In Tune

sense of community and togetherness is the driving theme behind the Cabrillo Music Festival's 31st season, premiering this Friday, July 30 and running through Sunday, Aug. 8. Under the direction of music director and conductor Marin Alsop, the festival will also feature a 20th century repertoire.

In an attempt to explore the dynamics of what brings a community together, Alsop has also focused on the myths, fables and tales that get re-told and passed down through the generations. "The performances include narrative stories and some more abstract questions of life," says associate director Ellen Primack. "That is the thread that binds the festival this year."

Apart from many of the original and classic pieces to be performed throughout the festival, composer-inresidence John Deak will also base certain pieces on tales ranging from Hans Christian Anderson to Sherlock Holmes. In a melding of artist with the art, the musicians will be called upon to create sound effects with their instruments as well as vocalize and portray individual characters. "In addition to the music and the stories being the focus, we also feature the musicians," says Alsop. "You get to hear musicians stepping forward more than usual."

Established works by masters in

the field — including Debussy, Copland, Lou Harrison and Charles Ives — will also be presented throughout the course of the festival. Musicians scheduled to perform include clarinetist Sharon Kam as well as mezzo soprano Wendy Hillhouse.

Original works by musicians such as artist-in-residence — and mastermind behind the New Music Works of Santa Cruz — Phillip Collins will also be included on the diverse itinerary.

To kick off the festival, Collins has also organized a gala event that is sure to appeal to both the musical and gastronomical palate. E.A.T. Edible Art Tonight takes place this Friday, July 30 and will include edible sculptures by Michael's Catering made in chocolate, patés, ices and more. The musical menu features Lequard Bernstein's La bonne cuisine as well as Veronica Elsea's Keys to Gracious Dining and a mini-opera by Collins and Sven Davis spoofing television chefs entitled Eat This.

In an effort to maintain a connection between the audience and musicians, Alsop will give informal talks prior to many of the concerts. "A lot of really established orchestras don't really like it when you step out to talk to the audience," says Alsop. "It's as if they don't like you going through that existing wall. I like to crash through that wall every once in a while."



Musical director and conductor Marin Alsop heads the 31st season of the Cabrillo Music Festival

Here are a list of highlighted festival events:

- E.A.T. Edible Art Tonight, Friday, July 30, 8 p.m. McPherson Center For Art & History, 705 Front Street, Santa Cruz.
- Cabrillo Music Art & Food Festival, Saturday and Sunday, July 31 and Aug. 1. 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Civic Auditorium. A free family concert will be featured Saturday, 2:30 p.m.
- Cabrillo Street Festival, Saturday, Aug. 7, 6:30 p.m. Civic Auditorium.
- Music At the Mission, The Mis-

sion at San Juan Bautista hosts a day of music, with a world premiere orchestration by Louis Ballard entitled *The Maid of the Mist and the Thunderbeings*. Charles Ives rememberance of AIDS victims, *Unanswered Question* will also be featured. Program begins at 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 8

Unless otherwise noted, all events take place at the Santa Cruz Civic. Ticket prices vary and can be purchased through Bass tickets. For more information, call 429-3444.

- Anna Petroutsas