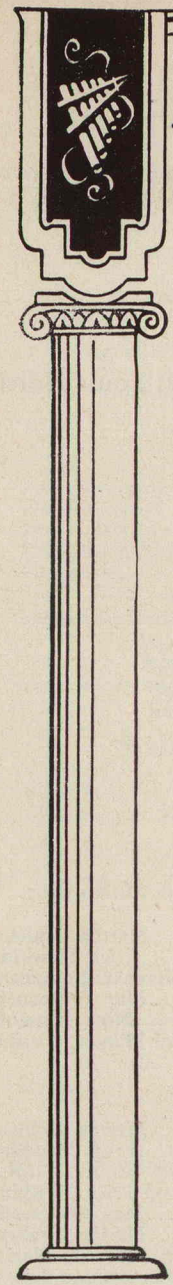

EASTMAN THEATRE CONCERTS

. . . Program . . .

MARTHA GRAHAM and DANCE COMPANY

LOUIS HORST, *Musical Director*

★

Monday Evening,
January 29, 1945

★

EASTMAN THEATRE
of THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER
Rochester, New York

Monday Evening, January 29, 1945

THE ROCHESTER CIVIC MUSIC ASSOCIATION

Presents

MARTHA GRAHAM

and

DANCE COMPANY

Choreography: Martha Graham Musical Director: Louis Horst

. . . Program . . .

"EVERY SOUL IS A CIRCUS"

A Satire

Music ..... Paul Nordoff
Set ..... Philip Stapp
Costumes ..... Edythe Gilfond

"Every soul is a circus
Every mind is a tent,
Every heart is a sawdust ring
Where the circling race is spent."

—Vachel Lindsay

Characters of the Arenic World:

Empress of the Arena ..... Martha Graham
Ring Master ..... Erick Hawkins
Acrobat ..... Merce Cunningham
Ideal Spectator ..... May O'Donnell
First Arenic Performer ..... Nina Fonaroff
Other Arenic Performers ..... Pearl Lang, Marjorie Mazia, Ethel Winter, Yuriko

Action:

1. Prologue: Empress of the Arena ..... Martha Graham
2. The Ring Master ..... Erick Hawkins
3. Parade ..... Pearl Lang, Marjorie Mazia, Nina Fonaroff, Ethel Winter, Yuriko
4. Training Ring ..... Martha Graham and Erick Hawkins
5. Entrance of the Spectator ..... May O'Donnell
6. The Show Begins: Star Turn ..... Martha Graham
7. Garland Entry ..... Nina Fonaroff, Pearl Lang, Marjorie Mazia, Ethel Winter, Merce Cunningham
8. Arenic World (a) Triangle ..... Martha Graham, Erick Hawkins and Merce Cunningham

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9. "Poses and Plastiques".....Nina Fonaroff, Pearl Lang, Marjorie Mazia, Ethel Winter, Merce Cunningham

10. Arenic World (b) Duet.....Martha Graham and Erick Hawkins

11. Aerial Interlude.....Pearl Lang, Marjorie Mazia, Nina Fonaroff, Ethel Winter, Yuriko, Merce Cunningham

12. Finale .....Entire Company

This is not the literal circus of canvas and sawdust ring but a circus of ridiculous situations and silly behaviors. In every woman there is the desire to be featured in a "star turn," as the apex of a triangle, and as the beloved of a duet. In the life of every woman there is some force which, however temporarily, holds the whip hand. Throughout the circus of her life every woman is her own most appreciative spectator. In this circus of the silly woman's life, the sum total of episodes and of interludes does not add up to mature dignity but to a tragic, addled confusion.

INTERMISSION—Ten Minutes

"DEATHS AND ENTRANCES"

Music .....Hunter Johnson
Set .....Arch Lauterer
Costumes .....Edythe Gilfond

This a legend of the heart's life. The action takes place in a room and the halls of an ancient house. It concerns three sisters "doom eager" as the three Bronte sisters were "doom eager" to fulfill their destiny.

It concerns the restless pacings of the heart on some winter evening. There are remembrances of childhood, certain dramatizations of well-known objects, dreams of romance, hatreds bred of longings and madness. It is "imagination kindled at antique fires."

There are "Deaths and Entrances" of hopes, fears, remembrances, dreams, and there is ultimate vision.

This is essentially a legend of poetic experience rather than a story of incident. In the secret life of the heart there are invisible actors and "Deaths and Entrances" with no barriers of period or time. Rather, there is a suspension of time and subsequent intensification of experience at the sight of some simple remembered object: a shell, a glass goblet, a vase.

The title is a line from a poem by Dylan Thomas.

The characters are:

The three sisters.....Martha Graham, May O'Donnell, Pearl Lang
The three remembered children.....Nina Fonaroff, Marjorie Mazia, Ethel Winter
The dark beloved .....Erick Hawkins
The poetic beloved .....Merce Cunningham
The cavaliers .....David Mann, Richard Astor

PROMENADE INTERMISSION—Fifteen Minutes

APPALACHIAN SPRING

Commissioned for Martha Graham
by the Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation
in the Library of Congress

Presented here by permission of the Foundation

Music ..... Aaron Copland
Set ..... Isamu Noguchi
Costumes ..... Edythe Gilfond

Part and parcel of our lives is that moment of Pennsylvania spring when there was "a garden eastward in Eden."

Spring was celebrated by a man and a woman building a house with joy and love and prayer; by a revivalist and his followers in their shouts of exaltation; by a pioneering woman with her dreams of the Promised Land.

The characters are:

The Pioneering Woman ..... May O'Donnell
The Revivalist ..... Merce Cunningham
The Followers ..... Nina Fonaroff, Pearl Lang, Marjorie Mazia, Yuriko
The Husbandman ..... Erick Hawkins
The Bride ..... Martha Graham

COMING EASTMAN THEATRE EVENTS

Friday and Saturday Evenings, February 9 and 10

Smetana's Gay, Romantic Opera

"The Bartered Bride"

with Ruby Mercer, Felix Knight, George Raseley and Wilfred Engelmann

Guy Fraser Harrison, Conducting

Seats Now (Both Nights): $1, $1.25, $1.50, $2, $2.50 (Plus 20% U. S. Tax)

Sunday Evening, February 4

Membership Night

Civic Orchestra

Guy Fraser Harrison, Conducting

All members of Civic Music Association entitled to two tickets on payment of 10c U. S. Tax on each seat. Simply present membership card at box-office.

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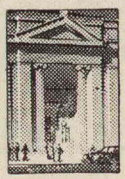
We urge you to consult your attorney about establishing a Trust. Officers of our Trust Department will be pleased to discuss the practical phases with you and with him at your convenience.



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