

Salvatore and Dorothy Martirano to perform orchestral electronic and video concert, presented by UCSD Department of Music

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UCSD DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC TO PRESENT THE MARTIRANOS IN AN EVENING OF ORCHESTRAL ELECTRONICS AND VIDEO

Salvatore Martirano's musical talent and technical abilities appear to have lain in wait for the coming of the computer. The results of the match-up will be revealed in a concert with his wife, violinist Dorothy Martirano, at 8 p.m Thursday, October 20, in the University of California, San Diego Mandeville Recital Hall.

A pianist, composer and inventor of international standing, Martirano wrote his first computer-generated work in the early fifties. Now he designs hybrid performance sound systems, while at the same time carrying out his duties as a full professor of music at the University of Illinois, Urbana. He will use his latest system at UCSD on October 20, assisted in part by digital recordings, video monitors and video cassette recorders.

Kicking off the evening's program will be "Sampler: Everything Goes When the Whistle Blows." This 12-minute production will star Dorothy Martirano with the Zeta violin (a bowed, electronic violin which sends electronic signals to the computer, which in turn activates SAL, their software program), and what Martirano refers to as the "yahaSALmaMAC MIDI" orchestra.

The violin triggers the "yaha" to "answer" in real time (actual time), making it seem as if the computerized program were a band member in the flesh, responding to Dorothy's violin riffs and playing right along with her.

The "yaha" orchestra combines a Macintosh II computer, a Yamaha keyboard DX7, several components with mysterious numbers (TX8-16, REV7, two TX81Zs, and an RX5) along with the Zeta MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface) violin and a computer program written in Le-Lisp software called Sound and Logic (SAL).

Also on the program will be Martirano's work "L's G.A." (updated in 1985). The presentation of the piece includes three VCRs and color video monitors. Martirano has excerpted lines from Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, adding to them lines from the works of contemporary poet M.C. Holloway and "politicizing" them.

Martirano says, "It's a distorted version of the address, but it parodies how politicians misuse Lincoln's masterpiece t. it rhetoric." The text is read by Holloway on tape.

Flutist John Fonville, a member of the UCSD music faculty, will perform in a work called "Phleu," for amplified flute and the MIDI synthetic orchestra. The work is made up of parts called "Phee," "Phlie," "Phoo," and "Phum."

In the work "Four not Two," Martirano and his wife join musical forces with violin, the DX7 keyboard and the synthesized orchestra to play 20 minutes of improvised music which Martirano calls "a variable forms piece."

Explaining how the MIDI works for them, Martirano says, "The MIDI passes data output by a MIDI keyboard (DX7) and a Zeta violin to the program (SAL) that performs operations on the information, which in turn creates variations of the music played and sends the result to 24 accompanying synthesizers and a percussion unit."

Martirano studied composition with Herbert Elwell, Bernard Rogers and Luigi Dallapiccola. His compositions have been performed worldwide and he has made many recordings.

Dorothy Martirano plays with the Springfield Symphony Orchestra, and is a member of a Russian orchestra and a gypsy string ensemble. She has done studio sessions for many major motion picture productions, including "Star Trek IV."

Tickets for the performance are \$3 for general admission and \$1 for students and are available at the door.

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