



MATT HANEY/DN

Let's get this party started

Mozart's birthday cause for celebration

BY SARAH BAKER
Senior Reporter

Anyone's 242nd birthday calls for an uncommon celebration. Especially when that person is Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

"Amazing Amadeus," a celebration of Mozart's birthday, is a special collaboration between the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra and the Lincoln Community Playhouse.

"We wanted to do something special for the birth of one of the world's great musical geniuses," said Jeth Mill, executive director for the Lincoln Symphony.

Mill said the performance is unique because, during the concert, 12 actors will be on the stage performing scenes from the play "Amadeus," which is currently playing at the Lincoln Community Playhouse.

Mill said the performance integrates the music of both Antonio Salieri and Mozart.

"The production does a really good job of showing the contrast between Mozart and Salieri, the rival composers in the play," Mill said. "This treatment gives insight on the composers, and it leads to a whole new understanding."

Robin McKercher, director of the play, said in a press release he thought the show was an interesting mix of music and performance.

"The music for 'Amadeus' is usually taped, so the thought of a live orchestra performing with the actors is tantalizing," McKercher said. "It promises to be a wonderful sensory experience."

Mill encouraged people to go see the performance, saying it was more than just great music.

"It is entertaining, both visually and to the ears," he said. "It's a new form of concert performance, which incorporates acting, dialogue, music and costume. I am interested to see the response from the audience."

"Amazing Amadeus" takes place tonight at 7:30 in Kimball Recital Hall. For ticket information, contact the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra at (402) 423-2211.

New live albums capture essence of old punk rock

BY JIM ZAVODNY
Staff Reporter

New Releases

After a one-week hiatus, the new release column is back and in full effect. This week's class includes new music from the bands the Phunk Junkeez, Screeching Weasel, The Skatalites and Hum.

Two legendary punk rock acts are coming out with live albums today that were recorded in San Francisco. Richmond, Vt., band Avail releases its album, simply titled "Live in San Francisco," while SST records re-releases an old Black Flag show recorded in the golden gate city on Aug. 26, 1984.

A group of albums by rhythm and blues and rock veterans discovered in the vault also make their debut this week. Motown Records will release newly remastered albums with restored artwork from the Jackson Five and the Temptations. A Jefferson Airplane album and box sets from Ted Nugent and Kansas will also make hit the stores today.

New Releases:
January 27, 1998
16 Horsepower: *Low Estate* (A&M)
Avail: *Live in San Francisco* (Lookout)

Jeff Beck: *Beckology* (Legacy)
Black Flag: *Live '84* (SST)
Gadjits: *At Ease* (Hellcat/Epitaph)
Hum: *Downward Is Heavenward* (RCA)
The Jackson Five: *Greatest Hits* (Motown)
Jefferson Airplane: *Crown of Creation and Volunteers* (RCA)
Kansas: *Kansas* (Legacy)
Mary Lou Lord: *Got No Shadow* (WORK Group)
Ted Nugent: *Out of Control* (Legacy)
Pee Shy: *Don't Get Too Comfortable* (Mercury)
Phunk Junkeez: *Unidentified Funky Object* (Trauma)
Various Artists: *Ride Soundtrack* (Tommy Boy)
Screeching Weasel: *Major Label Debut* (Lookout/Panic Button)
Sepultura: *Arise, Beneath the Remains, Morbid Visions/Bestial Devastation and Schizophrenia* (Roadrunner)
The Skatalites: *Ball of Fire* (Island Jamaica)
The Temptations: *Greatest Hits Vols. I & II* (Motown)
Various Artists: *Zero Effect Soundtrack* (WORK Group)

Nebraska Arts Congress in session

BY JASON HARDY
Assignment Reporter

A congress of a different kind is in session this week. Though it is politically minded, this congress is a far cry from a suit-and-tie setting.

The Nebraska Arts Council is celebrating the arts this week by holding the 1998 Nebraska Arts Congress in Lincoln today and Wednesday. The two-day congress is held every other year, and this year it features a keynote address today and the Governor's Arts Awards on Wednesday.

"Celebrate! The Time is Here!" is the theme of the arts congress, which is set to begin today with a keynote address by Patrick Overton, a professor of communication and cultural studies at Columbia College in Columbia, Mo. The address is being held at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, 33rd and Holdrege streets. Overton also will lead a series of sessions to address problems encountered by art-organization administrators.

According to Suzanne Wise, manager of programs for arts, organization and artists for the Nebraska Arts Council, these concerns are important to both Nebraska's artists and communities. She said art was often ignored by politicians and it was the responsibility of people in the art business to change that.

"People in the arts have to recognize that they are a constituency."

SUZANNE WISE
Nebraska Arts Council member

"People in the arts have to recognize that they are a constituency," Wise said.

She said the congress would give people ideas on how to get involved with community politics.

"They'll be talking about the importance of arts in the political process," Wise said. "Ways to advocate (arts) and ways to be a part of the political process."

She said until now Nebraska's art community has been a bit lackadaisical about promoting the arts. She hopes this congress will change that.

"We haven't been doing enough work with the political or business infrastructure to let them know that arts are important," Wise said. "We need to make sure that we keep that message in front of our politicians and business leaders."

After a day of brainstorming and discussion about the state of the arts in Nebraska, congress attendees are invited to unwind and enjoy the cream of Lincoln's downtown art-gallery crop in a movable reception. The Noyes Gallery, Gallery 9, the

Burkholder Project, Haydon Gallery, Milestone Gallery and the Wagon Train Project will offer food, music and a look at what's happening in Lincoln's art scene.

Wednesday's talks will be held at the Cornhusker Hotel and feature Anthony Radich, director of the Western States Arts Federation. Radich will hold a presentation on art advocacy, after which participants will be encouraged to visit with senators at the State Capitol and bring them back to the Cornhusker for the day's final event, the Governor's Arts Awards Luncheon.

The award luncheon is a biennial event which recognizes artists, arts organizations, businesses and individuals across the state for their contributions to the arts in Nebraska. Gov. Ben Nelson will present the awards at the luncheon.

Tickets for the luncheon cost \$15, and registration for the congress is \$30 per day. Registration and tickets must be reserved in advance by calling the Nebraska Arts Council at (402) 595-2122.