

# Her 'Grand Entrance' Was Unzipped

By PAQUITA FINE

Jeanne Grealish, young mezzo-contralto who has been drawing bravos and applause from audiences in the United States and abroad, is in Chapel Hill this month to visit her mother, Mrs. Helen Grealish, and her aunt, Mrs. Lillian Sams.

A rising star in the world of music, Miss Grealish recently returned from Vienna where she had been studying with the great European dramatic singer, Elizabeth Hoengen. Miss Grealish climaxed her 18-month stay in Vienna as the only American singer on a concert series held in the fabulous halls of old Vienna palaces where Mozart and Beethoven performed.

Miss Grealish plans to go back to Vienna in September. She returned to the United States to visit her family and to sing in the New Hampshire Musical Festival at Center Harbor, an experience which, for two reasons, she is not likely to forget.

"At the first concert, I made what is known as a 'grand entrance,'" she explained. "It was very, very hot and I had unzipped my dress while I was waiting in a little room. I was almost to the piano when someone rushed out from the wings to zip me up."

The second reason she will never forget the festival is that after singing five songs by Wagner, the orchestra paid her the supreme compliment of refusing to stand and bow, choosing instead to keep their seats and applaud.

A native of Gastonia, Miss Grealish was reared in Shelby. She is a graduate of Meredith College where she was president of Playhouse and the Meredith College Chorus, and a member of the student council, Silver Shield, the Book Print Club, Alpha Pi Omega, and Sigma Alpha Iota which honored her with an award for outstanding musical accomplishment. She also received the award for the most valuable contribution to dramatics.

While at Meredith, she did volunteer work in musical therapy at Dorothea Dix State Hospital.

Musical therapy is a wonderful thing," she said. "In a lock ward we might have a 'community sing' and patients who wouldn't talk would suddenly begin to sing and sing. Working with these people, who are so receptive to everything one says and does, brought out so much in me. I felt I grew inside. One unusual thing happened: a patient who was in the choir came up to me after one practice session and put his hands around my throat. Realizing he had frightened me, he apologized profusely and kept saying he had only wanted to 'feel where the pretty sounds came from.'"

It was at Tanglewood, the Berkshire Music Center in Lenox, Mass., that Miss Grealish decided she should get rid of her Southern accent. "I was taking reading from a teacher who had a strong French accent," she said. "He had issued little books

that had a tenor clef instead of a bass clef. When I told him 'Ah'm sorry but Ah can't read this,' he created an uproar of laughter by saying in heavily accented French-English, 'Why, bless yore il' oie heart!' That was also the summer I was told that I was the only person who had ever been known to put three syllables in the word 'man.'" Despite her accent, she was one of 16 singers selected to record that summer with Pierre Monteux and the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

For three and a half years, Miss Grealish studied at the New England Conservatory in Boston. She was elected to Pi Lambda, the Phi Beta Kappa of music, in 1959. In 1961, she received the Artist's Diploma, a performance degree and the highest one awarded by the school. Her artist's diploma recital debut was covered by the Boston press and moved one critic to write: "This young mezzo-contralto gave the impression of a singer who knows which way she is facing and who is equipped to move that way. . . . She has ample stage presence and sustains it through the most energetic climax. . . . Best of all, Miss Grealish feels a manifest country simply because she refused to give her age to immigration authorities. For her audition with Madame Frisjsh, Miss Grealish had planned to sing 'The Life and Love of Woman' by Schumann. "But Madame Frisjsh stomped her cane and informed me that no woman of the 20th century, who was in her right mind, would sing such poetry," said the young singer. "We finally decided on a French song. She kept stopping me after every other word. When the audition was over and she came toward me, I didn't love for what she is doing as she does it. . . . She and her song are



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thoroughly in tune with each other."

While completing work on her masters degree at the conservatory, Miss Grealish applied for a scholarship with Povla Frisjsh, a famous Danish singer who, although in her 80's, had waited for five years to come to this know if she meant to wrap the cane around my throat or not. Instead, she hugged me and said I was the greatest Christmas present anyone could give her. She was a wonderful teacher but quite a character. She liked a double whiskey-sour for breakfast and she feared only one thing - cars. Her eyesight was excellent, but to make sure that cars would stop for her and po-

licemen would help her across streets, she wore enormous sunglasses and carried a white cane whenever she went out."

