

Mountain Empire Children's Choral Academy
enriching young lives through the
East Tennessee Children's Choir & Highlands Youth Ensemble
2005-2006 Season

"Sweet Christmas Suite"
Saturday, November 19, 7:00 p.m.
Wesley United Methodist Church, JC
ETCC with Trillium Flute Ensemble
Dessert Reception following concert

Saturday, December 3, 7:00 p.m.
Holy Trinity Church, Kingsport
ETCC & HYE join voices
Dessert Reception following concert

Sunday, December 4, 5-10 p.m.
Biltmore Estates Candlelight Tours
HYE sings in the Winter Garden
call Biltmore Estates for tickets

Monday, December 5, 4-6 p.m.
Johnson City Medical Center, Tenn. Room
ETCC concert and recording for JCMC

Friday, December 9, 7:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church, Bristol
HYE concert and recording

Sunday, December 11, 5-10 p.m.
Biltmore Estates Candlelight Tours
ETCC sings in the Winter Garden
call Biltmore Estates for tickets

"La Boheme"
Sunday, February 19, 3:00 p.m.
Southwest Virginia Higher Education
Center, Abingdon, VA
ETCC joins Voices of the Mountains
and Symphony of the Mountains
in Act II of Puccini's opera

Spring Concert Series

"With One Dream"
Sunday, April 9, 4:00 p.m.
Heritage Hall, Mountain City
ETCC & HYE premier music
celebrating formation of MECCA

Saturday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.
Paramount Center for the Arts, Bristol
ETCC & HYE premiere music
celebrating formation of MECCA

Other April and May concerts and
recording sessions to be announced
soon!

Sherwood Anderson Festival Ends

The Sherwood Anderson Festival in Southwest Virginia concludes this month with the following arts-related events:

Whitetop Festival Tribute

During the 1930s a major folk music festival was held on the top of Whitetop Mountain. A **Whitetop Festival Tribute** concert will feature **Mike Seeger, Molly Andrews** and the **New Ballard's Branch Bogtrotters**. The performance will recreate the range of music from the first festival: ballad singing and fiddling as well as banjo, harmonica and dulcimer playing. Seeger, the concert organizer, is a "national treasure" who has devoted his life to singing and playing traditional mountain music. He was encouraged to sing traditional songs by his parents, who were musicians and composers; then he absorbed traditional styles through friendship with musicians like Maybelle Carter and Dock Boggs. Joining Seeger will be Andrews, a vocalist who has performed in concerts and with theater companies all over the world, including Barter Theatre's recent musical drama *Fire on the Mountain*. The Bogtrotters have won first place in the old-time band contest on six different occasions at the prestigious Old Fiddler's Convention in Galax, VA. The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 7 at Barter Theatre in Abingdon, VA. \$10. 276-628-3991.

Lectures

Dr. Katherine Foreman will discuss "**Ripshin, Rosemont and Restlessness: Sherwood Anderson's Life in Southwest Virginia**" at two locations: Thursday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. at the Smyth-Bland Regional Library in Marion, VA and Wednesday, Nov. 16 at 11 a.m. at Wytheville Community College. After being a wandering star in the literary and art worlds for almost a decade, Anderson finally found himself at home in Southwest Virginia. From here, he corresponded extensively with far-flung compatriots until his intellectual restlessness drew him back into the public world. This presentation will combine rare photographs with passages from letters and diaries to create a lively portrait of Anderson's life in the region from 1926-1941. A native of Marion, Foreman is a former member of the English faculty at Virginia Highlands Community College. Her graduate work at the University of Virginia included concentrations in women's studies, and in American literature during Sherwood Anderson's era of influence.

On Sunday, Nov. 13 at 3 p.m. Debra Bricker Balken will present "**Debating American Modernism: Stieglitz, Duchamp and the New York Avant-Garde**" at the William King Regional Arts Center, Abingdon. With the arrival of French artist Marcel Duchamp in New York in 1915, one of the most critical and resounding



Renowned folk musician Mike Seeger organized the Whitetop Festival Tribute.

aesthetic debates ignited in American Art. In 1913 Duchamp's painting, "Nude Descending the Staircase," had become a sensation in New York at the first international showcase for modernism in America. Duchamp provocatively questioned the subjects, originality and authenticity of American Art, claiming an over-dependence on Parisian formal inventions, while lobbying for a more indigenous or genuine content. Alfred Stieglitz, the leading advocate of American modernist artists, argued for an ingenuity that grew out of a sensual, sometimes sexualized abstraction derived from nature. From the crossfires of this polarized debate, there emerged a critical reformulation of modernism, one that imprinted the direction of subsequent American art, and which intersected with a growing popularization of Freudian ideas, a national discussion about sex and sexuality, and an active women's Suffrage movement. Balken is an independent curator and writer and soon to be Robert Sterling Clark Visiting Professor in Art History at Williams College.

On-Going Exhibits

- "**Sherwood Anderson and the American Modernists**" will be on exhibit through January 22 at William King Regional Arts Center in Abingdon. The show focuses on Anderson (1876-1941) and his connection to modern American art and artists of the American art scene during the 1920s and '30s. The exhibit will measure the influence of modern American art on Anderson's work and, in turn, his influence upon the artists with whom he associated and whose works he collected. Artists represented include Alfred Stieglitz, John Marin, Arthur Dove, Charles Burchfield, and many more.

- The Smyth-Bland Regional Library in Marion, VA is housing a special **Sherwood Anderson Archive** through November. The display includes Anderson's first edition books, manuscript pages, an original diary, letters to Eleanor Copenhaver Anderson, original Anderson art, periodicals, newspapers, oral history collections, photos, the typewriter that Anderson used and took on the *S.S. Santa Lucia* to Chile where he died in 1941, and many other artifacts.

For more information or group reservations, call 276-783-2323 Ext. 22 or go to <http://www.sherwoodandersonfestival.com/events.htm>.

Come be a part of our live studio audience...
Concert to be videotaped for later broadcast on
Blue Ridge Public Television.

SONG OF THE MOUNTAINS

The Lincoln Theatre

Nov. 12 show
to feature

Wayne Henderson

Highway 11-W
Bluegrass Band

Lonesome Will
Mullins & the
Virginia Playboys

Cork Lickers

Cana Ramblers

Everett Lilly & the
Lilly Mountaineers

Showcasing the best talents in
bluegrass and old-time music...
from the heart of the region
where it all began.

Saturday • November 12, 2005
7 p.m.
Tickets \$15

TICKETS/INFO 276-783-6093
www.songofthemountains.org

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Lincoln THEATRE
117 E. MAIN STREET
MARION, VA