

...a message of warning that
through the next couple hundred
years," he said.

Filming for *Koyaanisqatsi* began in
1978, and the live show has been touring

Koyaanisqatsi, an Indian word meaning life out of balance, is an educational film which mixes live music with taped images.

Choir treasures road trips

By RACHELLE AYUYANG
Collegian Arts Writer

As the University Concert Choir embarked on its fall tour, the bonding that happens on its road trip last weekend is a rite of passage for the ensemble.

"I think touring is important for any musical group. I always look forward to the point when we tour because we grow musically and become unified as an ensemble," Music Director Douglas Miller said about the choir's tour of Buffalo, Erie and Altoona.

"The tour helps get people to know each other especially the new members, Nicole Conway (senior-broadcast cable) said.

"We can share music that we have been preparing with the audience outside the University," said Tom Serene (junior-economics), treasurer of the group.

Since the songs in the choir's repertoire sound best in buildings with good

acoustics, the choir performed in churches, said Publicity Director Kathy Kochs (junior-music education). Its first stop Friday night was Buffalo, where it performed in the Central United Methodist Church.

The choir's repertoire included German and Latin secular songs and spirituals that should challenge the group, Miller said. The spirituals of William Dawson, who is an Erie native, were chosen in honor of the prominent arranger of African American spirituals.

"I selected an entity that has a lot of parts and variety for the singers and audience. The emphasis is on a wide range of shorter pieces.

"It's like a big menu and all are significant," Miller said.

In Erie, the ensemble took the stage alternately and then together with the McDowell High School Choir.

In another change in setting, the University Concert Choir sang to the mentally handicapped and disabled

residents of the Barber Center, founded and headed by University alumna, Gertrude A. Barber.

"Every time we do a concert, we can not do it the same way. There is that experience of doing well, being focused and listening to each other . . . and singing as one instrument," Miller said. "In each performance, we have the same potential to have those moments."

Miller chooses the places to tour and enlists assistance from members of the choir who can coordinate contacts and homestays, Choir Vice President Keith Spence (sophomore-biology/psychology) said.

On Nov. 3, the choir will have a recital in the Music Building.

The concert choir consists of 72 mixed voices chosen at the beginning of the year according to sight-singing and blending abilities, Kochs said.

The choir rehearses three times a week for a one-credit class, Music 103.

"Everyone in the choir has a strong musical background," Kochs said.

Quartet succeeds

By MICHAEL FLORIO
Collegian Arts Writer

Chamber music is intended to be performed in a small auditorium. There is just something about a small setting that creates a special intimacy between the audience and the musicians.

When a group such as the Emerson String Quartet plays in Schwab Auditorium, the results are incredible. The Quartet performed an all-Mozart program Friday night.

Just as enjoyable as Mozart's music was the way the four musicians worked together on stage. The two violinists and the violist sat on the edge of their seats, each of them constantly aware of what the others were doing.

Because a small chamber group does not have the luxury of a conductor, the performers used body movements to stay in time with one another. They bent their bodies, nodded their heads and watched each other for entrances.

Each Quartet member was equally important to the music. Violinists Eugene Drucker and Philip Setzer shared the lead parts, Setzer playing the lead in the first half and Drucker in the second. They performed brilliantly with frequent vibrato and beautiful tone quality.

When they played phrases together, one could not tell there were two violinists on stage. They sometimes answered each other, always with perfect transition.

Although the violins had most of the dominant melodies, the lower pitched instruments were important. The cello was especially prominent with its rich sounds and sometimes haunting passages.

The sold-out crowd was enthusiastic. Several minutes of applause followed the clarinet quintet, and the Quartet returned to the stage for an encore.

Concert brings music to life

By GLENN T. CHASE
Collegian Arts Writer

Ever wonder what music would look like if it could be seen as well as heard?

Of course, music often brings to mind emotions that are associated with visual images. But rarely do musicians — except those of MTV fame — decide which images should accompany their music.

This Thursday night at 8 in the Music Building's recital hall, music will be both heard and seen.

The visual capabilities of video, film and a computer will enhance the aural expression of a piano, synthesizer, guitar and the less known theremin in a multimedia concert by musician and composer Eric Ross and his wife Mary, a photographic, video and computer artist.

Although the theremin was invented in the 1920's, Ross said it is rarely played and no longer made. The theremin is an electronic instrument that emits two ultrasonic waves. When the waves are interrupted by the player's hand a sound is made. Ross described the theremin's unique two-octave-spanning sound as one that is best known for its use in 1950's science fiction and horror movies. Making an eerie whistling sound similar to that used to create the sound of a UFO, Ross mimicked the theremin's sound.

Ross said he and Mary, who have worked on projects

together for 10 years, create and perform works that are documentary of their lives and travels. For example, Ross said one piece, entitled "Voyages," resulted after he and Mary traveled to Scandinavia. Ross said while there Mary shot video footage that was later added to music he composed.

Ross said usually the music and video for a particular piece are created jointly; however, occasionally one engenders the other. In either case the most important goal seems to be the relationship between the two art forms.

"The music and the video relate in terms of being synchronous, asynchronous and simultaneous," Eric Ross said.

Although the music and visual images are presented as a package, Ross said the visual aspect of the performance is often both a part of and apart from the music.

"I think of it as being another texture and sound. . . it also has its own kind of imaginative nature," he said.

According to School of Music spokesperson Sally Atwood, Mary Ross will not perform with her husband Thursday night because of illness. However, her videos will still accompany her husband's music.

Following the concert, the Rosses will perform at other universities in upstate New York and later in December they will tour Europe for two weeks.

Supported by the national composer service organization "Meet the Composer" and sponsored by the School of Visual Arts, the concert is free and open to the public.

s way into praise with fine acting, sets

Theater Review

is neither passionate nor believable.

As a man who owes his fortune to his best friend, he is unappreciative and apathetic onstage. At the trial for Antonio's life, Schweigert places a reluctant

son (Duchess of Venice) is the role women as powerful but ungracious members of society.

The Merchant of Venice visits the Playhouse Theatre through Sunday