

# M Center City<sup>©</sup>

VOLUME II, NUMBER 25  
JUNE 26, 1975

## Fantasy on Parade

*Written by Janet Woolwine  
Photographs by James Roper*

The young man in purple Adidas strode toward a group, purpose in his step and fire in his eye. "To do anything on the summer solstice, you must be very sane. Or very unsane!" And anyone who joined "A Mid-Summer Night's Carnival", held June 21st, could hardly disagree.

The summer sun, reveling in its longest day of the year, brought out a little of everything and everybody – from masked and gowned Mardi Gras queens to sunchildren from Operation Action. A display straight from Fellini, the afternoon was hardly a traditional festival, but certainly one of exceptional cheer and goodwill. A tall masculine rabbit on skates played his trombone for a smiling gorilla. Tiny persons of every race rode a trailer





*Young violinists performing at Confederate Park.*

dubbed "Peace Train", while ladies and gentlemen of the court glided by in satins and velvets, followed by a pyramid, a Sphinx, and a geodesic dome made of white trash bags! Neighborhood delegations had a splendid time, waving flags and riding wagons, with accompanying mamas looking a little hot, a little embarrassed, but parent-proud all the same! Music, you say? A flat bed truck bore bluegrass pickers 'n' grinners, and the "Majie Oot Band and Kazoo Chorus" brought up the rear with — what else? — "When the Saints Go Marching In".

Having reached Confederate Park, the group dispersed for shade, ice cream, and a much needed rest. From then on, the afternoon was a mass of

and his be-leaved and beleaguered Man Friday, who narrowly escaped a completely menacing chieftain bibbed with papier-mache shark's teeth (from a papier-mache shark?). Two unicyclists wove through the crowd while mockingbirds scolded from the crabapple trees. Bluegrass music filled the park, and a tall skinny beagle in a red harness danced to his mistress' tambourine. Dogs and children eyed each other warily, then dissolved into wiggles and giggles.

Jim Crosthwait, initiator of the Carnival, introduced his marionettes to the squealing children, who went too far in laughing at Witch Olivia. She called forth her dragon (fireless type) Roger, who threatened to "stomp 'em all into puddin'". He proved to be a dragon on the outside and a chicken on the inside, though, and it was off to the showers for Roger.

The sun disappeared into a bank of mounting thunderheads across the river, and the crowd began to drift away into the dusk. Not your average parade or party — but a great way to spend the afternoon in downtown Memphis!



*The Red Balloon Players*

# STUDENT EXCHANGE NEEDS HOSTS

Host families are needed for several high school aged boys and girls who will arrive in Memphis during the month of August. These youngsters will attend local high schools to learn more about American life and will live with families to understand the political, social, economic and religious institutions through the eyes of "an American family." Assignments to host families are for periods of six-months and one year.

This exchange is being co-ordinated by the International Cultural Exchange, a non-profit, U.S. State Department approved visitor's exchange program. ICX does not select families on the basis of income or a model image. The program is staffed and directed largely by clergy, returned Peace Corps and Vista volunteers and educators who are interested in promoting international people-to-people encounters among typical persons. If anything, ICX is emerging as an "alternative" among exchange programs.

Host families provide food and shelter during the stay of their exchange sons and daughters. (The students have their own spending money and clothing allowance.) Orientation, periodic get-togethers and supervision are provided by the program. Host families are allowed to take a tax deduction if they itemize their income taxes.

The students come from Sweden, Brazil, Denmark, Ecuador, Japan, Greece, Colombia and other countries. Most of these students come from working-class backgrounds. Almost all are multi-lingual and have solid academic records. A few have unique interests such as soaring, canoeing, or collecting Delta Blues Music.

Anyone interested in opening their homes to an exchange student is invited to call 726-9789 or 327-5782. Persons may also write to ICX, P.O. Box 2118, Memphis, 38101.

## THE DARK ROOM

Modern films operate on a basic principle: light is captured by crystals called silver bromide. The crystals are carried in a transparent gelatin made from animal hides and bone. This emulsion is thinly spread on a plastic base that provides support.

*Curled up celluloid,  
A distended belly  
Translucent and vein-mapped in blue:  
Hunched on two edges  
Like the swollen woman stirruped  
For the difficult birth.  
Such darkness here!  
Such blackness  
Breeding on the blood-lettings  
Of the leech's dream.  
A light, a shuttered glint  
And a moon-face rises  
From hide rags and bone bits,  
Ground and grit leavings  
Of the butcher's art.  
How strange  
Are these quick-silver stars  
Spittled together on the celluloid night  
By the scream  
Of the sledge-hammered steer!  
It is always like this,  
This living off death.  
We've become experts at it.  
Whether it's  
Poking spring seed  
Into the earth's hollow skull  
Or just  
Turning Jew jaws into gold.  
We've become the cadaver's connoisseur.  
Like the fish face child  
We take shape in the shuttering  
Of the placental heart  
And perish,  
A face, a scream  
In the exposure of blind light.*

M. L.

# earthly delights

## DOWNTOWN EXHIBITS

### First National Bank (Lobby)

June – paintings by Richard Knowles\*

### City Hall

June – Smithsonian Exhibit of Mississippi Folk Architecture\*

### Sterick Building (Lobby)

June – paintings by Mrs. Terry Pera\*

## FILM

### Peabody Library

July 11 – “George Washington’s Mt. Vernon,” “Williamsburg: Story of A Patriot”\*

## MUSIC

### Grace St. Luke (Choir Room)

July 3 – Classical Guitar Society, meeting and program – 7:30 p.m.\*

## ACTIVITIES

### Overton Park Shell

July 1 – “Heroic Music for Trumpet and Organ” – Pfund Organ Co., Richard Steff and Harry Gay – 8:15 p.m.\*

July 3 – “Dixieland Jazz” – River City Six – 8:15 p.m.\*

July 6 – “Sunday In The Park With WMQM” – 2:00 p.m.\*

## OTHER EXHIBITS

### Brooks Art Gallery

July 1–August 29 – British Drawings and Watercolors\*

\*Free

## NOW IS CALM

*On one heart which broke with lavish tears  
In a plentitude of all too human woe  
On unheeding and willed to be heedless ears  
Now is calm.*

*On one proud head held stubbornly high  
Fortune's hard buffets could not break or bend  
Bowed this quiet evening with death's whisper nigh  
Now is calm.*

*by Elinor B. Bridges*

## CIVIC CENTER COMMUNITY CULINARY CLUB

*Serving from 11:30 to 1:00*

*First Presbyterian Church, 166 Poplar Avenue*

*PRICE: \$1.50 per serving, including drink*

*THE CIVIC CENTER COMMUNITY CULINARY CLUB WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY JUNE 30 THROUGH JULY 4 SO THAT THE EMPLOYEES MAY TAKE THEIR VACATIONS.*

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