DuPont estate.

Barnes Museum, located on privately owned Barnes estate, contains hundreds of French Impressionist paintings; African sculpture arranged under two sculptured heads by Picasso; Tapestry patterned after modern paintings, and various antiques.

The museum, under the direction of Violette de Mazia, allows private tours only by appointment. It was originally opened as a combined museum and art school in 1922 under Pennsylvania state charter.

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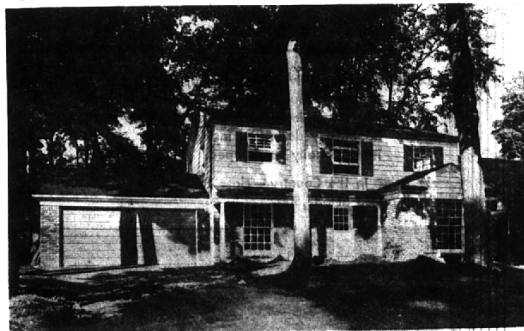
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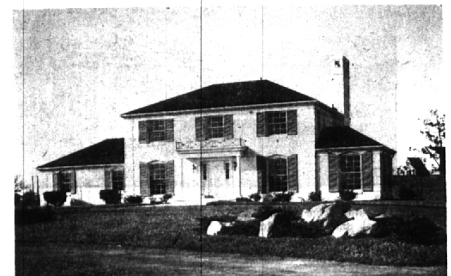
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