

Around Town

Orchestra

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The Academy first debuted in the United States in 1980. Since then time, the popular ensemble has played sold-out performances and received high acclaim for its members' virtuosity.

A featured member of this re-

nowned orchestra is violinist Iona Brown. Brown has been a member of the Academy since 1967. In 1974, she became director of the string en-

semble. In 1986, she was chosen artistic director of the Academy's smaller chamber group. Brown's recordings with the Academy of St. Martin in-the-Fields include the complete Mozart violin concerti and Antonio Vivaldi's Four Seasons.

McEntire, Van Shelton play at A&M Friday

By Keith Spera

REVIEWER

Two of country music's best will be in College Station Friday night when Reba McEntire and Ricky Van Shelton perform at 8 p.m. in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

The concert, presented by MSC Town Hall, is the first show of McEntire's new tour.

Shelton will open the show. He is touring in support of his latest album, *Loving Proof*.

This LP, his second, is Number 2 on the *Billboard* magazine country album chart.

His other album, *Wild-Eyed Dream*, is holding steady at Number 17, after being on the charts for 101 weeks.

Both records have been certified as achieving "gold" sales levels (more than 500,000 copies sold).

McEntire has garnered a string of

honors and awards, including being honored as the Country Music Association's Female Vocalist of the Year for four consecutive years (1984-1987).

She was the Academy of Country Music's Top Female Vocalist of 1988, and she was given the Favorite Female Country Vocalist award at the 1988 American Music Awards.

McEntire's last four albums have been certified gold.

Her latest, *Reba*, holds the Number 6 position on the country music charts.

It includes the single "New Fool at an Old Game" (Number 19 on the country singles chart) and her version of the Aretha Franklin classic, "Respect."

About 500 tickets remain for the Friday night concert.

Tickets are available at the MSC Box Office and Dillard's in Post Oak Mall.

Old homes open for public tour

Citizens for Historic Preservation will sponsor its eighth Historic Homes Tour on Feb. 11 at 6 p.m. and Feb. 12 at 1 p.m.

The tour will feature four homes, all of which were moved from their original sites to College Station.

The homeowners will be available to answer questions about the homes.

The Yazdani home, believed to have been built in the early 1900s, was moved from Bryan to 902 Dexter Drive in 1984 to save it from a demolition crew.

In 1907, the Shellenberger home was built in Hearne and was moved in 1985 to 1003 Haley Drive.

Two homes on the tour were moved from the Texas A&M campus.

The Smith home was built on campus in 1923 and moved by the Smiths in 1941 to 1004 Ashburn Ave.

The McIntyre home, the oldest home on the tour, was built on the campus in 1890 and moved in 1948. The home is now at 611 Montclair Ave.

Tickets, which include admission to all four homes, are \$6 each and are sold by the Arts Council at Suite 217, NCNB Texas Building in College Station.

The tickets also may be purchased at the time of the tour. Those taking the tour may begin at any house.

For more information, call the Arts Council at 268-2787.

Landing

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monthly tabloid that is another forum for free expression."

The first poetry reading was organized after an A&M student, Ed Brown II, approached Stearns with the idea.

"I wanted to read my poetry, and I knew that there were other people who were interested in reading their work," Brown says. "I want to let the University know that there are artists that need an outlet for their work."

Brown says some arts at A&M have organizations through which students can express their work, while others such as creative writing or poetry do not have sufficient outlets.

Theater at A&M has an outlet through the Aggie Players, and English majors have Sigma Tau Delta, but there is not a release for poets other than the literary magazine *Litmus*, he says.

"As a student and English major at A&M, it is a bit frustrating to read from the Norton Anthology of poets and be inspired to write," Brown says. "Because after I write my poetry, I don't have anywhere to read it to the public."

"The arts, painting, sculpture, photography, and poetry, do not have a wide-ranging outlet," he says.

Brown says that the English Department does occasionally bring in poets to read, but that there are no organized events where students can read from their personal collections.

