



Birmingham's own tent show got underway early Saturday morning when a bevy of workmen descended on Shain Park to begin erecting what is becoming a trademark of the Birmingham Arts Festival, the geodesic dome. This is the third successive year that the giant unit has been loaned by the Tractor and Implement Division of Ford Motor Co., and once again its purpose is to house audiences for the musical and dramatic productions traditionally highlighting the Arts Festival. The shining gold and black monster—brainchild of comprehensive designer Buckminster Fuller and produced by Synergetics Inc., Raleigh, N. C.—is a familiar sight to most localities,

but crowds still rally, as when a circus comes to town, to watch the intricacies of assembly. This is a two-day operation. When fitted out as a theater, the dome contains a 20-by-40-foot stage boasting four turntables, seven feet in diameter, facilitating rapid change of scenery. Its seating capacity includes 250 preferred seats, plus 500 additional seats, all of which command good views. Robert F. McLean of 5625 Norman Road, Bloomfield Township, is chairman of the "dome" committee, assisted by James Couzens III, William Kegel and William Wizner.

The Dome Arises—and Festival Starts

By EVELINE OEN
Arts Editor

The erection of the geodesic dome in Shain Park signals the advent of the Birmingham Arts Festival, and soon other evidences of the festival's approach begin to seep in and permeate all Birmingham.

Paintings, sculpture, ceramics appear in store windows, booths go up here and there—and people are busy assembling a show and artists' market at the Bloom-

field Art Association's Birmingham Art Center.

MEANWHILE, FINAL arrangements for a wide range of events—from a house and studio tour to crafts demonstrations—are being made and life is full of last-minute rehearsals for local musicians and actors.

The festival will officially begin at 4 p.m. Sunday with a reception for artists opening the festival exhibition and artists' market at the Birmingham Art

Center. The exhibits will remain at the art center all week; hours will be 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

THAT EVENING at 8, festival exhibition prizewinners will be introduced and will collect \$1,800 in awards before a concert by the South Oakland Symphony Orchestra, which will kick off the week's events in the geodesic dome.

The concert will feature local pianist Penny Ball, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Ball, 1040 Chesterfield, Birmingham,

who is a student at Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N. Y. Also on the program is a composition by Karin VanderKloot, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert VanderKloot, 1200 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills.

THE NEXT evening, in the dome, the Choreographers Workshop will present a modern dance, which will be followed by a showing of the film "Carnegie Hall," in which many great names of the

(See DOME, Page 17)

McLEAN:

'To Enhance the Arts'

The objective of the sixth annual Birmingham Arts Festival is the same as in previous years. It is to enhance and further the Arts in the community.

A wide range of Arts are included: Painting, sculpture, crafts, graphics, drama, dance, music, architecture and design.

Community participation on all levels is encouraged: the artists, performers, patrons, residents, business people and visitors.

The natural emphasis seems to be on the amateur arts which abound in this community. The many fine professionals in our area are not overlooked of course. The participation of children in exhibiting, performing, viewing of all forms of art are especially encouraged.

THE AMERICAN Midwest is becoming a veritable powerhouse of the creative Arts. No longer does any geographical area of the country dominate in artistic innovation. The artistic energies in the Midwest are surging to the forefront. Regional artists and performers are emphasized in the Festival. There is

ROBINSON:

'Reservoir of Talent'

The Birmingham-Bloomfield community is now in the midst of its sixth annual Arts Festival, and it is difficult to imagine a more appropriate expression for the rich reservoir of talent and energies that exist in our area.

This annual event has grown from an ambitious endeavor on the part of a small group of inspired artists and workers in 1958 to the exciting program we are now experiencing.

AT FIRST, there were exhibitions of painting and photography, dance demonstrations, choral programs, ballet and children's puppet shows.

Each year the program has expanded and included such renowned participants as Carl Sandburg, The Detroit City

an artistic Renaissance all around us.

Every attempt has been made to spread the Arts Festival geographically. In Shain Park in the center of Birmingham, the Festival dome and exhibitors' tents will be erected. The Birmingham Art Center at 1516 S. Cranbrook Road presents the keynote exhibit of South-eastern Michigan artists.

