



THE RAM'S HORN

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Folk Singer To Perform February 7

Fine Arts Series To Feature Cynthia Gooding

Cynthia Gooding, folk singer, will perform at the Fine Arts Series second concert on February 7, 1968 at 8:00 p.m. The concert will be presented in the Whiteville High School auditorium. Activity cards entitle all SCC students to be admitted free of charge. For a small fee, the general public may also enjoy the concert series.

At a time when singers of folk songs are becoming ever more numerous and more popular with the public, a striking, Minnesota born contralto by the name of Cynthia Gooding stands out sharply as one of the finest artists in her field. One critic in Harper's Magazine said, "Minnesota may be proud of having produced the Brothers Mayo but they should be equally proud of having produced the first-rate cosmopolitan personality that is Miss Gooding's."

"Miss Gooding sings in a rich, dark, and mellow contralto and accompanies herself well with the guitar. As a folk singer, she deliberately tries not to be arty and therefore does justice to the beauty and natural artistry of folk songs."

"Critics from California to Rhode Island have echoed the same kind of admiration for her direct, simple, and effective approach to the singing of folk songs, the beauty of her voice, and her skill as a linguist (she sings in French, Spanish, Turkish, Italian, and Russian)."

Miss Gooding feels very strongly that folk singing is a highly personal art—an expression of the singer's own experience of the subject or emotion represented in the songs

she sings. Miss Gooding is not one of those singers who sings what is required by the current market. "The artist are those who sing as they think and feel they must and wait for an audience to find them," states Cynthia Gooding. Miss Gooding differentiates sharply between folk music and popular music.

The latter, she feels, tends to present life through rose-colored glasses, while folk music, springing as it does from the realities of man's experience, expresses the fact that man is responsible, in large measure for his own joys and sorrows. It's a fact that life is not easy. Man can make life better or worse. "The songs I sing tell me the truth and as I sing them, permit me to tell the truth to those in my audience," says Cynthia. She sings to tell people how she feels and "to tell myself, too."

As for the current revival of interest in folk music, Miss Gooding thinks that any one of the explanations being circulated may have some validity. "It is a symptom of the search for a 'national identity,' a return to the simplicity in a too complex technological age, or at the simplest level a part of the do-it-yourself craze. She finds that the folk buffs she hears from have a number of things in common: they are above average in education, curious, and seem to have a desire to create something that is theirs, even though it is only a small work of art.

As a performer Miss Gooding is not a grandstand player. She meets an audience very much as she would meet people at a social gathering. There is a gradual warming up process, the per-



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former and her listeners becoming acquainted with one another. Always the song and her feeling about it comes first and so complete is the communication between singer and audi-

ence that even a large auditorium becomes an intimate room.

Cynthia Gooding was born in Rochester, Minnesota. Her grandparents still live there. Miss Gooding recalls that she

began singing when she was very young, to the accompaniment of the carillon of the Mayo Clinic. Her family moved to Cleveland when she was three. Cynthia was educated at private schools there and in Toronto. The Goodings moved again, to Lake Forest, Illinois, where Cynthia made her debut, after a brief stint as mailgirl at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station, Cynthia returned to Rochester for a time. At the age of 19, she went to Mexico City. There she worked at the American Embassy as a messenger and bilingual telephone operator. Returning to Rochester with a guitar, a fluent knowledge of Spanish, and a matador's cape, she did a weekly radio program of Spanish music and commentary in honor of the city's many Latin American visitors.

Literary Review Editors Receive Various Works

Southeastern's literary review, first announced in this paper as a "tentative proposal," is now a possibility as distinct as a beacon in a light fog. The editors have received a number of works, some serious, some humorous, and a few unprintable.

The majority of these contributions have been poems, and poetry is a perfectly acceptable art form, but students are asked to remember that the magazine was suggested as a creative outlet for any of the various arts. Essays, photographs, drawings, paintings—any art work will be considered, and at present is considered desirable—if not for volume, at least for variety. Students will be glad—possibly surprised—to discover that the first volume will contain works by instructors and students from other institutions of higher learning.

The review is as yet unnamed—the editors having rejected to date their own ideas, but they do have material of some quantity. So the entirety can be likened, conceivably, to a pretty girl in need of a suitable dress.

SCC Selects New Dean

Dr. Robert K. Gustafson of Laurinburg has been named Dean of Instruction at Southeastern Community College. Gustafson will take over the position on June 1, 1968. The appointment fills a post formerly held by Dr. Charles R. King, who resigned August 11 to become



ROBERT K. GUSTAFSON

president of Southwest Virginia Community College.

Dr. Gustafson is presently an associate professor in the Division of Religion and Philosophy at St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurinburg. After he completes his current tenure at St. Andrews, Dr. Gustafson will join the staff of Southeastern. Evan Philip Comer, president of Southeastern, expressed pleasure with the appointment. "We are pleased that Dr. Gustafson has accepted this appointment. I believe he will make a significant contribution to the general development of Southeastern Community College," said Comer.

Dr. Gustafson is well known in college circles in this part of the state. He is very active at St. Andrews and has delivered several papers at professional meetings. He has been on the staff at St. Andrews since the college was founded in 1961. Prior to assuming his position at St. Andrews, Dr. Gustafson was on the faculty of Flora McDonald College in Red Springs.

Dr. Gustafson holds a BA in Applied Arts from UCLA and obtained his Master's and Doctorate from Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. He is a Fellow in the Danforth Foundation. Gustafson is married to the former Helen Sherill of Fayetteville and they have a son Glenn, age 8, and a daughter Sheryl, age 5.

He is active in the social, civic, and educational programs in this part of the state. Dr. Gustafson is presently a member of the Scotland County Committee on Mental Retardation, chairman of the Bi-Racial Community Betterment Committee, member and director of the Tri-County Community Action Program and is a member of the Laurinburg Lions Club.

During the semester break at St. Andrews he visited Southeastern's campus and met with the Faculty, Administration, and various students. "I am very impressed with Southeastern and look forward to assuming my duties as Dean of Instruction on June 1," stated Dr. Gustafson.

College Civitan Club Organizes At Southeastern

During fall quarter of this year, the Student Government approved a constitution to form The Collegiate Civitan Club of Southeastern Community College. This was a high point of recognition for SCC because only three colleges have the collegiate civitan club in North Carolina and only ten such clubs exist in the Southeastern United States.

The club presently has fifteen members and more members are asked to join. Two of the members are from the parent club, Whiteville Civitan Club, and act as advisors for the club. Mr. Richard Robbins will act as the faculty sponsor.

Bob Andrews, initiator of the club, stated that the club will act as a service club for SCC. Among their services will be helping at the door at social functions, being in charge of refreshments at ball games, and aiding the Student Government and community in all possible ways.

After the club becomes fully organized, it will be able to compete with other civitan clubs in athletic events.