The first reading drew a sizable crowd, many of whom were prepared to read their poems. Some members of the audience were inspired by the moment and recited spontaneous poems. Others used the forum to speak out about whatever crossed their minds.

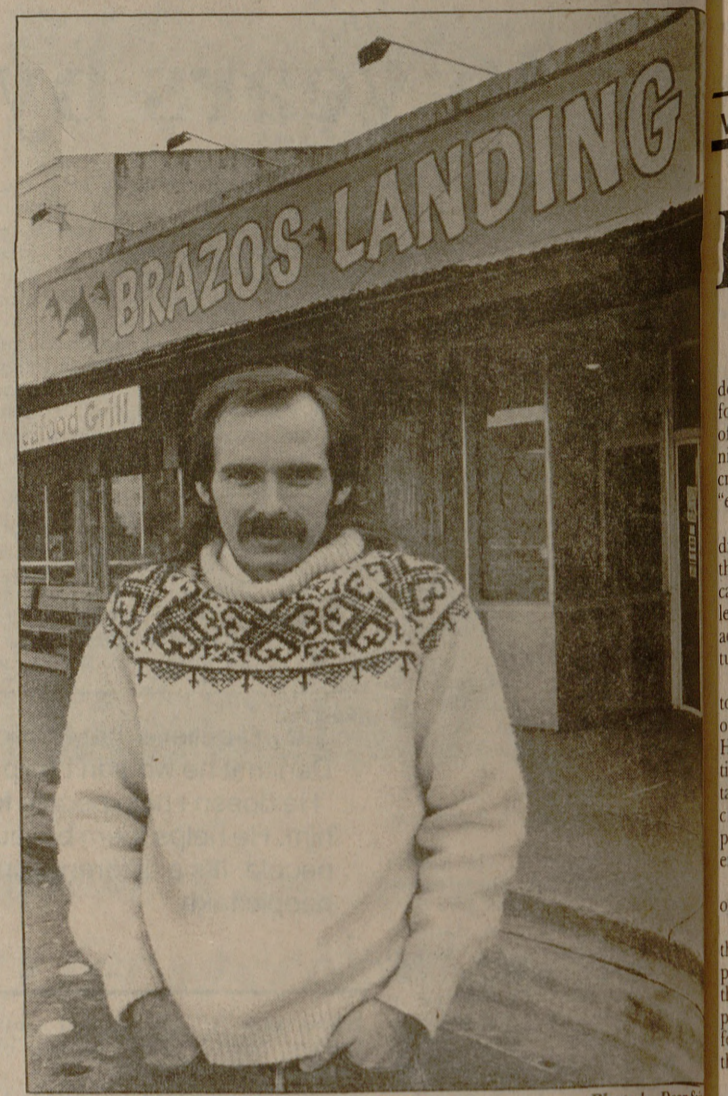
The informal atmosphere encouraged all artists to take the opportu-

nity to share their work.

Stearns says there will be future readings as poets write more material to share.

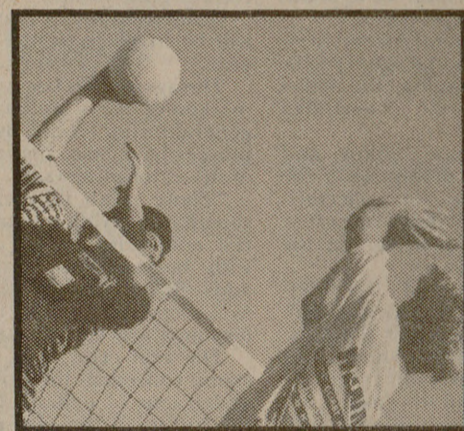
"I would like to see it become

more regular," he says. "We will have (the readings) whenever poets want. We plan to have an open reading in April, but they may come more frequent."



Owner Hugh Stearns stands in front of the Brazos Landing where he held an open poetry reading to begin a fine arts forum.

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