The Messiah, by George Friedrich Handel, performed by the Banchetto Musicale.

What could be a more appropriate way to begin the Christmas season than to listen to a performance of Handel’s Messiah? Banchetto Musicale, under the direction of Martin Pearlman, presented an exceptionally laudable interpretation of the famed oratorio. The ensemble strove to come as close to the original 1742 performance as possible, employing a baroque orchestra with the original instruments and a scaled-down chorus, plus four solo vocalists: a soprano, a countertenor, a tenor, and a bass.

The orchestra’s performance of this divine oratorio was indeed heavenly. Pearlman’s conducting and harpsichord playing lent an inspirational baroque feel. The splendid chorus not only evoked the spirit of the Christmas season but also brought the entire audience to their feet. The vocal soloists, especially expressive and heavenly. "We have the new plastic scratch resistant lenses.

**THE TECH**
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**Divine Messiah**

The soprano, Kerry McCarthy, did an excellent job on her solo in Part II of the Messiah with the note of “I Know That My Redeemer Liveth” tenderly molded into a sound that was quite melodramatic. One could only listen with absolute reverence to this melody as it stirred the emotions. The baritone Maddalena, could easily have sung his odation solely with his rendition of “The Trumpet Shall Sound.” He was quite sound, and the trumpet was the original baroque instrument and extremely difficult to play, being the fanfare called for in this passage quite sound if it should have. Mr. Maddalena, however, redeemed the air with magnificently full and expressive voice. What pump and majesty Handel intended was present through his performance, and without the support of a trumpet.

Banchetto Musicale certainly deserves the standing ovation it received. This musical performance can leave the listener with the feeling of inspiration and then the intentions of the composer understood. This group certainly achieved that effect and more. Bravo to Pearlman and Banchetto Musicale!!

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It’s a good week at Streets:

Tonight — Propeller Records party, featuring Dangerous Birds, Wild Stares and Nina.

Wednesday — Liquid Liquid and V:;; Thursday — Young Snakes, Vitamin and Limbo Race.

Friday — Gun Club and The Neats.

At the Bradford, Jerry Lee Lewis is in concert Friday at 7:30pm. Tix are $10.50 in advance, two bucks more at the door.

Remember Peter, Paul and Mary? They’re at the Opera House Thursday at 7:30pm. Tickets are $13.75 and $11.75.

The Hayden Corridor Gallery is currently exhibiting works on paper by local artists. Local Visions: The Urban Environments, organized by the Committee on the Visual Arts, is on display through January 3, 1982. For more information, call x3-4480 or x3-4400.

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