

Priscilla

55TH SUMMER SEASON

Youth orchestra performs at art museum

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BROCKTON — The Southampton (England) Youth Orchestra, provided an overflow audience at the Fuller Museum of Art with an outstanding display of musical skills.

Review

Diligently led by conductor Keith Smith, the orchestra, composed of 100 musicians between 12- and 20-years-old, appeared in cooperation with Plymouth's Priscilla Beach Theatre. It will perform with the theater group this weekend in an original production, "Sitcom."

The orchestra performed in conjunction with the museum's exhibition of artist Henry Schwartz's works, which are characterized by expressive and filled with feeling.

sometimes satirical portraits of great composers, poets and novelists; icons of music, music history and theater. Schwartz was present at the concert. Recognized as one of the United Kingdom's leading youth orchestras, the Southampton Youth Orchestra performed the Ballet Suite from Holst's "The Perfect Fool," Mozart's "Horn Concerto No. 3 in E Flat," Suite from "Solreus Musicales" by Rossini/Britten and Brahms' "Symphony No. 4 in E Minor."

The playing has the indelible stamp of superior texture and tonal notes. Amanda Seaman, the soloist, provided an exhilarating performance. Her playing was crisp, strong and was marked by the cool, seasoned mark of a professional. The notes were clear, expressive and filled with feeling. The orchestra as the harp provided a delicate framework with interesting sounds. At times there was a poetic sweep to the work due to the strings. Not to be overlooked was the sprightly playing of the woodwinds. The Brahms' selection was highlighted by the trombones.

Backing her superbly was the orchestra. Notable in the first movement was the playing of the string section. Throughout, the orchestra maintained a fine sense of balance with the soloist. Holst's work was marked by the splendid playing of the strings, the exuberant sounds of the percussion section and the tranquil, flowing mood of the harp. It was played with distinction and vitality.

Suite from "Solreus Musicales" received a stellar treatment from the orchestra as the harp provided