A LARGE ART market there will make available hundreds of works for purchase at surprisingly reasonable amounts. The art tour is the most comprehensive yet attempted and includes studios, works in progress and specimens of architecture of both contemporary and historic interests.

The Birmingham Arts Festival is operated on a nonprofit basis. Any funds remaining are placed in a special account administered by the Bloomfield Art Association which provides the central impulse for the Festival each year.

ROBERT F. McLEAN
General Chairman
Birmingham Arts Festival

Ballet and Pulitzer Prize-winner W. D. Snodgrass.

For three years, we have had a highly successful Artists' Market. Our first full-scale musical, The Bloomingham Newcomers, was held last year, and now we have another excellent production.

GLANCE AT THE Calendar of Events, the names of the persons participating on committees and on-stage; imagine the innumerable others that are unnamed and you have an indication how the Arts Festival has grown. It has become an event of regional prominence.

We are often asked What does all this (See TALENT, Page 12)

Festival Events

Sunday, June 16

BIRMINGHAM ART CENTER—Festival begins with reception for artists and opening of festival exhibition and artists market at 4 p.m. at the Birmingham Art Center, 1516 S. Cranbrook Road, Birmingham. Gallery hours for the exhibition and artists' market are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily throughout the festival. No admission charge.

SYMPHONY CONCERT—Performance by the South Oakland Symphony, preceded by the presentation of \$1,800 in awards to winners in the Festival Exhibition, in the Shain Park Dome. The concert will begin at 8 p.m. Admission: preferred seats, \$3; orchestra, \$2.

CHILDREN'S AND COMMERCIAL ART EXHIBITS—Exhibitions of children's and commercial art work in Shain Park tent. Open all day and during intermissions of "dome" shows throughout the festival. No admission charge.

Monday, June 17

DANCE PROGRAM AND FILM—The Choreographers Workshop will present a program of contemporary dance and the film "Carnegie Hall" will be shown in the Shain Park dome. Admission: \$1.

Tuesday, June 18

COMBO CLASH—A combo contest, with local combos competing for \$50, \$35 and \$20 prizes, will take place in the Shain Park dome beginning at 8 p.m. Admission: \$7.50.

Wednesday, June 19

AUTO DESIGN DEMONSTRATION—A demonstration of automobile design at 2 p.m. in Shain Park. No admission charge.

Thursday, June 20

HOUSE AND STUDIO TOUR—Arts Festival house and studio tour from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. beginning at the Birmingham Art Center. Admission: \$2.50.

MUSICAL—Opening night of new Himelboch-Coffin musical "The High Cost of Loving" in the Shain Park dome. Curtain time, 8:30 p.m. Admission: preferred seats, \$3; orchestra, \$2.

Friday, June 21

CRAFTS DEMONSTRATIONS—Youngsters will demonstrate crafts they learned in Birmingham Recreation Dept. classes last summer. Demonstrations will take place from 1 to 4 p.m. in a Shain Park tent.

CHILDREN'S PLAY—The Vanguard Players' Children's Theater group will present "King Midas and the Golden Touch" in the Shain Park dome at 2 p.m. Admission: \$1.

MUSICAL—Performance of new Himelboch-Coffin musical "The High Cost of Loving" in the Shain Park dome. Curtain time, 8:30 p.m. Admission: preferred seats, \$4; orchestra, \$3.

Saturday, June 22

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING—American Field Service exchange students "and friends" will present international folk dances in Shain Park at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. No admission charge.

MUSICAL—Performance of new Himelboch-Coffin musical "The High Cost of Loving" in the Shain Park dome. Curtain time, 8:30 p.m. Admission: preferred seats, \$4; orchestra, \$3.

Sunday, June 23

MUSICAL—Performance of the new Himelboch-Coffin musical "The High Cost of Loving in Bloomfield" in the Shain Park dome. Curtain time, 8:30 p.m. Admission: preferred seats, \$3; orchestra, \$2.

Festival Ends