THE FREE PRESS ENTERTAINMENT

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THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2000

HitherHeather

PHONE 564-0005

The Arts NOTEBOOK

Madly off arriving

CBC Radio is coming to PG. The national broadcaster will record an episode of Lorne Elliott's "Madly Off In All Directions" program for CBC1, then the same crew will record the PG Cantata Singers performing two pieces by local composer Broek Bosma for airing on CBC2's "West Coast Performance" hosted by David Grearson. These recordings happen the last week of June, details t.b.a.

Never too much improv

Serious Moonlight Productions presents "Improv Ad Nauseum" on May 20 at 8 p.m. at Art Space. Tickets are \$5 at the door for this evening of full-contact comedy.

► Bands, bands, big bands

PG Community Band and the Terrace Community Band join forces May 20 for Band Fest 2000 in Fort George Park.

At 1 p.m. come hear these community bands plus ones from Dawson Creek and Maple Ridge. At 8:30 p.m. in the CNC Atrium join these ensembles for a Big Band Dance (joined by local R&B group Rutabaga Chilluns). On May 21 at 2 p.m. all the bands join for a mass concert back in Fort George Park.

► Prepare for Brigadoon

Excalibur Dance Studios presents Brigadoon at the PG Playhouse June 1 to 10. This all-local cast is directed / choreographed by Bonnie Mathers, music direction by Broek Bosma. Tickets available now at Studio 2880.

Drie off to NYO

Seventeen-year-old violinist Drie Ignas has been selected for the National Youth Orchestra, an eightweek summer music intensive based at Queens University under the direction of maestro Kazuyoshi Akiyama. It is the elite 84 young musicians in Canada that take part. This is Drie's second consecutive appointment to the NYO.

Symphony Soirée combines dining and music

inner and a movie is passé. Try dinner and a flute concert at an event called "Come Hither With Heather". Doesn't that sound a lot sweeter? Heather Campbell is the principal flutist for the Prince George Symphony Orchestra, and a high profile music teacher. She is the featured guest at the next Symphony Soirée, an event series that combines fine dining and fine music.

"We have had soirées with musicians before. This is different in that Heather approached me about it. It is also a little different in that it is focused on one person rather than a trio," says Bob Larmour, co-ordinator of the PGSO fund-raising soirées. He thought Heather was a perfect guest because of her knowledge and abilities on one of the world's favourite instruments.

"It will be a sort of celebration of the millennium, through the flute. The flute's contribution to society over the " says Heather. "I'm making a ages. study of the flute, finding interesting ways of presenting flute music. I'll have my primary flute, maybe a piccolo, a Celtic flute, I'll be playing a recorder ... " She could go on. The oldest fully playable instrument ever discovered is a 9,000-year-old flute found in China last year, made from the wing bone of a crane. From pan pipes to tin whistles, there seems to be a flute for every culture.

Heather is not just following a chronology of wind through tubes, she is delving into the personality of the flute. Her research is taking her into the writings of Aristotle and Plato, aboriginal American history and books of fables.

"It's something that is fascinating to me, so it's easy to get into," Heather says. "It will be the kind of thing everyone will find accessible to the ear. I know that's what I would want as an audience member. It's not a show of



Heather Campbell walks in the grassroots of flute. JOHN MCKENZIE/FREE PRESS

great long works. One of my favourite things to listen to is just a flute and a piano, so that's what I'll be doing." She will be accompanied by Gord Lucas on piano.

Don't forget the dinner. Heather's flute is food for the ear, but the main course is stuffed chicken breast, seasonal vegetables, New York cheesecake and other delights. "Come Hither With Heather" takes place May 24 (you must book seats by May 19) at 7 p.m. at the Coast Inn of the North. Tickets are \$33, available at the PGSO office in Studio 2880. Call 562-0800 for information

IMPROV AD NAUSEUM May 20 at Art Space above Books & Co. - 8:00PM - tickets \$5.00 at the door

Show up early to guarantee a good seat. Enjoy the improv acting skills of the players. Vote on your favourite skit. Judge the fun for yourself. COMPETITIVE IMPROVISATIONAL THEATRE GAMES. Prince George's answer to Theatre Sports and Whose Line is it Anyway?



It should be illegal to have this much fun on a Saturday night!

Serious Moonlight Productions #203-1685. 3rd Ave. • 960-0999