

## Festival celebrates springtime in city

With spring in the air, the Houston Festival '84 is featuring both major art attractions and outdoor events every weekend through April 1.

The fine arts attractions include an exhibit at the Museum of Fine Arts featuring 164 art objects from the People's Republic of China, the well-known mime, Marcel Marceau, at Jones Hall on Saturday night and the play, "Crimes of the Heart," at the Alley Theatre.

The "Treasures from the Shanghai Museum" exhibit includes works spanning the entire history of Chinese art, from prehistoric to modern times. Many of the works have never before been out-

side of China.

Outdoor festival events include an arts and crafts exposition, outdoor performances of music, dance, art and fun. On Saturday, over 100 craftspeople and other artists from around the nation will display their work in tents in downtown Sam Houston Park.

The festival also features vending stalls catered by many of Houston's finest restaurants. These stalls provide a choice of gourmet cuisine from the city's national and cultural groups.

For more information contact Karen Kershner at (713) 523-6613.

## Vocal ensemble scheduled to perform at Texas A&M

The MSC Basement Committee is sponsoring Trovatori, a vocal ensemble in the style of Manhattan Transfer, this Saturday night.

Trovatori, composed of four members, is originally from Spokane, Wash. The group started singing together when all four were section leaders of the Edmond's College Choir in Washington State.

Encouraged by their choir director to get together to form an ensemble for a Christmas choir, group members Jonna Schutz, David Hardin, Jeff Clark and Idarae Prothero teamed up and have been together ever since.

Trovatori — whose name comes from an Italian word

meaning "traveling minstrels" — started out singing madrigals, over the years has expanded its repertoire to include jazz, folk, pop, and '50s and '60s sixties rock.

About two years ago, the a cappella group started performing in the Seattle area doing private parties, banquets, conventions and progressed to singing at the Seattle Center, opening for other acts, doing radio commercials and now touring college campus throughout the states and in Canada.

The group enhances each performance by varying song styles, costumes, choreography with light comedy.

Trovatori has performed on

radio, as well as television and in 1982 received Best Jazz Group in the Seattle Entertainment Award.

The performance begins at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater. Admission is \$3 advance and \$4 at the door.

Other upcoming Basement activities included as part of the Miller Rocks Series are Judah Star, a reggae band, The Zealots and The Voices performing on Saturday, March 31 at The Grove. On Friday April 6, The Teddy Boys, Ric Tangle and The Squares and 4 Hams on Rye will perform in The Grove. Both concerts are free.

## Europe a mile away

A "mile of money" is needed to help send the Texas A&M University Women's Chorus to Europe.

The Women's Chorus has been invited to tour England and Wales in May. Through fund-raisers, such as sales of submarine sandwiches, candy, cookbooks and Christmas gifts, the Women's Chorus already has raised \$39,000 for the trip.

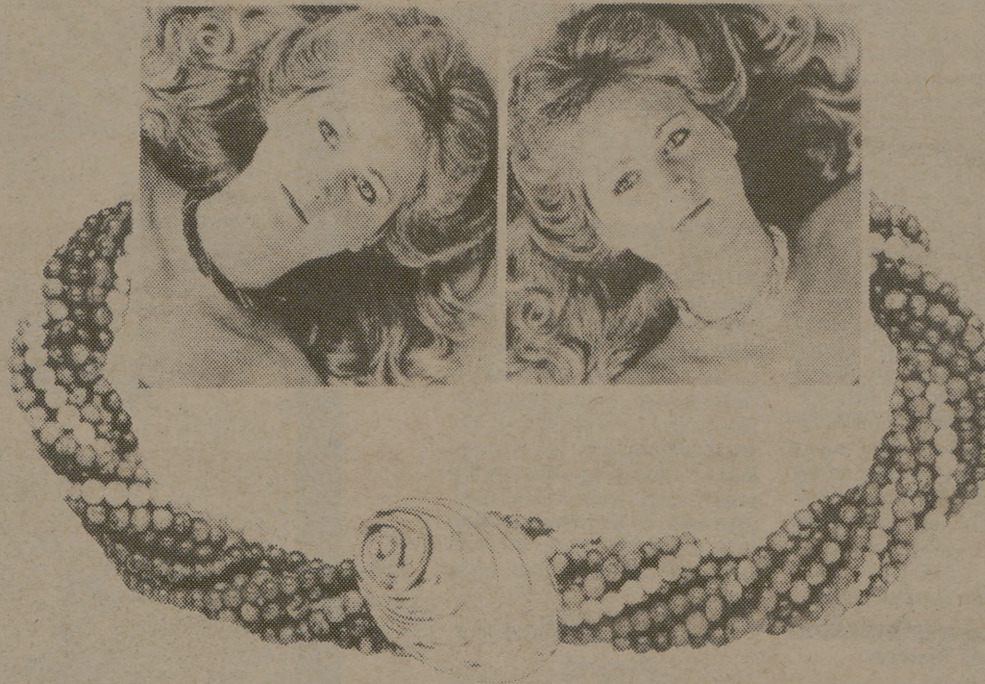
As part of their fundraising, a mile of one dollar bills will be collected. As donations are received, the bills will be taped end-to-end until a mile is reached. A \$300 donation from the Rotary Club of Bryan-College Station already has been received. Donations for the dollar-bill mile will be collected until March 31.

The Women's Chorus will be traveling as Friendship Ambassadors. The travel abroad will be enhanced by staying in the hosts' homes, musical exchange with other choral groups and performances. The Women's Chorus was chosen as a Friendship Ambassador through an audition. The audition included submitting a cassette and video recording of a performance, a photograph of the group, background literature on the group and its director — Patricia P. Fleitas and copies of concert programs presented in the last three years.

The Friendship Ambassadors Association determined the destination of the trip through the audition performance and the type of group.

Individual members of the chorus will be responsible for contributing 28 percent of the total cost of the trip.

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