After the death of Madame Frisjsh, Miss Grealish became a pupil of Lotte Lehman. "She is one of the greatest singers who ever lived. She is now in her 70's but this year she went back to the Met to stage the production of 'Der Rosenkavalier.'" After hearing a tape of Miss Grealish's voice, Miss Lehman wired her to come to California to work with her, which she did in 1961.

"Later, when I returned to the East Coast for concert commitments, I received a call to sing for the Beebe Foundation which gives two awards each year to musicians to use in Europe. These are marvelous awards. You just take the money, with no strings attached, and do whatever you want to in Europe. I had a concert date and couldn't audition, so I was absolutely speechless when I learned I had received one of the awards. And this is how I happened to go to Vienna to study with Elizabeth Hoengen."

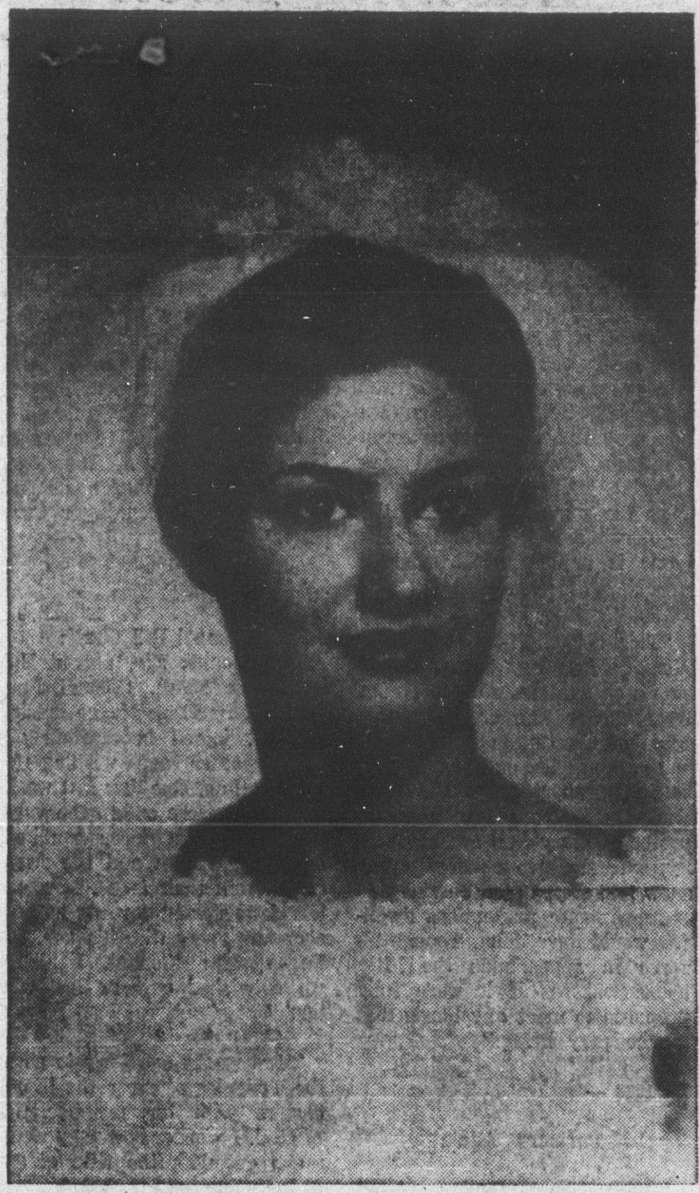
In September Miss Grealish will leave Chapel Hill for Vienna. In October she will go to Germany to audition for a contract with one of the opera houses. In December she will do a repeat performance in Vienna of songs by American composers.

"It's amazing how interested people in Europe are in good music even though 'Rag Mop' has been translated into German, and the sedate Austrians have given up the waltz for the twist," she said.

Making the trip to Vienna with Miss Grealish next month will be Mrs. Russell Anstett of Michaux Drive, a long-time friend of the young singer and her family.



