

Herald and News

Klamath Falls, OR
January 28, 2001

Flutist's Performance at Ross Ragland 'more than impressive'

By Doug Higgs

The Klamath Community Concert Association audience was treated to a remarkable experience Thursday night in the Ross Ragland Theater.

The performance by flutist Debra Reuter-Pivetta was more than impressive.

Accompanied only by her husband, pianist Federico Pivetta, she demonstrated her rare abilities to understand and convey every mood of the music she was playing.

She was at all times comfortable and skillful, regardless of the artistic demands made on her.

With a few exceptions, the program consisted of compositions by composers unfamiliar to most audiences.

One of these was "Che gelida manina" from the opera by Giacomo Puccini, "La Boheme," which proved to be the most appealing and irresistibly beautiful piece performed.

Also stirring was the rollicking and melodic part of "Sonata Latino," a composition by a lesser known contemporary composer, Mike Mower, that had an unmistakable Latin flavor.

The other two sections, which were not as appealing, projected an aggressive, even arrogant tone in one and a bouncier and, at times, intricate variation in the other.

Reuter-Pivetta was especially outstanding in her rendition of "La Ronde des Lutins" by Antonio Bazzini, a perpetual motion piece with a slower interlude section. She excelled in an unaccompanied segment.

The program began with "Tango Fantasia" that included the melody of an old popular

song, "Jealousy" (night and day you torture me).

Next was "Sonata" by Michael Garson, which Reuter-Pivetta performed with genuine feeling, particularly the lovely first movement. The second movement was quite moody and third absolutely frantic and she expressed both flawlessly.

"Nocturne" by Lili Boulanger, a melancholy piece, followed that and after "Che gelida manina," she performed "Sonata" by Russian composer Otar Taktakishvili. This consisted of a lively first movement full of complexities, a melodic second movement and a fast paced third movement.

"La Ronde des Lutins" concluded the program before the intermission.

After the intermission, Pivetta offered piano solos of compositions by two renowned American composers, Duke Ellington's "I Got It Bad" and George Gershwin's "Oh, Lady Be Good."

Reuter-Pivetta then performed what probably was the weakest composition on the program, "Lookout!" by Robert Dick.

"Sonata Latino" followed that and an encore, rapid composition from Venezuela closed the concert.