

6 Part IV-Thurs., May 27, 1971 R Los Angeles Times



COST MEMBERS SHINE — Who's this? It's the sun, naturally. "Magic Theatre troupe beams its rays in a new concept of theater for and about children."

Theater for the Younger Set

Continued from First Page

The cast (and the director) learned considerably more about children during a two-month "recess" workshop with Don Miller, head of the family guidance program at juvenile hall and a college friend of Saunders'.

They also had a weekend "work marathon" at a horse ranch in the desert, owned by the father of one of the actors.

"Don had everyone bring in pictures of themselves as kids and took them back to kids in time through association," Saunders explained.

"By the time we started doing improvisations, everyone in the cast was tremendously aware of the nuances of emotional feelings they'd experienced as kids. They knew their 'real child' from what their adult had had an in."

It was the "real child" of the actors which produced the material (through improvisation) later turned into a script by Miss Mathews-Deacon.

Good Reaction
And it's the "real child" of the cast which really binds real children aged 4 to 10 every Sunday afternoon in South Coast Repertory Company's "Third Step Theatre, 1827 Newport Blvd."

"I hold my breath when we previewed 'Magic Theatre for Youngsters' a few weeks before the official opening," Saunders said. "Their reaction was beautiful. Beyond my wildest expectations."

"What's really marvelous about children is their ability to believe. Whatever you believe, they'll believe. Their imaginations are unlimited."

This discovery, made earlier during the season in the park, led to the elimination of props, sets and special effects, except those made by people. Actors play all the parts, including narrative objects, and are dressed in simple, bright-colored costumes.

"We felt children could explore creativity with a few abstract shapes and more action," Saunders said. "Magic Theatre has a lot of movement, rhythm, and sound but very little dialogue. Instead we've borrowed Paul Sills' techniques of acting and narrating at the same time."

Sketches range from "The War and the Yidkin" to "Sneaky Pizzas," "The Princess Who Cried Diamonds," "Just Like Everybody Else" and "Yeah, Yeah, No, No." There are a lot of actors in between. Some feature original music by Jimmy Dietrich.

Continued from First Page

Reproductions of selected works of Andrew Wyeth will be shown in two Orange County locations this week.

The 34 works, including watercolors and later drawings and paintings, will be shown Friday at the Rouses Park Shopping Center, and Saturday at Fashion Island Shopping Center in Newport Beach.

The reproductions will be shown on the mall during shopping hours.

An art critic once said of Wyeth that he paints entirely to please himself and yet comes as close as anyone to pleasing everyone.

Wyeth says of himself that it is not just a sense of a beautiful countryside with a rainbow effect, or a storm coming up the interests in it. It is the symbolism that he wants to realize.

The exhibits will be shown by Peoples Gallery, sponsored by Metropoulos Inc. Works of famous artists and graphics of a popular nature are presented at shopping centers which played on specially designed structures called kiosks.

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Wyeth Art Works Set at 2 Sites

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Diablo Band to Perform in Concert

MISSION VIEHO—The Mission Viejo High School Diablo Concert Band will hold its annual spring concert at 8 p.m. today in the gymnasium, 23023 Christiana Drive.

Keith Nelson, director of the band, will share the podium with guest conductor Monte Labonte of Saddleback College.

The concert will feature music spanning several centuries as well as a variety of styles including such composers as Bach, Gabriel, Purcell, Mozart and Grieg.

Solicitations for the evening will be Sheryl Eckenrode, treasurer, and Rick Gilman, water, coronet.

United Daughters to Hear Speaker

SANTA ANA — "Education: Tomorrow's Leadership" will be the subject of the meeting today at 1 p.m. of Emma Samson Chapter of United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Members will meet at the home of Mrs. C. A. Nixon, 2410 N. Park Ave. to hear a talk by Robert Magness, assistant to the president of Occidental College.

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Music Fund Raisers Hailed

Continued from First Page

harmless Affiliates, 600 committees of which 51 participate in RGV fund raising.

Presentation of gold charms to the winners courtesy of Sol Laykin was made by Mrs. Dorothy Chandler, chairwoman of the board of governors of the Performing Arts Council of the Music Center and honorary president of the Annual Blue Ribbon 500.

Mrs. Chandler thanked RGV for sharing in "the spirit, interest and loyalty that keeps The Music Center going," she noted that RGV aims to initiate its third campaign, started chiefly as a men's group.

"They did well," she said, "and now that we have all women, we are doing better."

Albert V. Casey, who arrived at the Rouse House just as harpist Elizabeth Turris had concluded a portion of her recital, thanked the efforts of RGV workers.

New Heights
The chairman of the Music Center Arts and Education Fund also unveiled money raising services for the five regional groups and the only authorized fundraising center for The Music Center.

"We have reached new heights with your help, in spite of the economic downturn, campus unrest and other negatives. At this point it's safe to say we've actually reached our overall 1970-71 goal of \$2 million."

He indicated that the community as a whole has a misconception about corporate giving. Only a small percentage of funds donated for the support.

Artist Will Offer Landscape Work
BUENA PARK — The Buena Park Community Recreation Center, 8130 Knott Ave.

Artist Darwin Dunson will paint one of his landscapes which he will then offer as a prize. Dunson is a fine arts instructor at Orange Coast College.

of the performing arts throughout the country are derived from corporate giving and civic benefits. Approximately 80% of this support comes from individuals.

Casey, who is also president of the Performing Arts Council, explained that the groups performing in The Music Center have the combined operating requirements of about 300 million annually.

Of this, \$8 million is received in ticket sales and other income, leaving \$2 million deficit, partly due to special projects directed to the education and development of a wider audience through the Performing Arts Council's Opportunity Fund.

"The kind of support we get from RGV," said Casey, "helps bridge this deficit gap to keep these programs alive."

The programs to which he referred include the opportunity given talented young musicians to perform as conductors, artists and composers.

Thousands of students are able to purchase tickets

in a variety of performance at school prices. Senior citizens are able to attend Friday matinee concerts for \$1.

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