ENGAGED — The engagement of Miss Sarah Jane Jackson to Christopher Joseph Corr is announced by the bride-elect's mother, Mrs. Robert Osborne Jackson of Chapel Hill. Miss Jackson is a graduate of Chapel Hill High School and Town Classes Business College. She is a secretary with Ted Bates and Company in New York City. Mr. Corr is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Edward Corr of Bronxville, N. Y. He is a graduate of the University here. He is an account executive with Station KTVK in Phoenix, Arizona. The wedding will take place at noon, December 21, in the Chapel of St. Thomas More, on Gingham Road.



## Hall-Kelly Vows Are Exchanged

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Read Hall of Chapel Hill announce the marriage of their daughter, Linda Marie Hall, to Paul Knox Kelly, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Kelly Jr. of Wellesley, Mass. The ceremony took place yesterday at the Chapel of the Cross. Dr. H. T. Frank of the Presbyterian

Church officiated. The church was decorated with mixed summer flowers. Nuptial music was presented by James Holmes, organist.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a gown of peau de soie with an empire bodice of embroidered petals and an A-line skirt. Her bouffant veil was attached to a bandeau of miniature white roses and seed pearls. She carried a cascade bouquet of phalenois orchids, white sweetheart roses, and ivy.

Matron of honor was Mrs. Rex Lucas Jr. of Dallas, Texas, sister of the bride. She wore a Nile green taffeta dress with a modified bell skirt, scoop neckline, basque bodice of eyelet lace, and elbow length sleeves. Her veil was attached to a flat bow. She carried a crescent bouquet of white shasta daisies and ivy.

Bridesmaids were Miss Nancy Kelly of Wellesley, Mass., sister of the bridegroom, and Mrs. Gerald K. Neavolls of Riverdale, N. Y. Their dresses were like that of the honor attendant.

Best man was Richard Macdonald of Rockport, Mass. Groomsman were Gordon Read Hall of San Francisco, brother of the bride, and Peter Lawrence Edmonds of Wellesley, Mass.

The bride's mother wore a hand-made French lace and a hat of beige organza petals with a green bow. Her corsage was of brown and green orchids. The bridegroom's mother wore an Empire dress of ice blue crepe with a matching hat. Her corsage was of white orchids.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the Carolina Inn.

For a wedding trip to Bermuda, the bride wore a pink raw silk suit with patent leather accessories and a corsage of white sweetheart roses.

The bride received the B.S. degree from Northwestern University where she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority. She teaches school in Balu Synwyd, Pa. The bridegroom received the B.A. degree from the University of Pennsylvania where he was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity. This is his second year at Wharton Graduate School of Finance and Commerce in Philadelphia. The couple will reside at 3927 Walnut Street in Philadelphia.

Out-of-town guests included Mrs. Nellie H. Hall of Parsons, Kansas, paternal grandmother of the bride; Mr. and Mrs. Rex Lucas Jr. of Dallas, Texas; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Hall of San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Dame of Somerville, Mass.; and Col. and Mrs. John O. Weaver of Arlington, Va.

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## Carrboro Personals

MRS. MARY HOLLINGSWORTH  
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Mr. and Mrs. Norman Hoffman and son visited Mr. and Mrs. Richard Black who are vacationing on Pawley's Island.

Mr. and Mrs. Alan K. White-leather of 140 Cheek Street have been residents here for about five years. Mr. Whiteleather is a reporter for the Durham Herald, and Mrs. Whiteleather is an English major at UNC. She will receive her degree in January.

Air Force Capt. and Mrs. Ralph Pittman and children, Stanley, Michael and Janet, recently visited Mrs. Pittman's mother, Mrs. Esther McDonald. Capt. Pittman and his family had just returned from Newfoundland where he had been stationed. Their new home will be at the Air Force Base at Montgomery, Alabama, where Captain Pittman will attend school for a year.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Williams have recently moved to 442 Sparrow's Pool Road from Chapel Hill. Mrs. Williams is a native of Morganton, and Mrs. Williams is from Valdese. He is a student in the School of Pharmacy at UNC.

Mr. and Mrs. Odell Hewitt and family have returned home after vacationing at the G. S. Baldwin Cottage on Bogue Inlet, Emerald Isle.

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Jordan of Hillsboro were Sunday visitors of Mrs. Mary Hollingsworth.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Suggs spent the past weekend at Nag's Head.

Mrs. W. L. Upchurch who underwent major eye surgery at McPherson Hospital last week was discharged from the hospital Monday, and is doing fine.

