By Chauncey Mabe
ArtsPaper Arts Writer

After these many decades as an elegant magazine of literature, politics, and culture, The New Yorker harbors one vestige of its origin as a humor magazine. That, of course, is the New Yorker cartoon. Droll and wry rather than laugh-out-loud funny, The New Yorker cartoon is not for every taste. Once that taste is acquired, however, the cartoons lurk amid the gray columns of text like miniature tableaux from a darkly winsome sideshow. “If you find anyone who laughs out loud, we take that cartoon out of the magazine,” says Bob Mankoff, the cartoon editor of The New Yorker since.

By Bill Meredith
ArtsPaper Music Writer

Chick Corea. The name is as unique, identifiable and indelible as the sounds from the 75-year-old jazz pianist’s recording and touring career. From solo and duet to big band and orchestral projects, Corea has proven restless and amoebic for more than 50 years. His early classical and jazz training is most evident on his acoustic catalog, much of which ranges from solo to quartet; but the Chelsea, Mass., native is anything but the product of a music school or conservatory. The benefits of his self-teaching and open-mindedness will be on display Feb. 24, when he performs in a dual show with another trail-blazing pianist a generation younger, 53-year-old Cuban sensation Gonzalo Rubalcaba, at Knight Concert Hall in Miami.

Corea had short educational stints at both Columbia University and the Juilliard School after moving to New York City in the early 1960s. Big Apple sideman work with trumpeter Blue Mitchell, flutist Herbie Mann, and percussionists Willie Bobo and Mongo Santamaria led to Corea’s 1966 debut recording Tones for Joan’s Bones. And one particular association a couple years later would further the young pianist’s musical tributaries. From 1968 to 1970, Corea was part of trumpeter Miles Davis’ band, appearing on multiple live recordings and studio epics like Miles de...
In its 11th year, Boca festival settles into rich medley of cultural offerings

Palm Beach ArtsPaper Staff

The annual Festival of the Arts Boca, now in its 11th season, returns to Mizner Park from March 2 to 12, with varied performances and author discussions at the Mizner Park Amphitheater and Cultural Plaza.

"We are so excited to present the 2017 Festival of the Arts Boca season and we think the audience will be, too," said Charlie Siemon, co-founder and co-producer. "We have stars from all over the world, from Brazil to Indonesia to Mexico and the United States, and famous music from the most beloved films and opera, by the world’s greatest composers," Siemon said. "And three of the headliners have a combined age of 45."

At 7 p.m. March 3, the festival welcomes Grammy Award-winning saxophonist Branford Marsalis, who will join with The Symphonia Boca, conductor Constantine Kitsopoulos, in a program that includes movie music by John Williams from Catch Me If You Can, Star Wars and the Harry Potter films.

One of the most popular events from past seasons is back — movies in the park, — is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. March 11. The University of Miami’s Henry Mancini Institute Orchestra, conducted by Kitsopoulos, will play Mancini’s score to the 1963 film The Pink Panther, as an accompaniment to the comedy that introduced Peter Sellers’ bumbling Inspector Clouseau.

At 7 p.m. March 4, the Festival will feature a semi-staged version of Puccini’s La Bohème, with The Symphonia and a cast of young singers including Jennifer Goode as Mimi and John Kanekides as Rodolfo.

Joey Alexander, a 13-year-old pianist, Sarah Chang will perform on Friday, March 10. Photo by Colin Bell.

Captions

Caption Contest

Write a caption for the cartoon on page 9. To enter, visit www.festivalofheartsboca.org/cartoon until Feb. 10. The winner will receive two VIP tickets to any festival event.

MANKOFF

Continued from page 9

1988 and a veteran cartoonist himself. Despite the mirth in his voice, he doesn’t seem to be kidding. The psychology of humor, he tells you, is so complex — and sometimes difficult to quantify.

"I don’t think people laugh at the same cartoons," he says. "I love looking at a cartoon alone and that’s my way into the story."

"I am a man of chance and I feel that you can draw cartoons in a way that is meaningful to your own way of thinking," Egan says. "That’s where I get my kicks."

"We get 30, 50 to 10,000 every week. We wouldn’t have time."

"The cartoon for each week’s caption contest is chosen from 10 or 15 cartoons that almost but not quite made it into the magazine. "We always pick a cartoon that has some kind of chance and I feel that you can draw cartoons in a way that is meaningful to your own way of thinking," Egan says. "That’s where I get my kicks."

Both writers are part of the Authors and Ideas Program at this year’s Festival of the Arts Boca. For Greene, author of The Elegant Universe and Icarus at the Edge of Time, time is not a static notion, but one that can expand and contract with one’s position in the universe.

"Einstein smashed Isaac Newton’s theory of time," says Greene by phone from his office in New York. "Newton’s ideas of time are the ones we all have in our minds. That of a big clock ticking forward. Einstein showed that when you move, the rate at which time elapses for you is different for someone who is not moving."

"Time, he says, "depends on what’s going on."

"Our Authors and Ideas program is extremely varied, exploring areas of politics, the arts, science and fiction," Siemon said. "Kaye said the festival is proud of its history and its upcoming offerings."

"After 11 years in Boca, people know they can count on us for quality," she said. "We’ve built a reputation over the years. Many people plan their trips to Florida around the Festival. We’re very proud of this."

For writers Greene and Egan, time is of the essence.