

Paris Rive Gauche to appear at Sherwood Hall

October 12, 1966

"If a half-dozen of the New Christy Minstrels took to singing poems by Edgar Allan Poe and Norman Mailer in a Greenwich Village coffeehouse, the result would be a crude American version of Paris Rive Gauche," writes Dan Sullivan of the New York Times about the French troupe which will be at Sherwood Hall, Friday, October 21, at 8:30 p.m.

The troupe consists of singers, a comedian and an accompanist, although all singers also play the guitar. They present 13th century French folksongs, and ballads, satire and poetry set to music.

Lyrics are taken from such noted French authors and poets as Pierre de Ronsard, Charles Beaudelaire, Georges Brassens and Jean Genet. Some songs are sung in English. All are explained in English beforehand.

The troupe is drawn from performers that have appeared at La Contrescarpe, a literary cabaret in Paris. The cafe is situated on a square of that name just within the old wall of Paris on the left bank. La Contrescarpe is considered the most popular cabaret in Paris and was called the "temple of Art of the Paris Left Bank" by Le Figaro, a French newspaper.

Individual troupe members have made headlines around the world. Jacques Marchais was awarded the "Oscar" of French song, Le Grand Prix Du Disque in 1965 and Jacqueline Danno won the Rose D'Or at Antibes for her song, "Non--C'est Rien."

Since 1960 the company has represented France at music festivals throughout Europe and North Africa. Among these are the Festival of Barcelona, Festival of Rome, Festival Des T N A, and Festival of Brussels.

Their appearance in La Jolla is sponsored by the Committee for Arts and Lectures, University of California, San Diego. For tickets or further information, call 453-2000, extension 1391.

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