Mrs. Jesse Hackney and Tracy Hackney visited Mrs. Mae Andrews Gattis of Charlotte for a weekend. Mrs. Gattis is a former resident of Carrboro.

Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Cronham and children, Chipper and Bess,

of Roseboro, returned home Wednesday after visiting Mrs. Cronham's father, H. D. Maynard, for several days. Mr. Cronham is band director of the Roseboro High School. Mrs. Cronham is a graduate of Chapel Hill High School. Mrs. Juanita Howard and her four children, of Graham, arrived Wednesday to visit Mr. Maynard, Mrs. Howard's father.

Mr. and Mrs. Ned Diggs and family, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Simpson and family spent last week at the G. S. Baldwin Cottage at Bogue Inlet on Emerald Isle.

Clayton Womble, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Womble Jr., is recuperating from a tonsilectomy at McPherson Hospital.

Mrs. Mag Canada is home after being a patient at Memorial Hospital for several weeks following a heart attack.

John Tripp has returned from visiting his son Dorsett, and Mrs. Tripp, of Washington, D. C.

Miss Pat Hardee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ibert Hardee, has returned from visiting friends in Shreveport, La.

Mr. and Mrs. Benson Ray and son Mike, and Mrs. Sammy Ray attended the graduation exercises Friday evening, Aug. 16, at Western Carolina College. Sammy Ray received his B. A. degree. Mr. Ray is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Benson Ray. He and his wife will continue to live here since he has accepted a position with UNC.

C. A. Hoyle has been seriously ill for the past several months, but is now much better. He is the former principal of Carrboro Elementary School, and later was superintendent of Chapel Hill High School, and then a faculty member of Western Carolina College.

Mrs. Claude Chaffin, wife of the pastor of Carrboro Methodist Church, attended the School of Missions at Duke University held for future teachers of study courses in local churches.

## Chapel Hill Area Gets More Babies

Babies born recently in Chapel Hill and Carrboro:  
Fakher Mohamed Dakroui, born August 2 to Mohamed and Soad Dakroui, 108 Mason Farm Road.  
Annette Clark, born August 2 to Marion and Gladys Clark, 101-B Padgett Lane, Carrboro.  
Hazester Foister Hunter, born August 2 to Joseph and Emma Hunter, 126 S. Roberson St.  
Zachary Hilton William Easley, born August 4 to Quenton and Rebekah Easley, 507 Oak Ave., Carrboro.  
Allen Hilton Roberson, born August 2 to James and Patricia Roberson, 306 Elm St., Carrboro.  
Barry Alexander Ferrington, born August 4 to William and Catherine Ferrington, Route 2.

## Binkley Memorial Activities Today

"Isaiah: Prophet of Faith" will be the topic of the sermon at The Binkley Memorial Baptist Church, which worships each Sunday at eleven o'clock in Gerrard Hall on the University Campus. Dr. Robert Seymour is Minister.

The Church maintains a Nursery at 507 East Franklin Street. Church School commences at 9:45. Classes for adults and students assemble in Gerrard Hall, and all children's groups meet at the Franklin Street address.

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Most of the plants used for ground covers are low growing with spreading habit. Some spread by underground or surface runners while others spread by the rooting of stems that come in contact with the soil. When good plants are used and properly fed and watered, the spreading types should be well established in about one year.

The weed problem can be largely solved by either fumigating the soil before planting or heavy mulching of the entire area around the plants after setting. Peat moss, ground corn cobs and pine needles are examples of some of the mulching materials which should prove satisfactory. After the cover is well established, the weed problem is considerably lessened.

There are so many plants that are used for ground covers that it would not be wise to try to name them all. Many of the low, dense growing flowering plants may be used but I will confine this to some of the more common evergreen types. First the ivies, (Hedera helix).

The English ivy is an old favorite and has the largest leaf of any of the others I will name. All of the following have leaves smaller than the English and of various shapes — Curly Locks, Shamrock, Marion Beauty, Margaret, Maple Queen, Miniature Hahn's Star, Miniature Green Ripple and Gold Dust which has a variegated leaf, similar, in color, to Gold Dust Aucuba. All of these do best in shady locations.

Pachysandra is another good shade loving cover but has a tendency to turn yellow in full sun.

For full sun the low growing junipers are satisfactory. J. horizontalis, chinensis and procumbens.

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