

B E R L I O Z

REQUIEM

Orchestra season ends with bang

Rare work to shake Koger

By KATHY HEBERGER
Carolina Life Editor

This past spring the USC Symphony Orchestra's performance of Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons" swelled the walls of the Koger Center.

This season it will perform an even bigger work — Hector Berlioz's "Requiem."

"It's going to shake the building. There will be sounds from everywhere. It will be something you don't hear often — a once in a lifetime thing," assistant conductor John Ricarte said.

The performance of "Requiem" will include about 300 singers and 120 orchestra members. Singers will have to stand shoulder to shoulder to fit on the stage.

The USC Symphony Orchestra's sound will be enhanced by 20 extra players. There will be 12 timpanis on stage, and at least 12 brass players will be playing on the catwalks of the Koger Center's main seating area. The musicians on the catwalks will watch Dr. Donald Portnoy's direction on closed-circuit television.

"You can't see them, but you'll hear them. I can promise you that," Portnoy said.

The Requiem, or death Mass, "runs the gamut of emotions," he said.

"It goes from being very solemn and ethereal to having a giant, strong, massive sound."

The singers performing the piece will be from the following choral groups: the Mastersingers, the Singers Guild of the Charleston Symphony Orchestra, the Philharmonic Chorus and The Choral Society. Tenor Gregory Cross from the New York Metropolitan Opera will be guest soloist.

Planning for this concert began this past April, the usual time for planning a spring performance. All the groups had expressed an interest in performing the Requiem, Portnoy said. The groups have been rehearsing on their own and will come together today for a combined rehearsal.

"People are going to just be taken by the grandeur of the piece. It's a piece of gigantic proportions," Ricarte said.

If 1,800 people attend the performance, the total number of people in the Koger Center will be the largest in the building's history.

The USC Symphony Orchestra's performance of the Berlioz Requiem will begin at 8 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$6 for students and \$10 for adults.

So You Say There's Nothing To Do

This is a listing of the events open to the public in the Columbia area for this weekend.

● **Crackerjacks** — 1325 Longcreek Dr. On Friday, open from 4 p.m. until 4 a.m. On Saturday, live D.J.s from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. On Sunday, open 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Happy Hour on Friday is from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. On Saturday and Sunday, Happy Hour is from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

● **Koger Center** — Assembly Street. On Saturday, USC Symphony Orchestra perform's Berlioz's "Requiem" at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$6 for students, \$10 for the public. On Sunday, *Oil City Symphony*, a musical comedy, will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$10 for public.

● **Greenstreet's** — 1101 Harden St. Featured tonight, Jonathan Butler. Cover is \$13. On Saturday, *The Dead Milkmen*. Cover is \$8. On Sunday, Gene Dykes and big band jazz. Cover is \$3. Persons 18 and older admitted.

● **Nickelodeon Theatre** — Main Street. Through Sunday, shows at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Tickets are \$3 for members, \$4 for non-members. Featured tonight through

Sunday, *The Unbelievable Truth*, an offbeat comedy with an aura of "Twin Peaks."

● **Pug's** — 634 Harden St. Come party at Pug's this weekend. \$2 cover charge. Persons age 21 and over admitted.

● **The Punchline** — 634 Harden St. Tonight and Saturday, headliner is ventriloquist Willie Tyler and Lester. Opening act is Kenny Miller. Cover is \$8. Shows are at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. Persons age 21 and over admitted.

● **Rockafella's** — 2112 Devine St. Featured tonight, The Groove Thangs. On Saturday, Bedlam Hour begins at 6 p.m., following by The Groove Thangs. Cover for both nights is \$5. On Sunday, Earth Day Benefit starting at 6 p.m. on the deck. Acoustic music by Danielle Howle, Jerry Hayes and more. Inside at 10 p.m., music of the Dead, Allman Brothers and more. Donations can be given at the door. Persons age 18 and over admitted.

● **The Township** — 1703 Taylor St. On Saturday at 10 a.m., the AME Youth for Christ Turn-on. Admission is free. On Sunday, the play *Beauty Shop* at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$16.50.

● **The Cockpit** — Main Street. On Friday, *The Cockpit* will televise the George Foreman and Evander Holyfield fight. No cover. On Saturday, *Mind's Eye*. Cover is \$3.



Safety

• Go out with friends and keep track of each other. Don't broadcast your name, address or plans in front of others.

• On a first date, plan to meet in a public place. Let people know where you plan to be and let your date know that others know. Stick to your plans.

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This program is paid for, in part, by Student Activities Fees.

Play ends Drayton's season

By ERIC GLENN
Staff Writer

Six Characters in Search of an Author, the final main stage show of the year, opened Thursday in Drayton Hall and will run through next Sunday.

The story centers around a rehearsal for a university drama production. Six characters from an unfinished play enter the set and request that their play be finished. These characters, left incompleated by their playwright, are trapped in the physical manifestations of their roles.

"The play really deals with the illusion of life and the reality of

the theater," said Timna Guerchon, the production manager of the play and a second-year Master of Fine Arts student. "It's a very intense play — a thinking play."

One of the interesting twists to the play is its director, Richard Jennings, who is also head of the acting program in the USC Department of Theatre and Speech. He also portrays the role of the director in the play.

The cast of the play is quite diverse, ranging from second-year graduate students to a high school senior and two elementary school children.

Jason Tromsness, a first-year MFA student and Joanne Fayan, a

second-year MFA student, play the father and stepdaughter. Micheal Donlan, a first-year MFA student and Lisa Norman, who teaches acting and make-up in the theater department, appear as the son and mother.

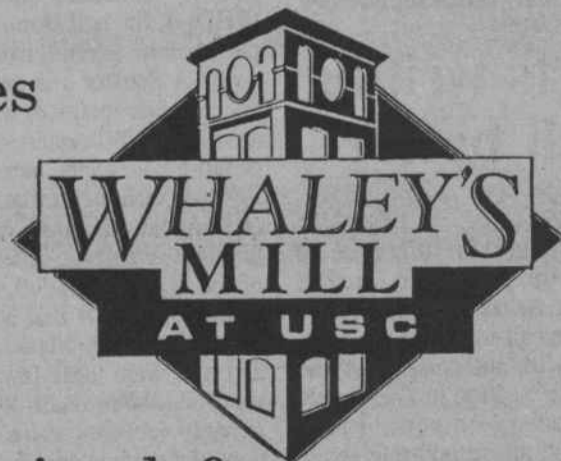
The set design is contemporary, even though the six characters are in the period dress of the '20s and '30s. Lee Shepherd, a second-year MFA student, designed the set to look like a half-finished set of a university production.

The play will run tonight and Saturday and next week Wednesday through Sunday. Shows start at 8 p.m., and tickets are \$5 for students and \$9 for adults.

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