

## Joyful Music

Be it classic jazz or classic Beethoven, most people seek an oasis of comfort and enjoyment in music. Anne Roberts would agree with that. "It should be joyful" is how she describes the playing and practicing of piano music. This has been her mantra since the young age of three, when her family received a piano as a gift from her grandmother. "I wanted to play then, but was told I was too little, so my mother took lessons with me at age six," Anne remembers.

From then on, Anne continued to play, attending Smith College and ultimately receiving her degree in piano performance and music education from the University of Michigan School of Music. During the course of her adult life she has been an active performer, playing the piano for the Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church, for musicals, in a swing band, and often with a partner in two piano recitals. In 1978, she founded a women's singing group in Michigan called "Noteworthy." This group is composed of sixteen women who sing *a cappella* as well as with accompaniment.

Fortunately, Anne has a husband who understands her love of music because he plays as well. In fact, they vie for time at the keyboard on occasion, but husband John is gracious to give Anne first priority. Dividing their time between Michigan and Florida, Anne has found time to sing here with the Bay Singers of Bonita Springs for the past seven years. And when she's not playing or singing music, you might find her on the tennis courts, the golf course, on a bicycle, or at the bridge table. Opera is also one of her great passions, which brings her back to the music that has been so compelling in her life.

The Naples Music Club has also tapped her skills for organization. She serves as Vice President and chairperson of this year's Program Committee. Of the forty members who belong to one of our club's adult performing groups, she says, "we're not going to Carnegie Hall, but we do have an audience here in Naples. I love the 'carrot,' the incentive to play for an audience. You have to enjoy practicing and you must be working on something all the time," Anne says. With her drive and enthusiasm for music, Anne has easily found that haven of joy that fulfills her life.

Anne will be performing Debussy's "Jardin Sous la Pluie" on Saturday, November 19th, 2011. Also on the program are Richard Bosworth, Mary Bowden, Christine Bronson, Frank Burgeson, Tom Draney, Norma Farmilo, Jaye Fitts, Katherine Frecker, Gordon Hammes, Priscilla Keller, Nina Machus, Maurizio Nisita, Jo Ann Pottorff, Cindy Quehl, Romy Wildner, and Myra Williams.

The performance, which will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 388 1st. Ave. South, begins at 3 p.m. and is open to the public at no charge. Free-will donations will benefit the Naples Music Club Scholarship Fund.