

Jerry Tachoir will solo on the vibraphone when the Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra performs at 8 p.m. in the Palace Theater, Greensburg. Joining Tachoir will be a Jazz Trio of piano, bass and drums. Kypros Markou will conduct.

Jerry Tachoir brings vibraphone to Palace ...

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Vibraphonist to perform with symphony

By JOYCE L. CRIMBOLI
Of The Tribune-Review

Vibraphonist Jerry Tachoir began music lessons at the tender age of 7. "My parents were quite strict about practicing," the internationally known musician said. "Looking back, I'd say they pushed me into it. I thank them for it."

The Pittsburgh native and his jazz trio of piano, bass and drums will be featured guest artists at the Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra's next subscription concert 8 p.m. Saturday in the Palace Theatre in Greensburg.

"It's a family program," he said with a laugh. Tachoir's wife, Marlene, is the jazz pianist for the group, and "writes most of the music." The couple met while students at the Berklee College of Music in Boston. A summa cum laude graduate, Tachoir was the first person to receive the baccalaureate in applied music for the vibraphone and mallet instru-

"We were real good friends and we respected each other musically," Tachoir says of his spouse. After they wed, he notes they were afraid they might "overdose." Yet, he said, "she's the best pianist I've found. We're compatible. It's worked out well."

The couple's 2-year-old daughter, Erica Lynn, will not be pushed into the music business, Tachoir said. "We're not pushing her into music," he reports. "If she wants to get into it in her leisure, she has all the tools available here for her."

Already Erica Lynn has attended her parents' rehearsals and concerts, and has been an inspiration for at least two new tunes authored by her mom: "Erica's Dream" and "Daddy Dance." Erica dubbed her father "Daddy" when she was an infant.

The jazz quartet's fourth record, which will feature the two new numbers, should be released early in the summer. Other recordings to their credit include: "Forces" on Trulone Records,



Jerry Tachoir

"Canvases" on I.T.I. Records and "Jerry Tachoir and Friends" on Avila Records.

For a dozen years, Tachoir and his group have toured throughout

roll and aren't into Mom and Dad's music, and seem to like contemporary jazz."

Tachoir sees a big difference in the music industry since the days when he was studying. He noted the emphasis then was on "talent and skills."

Today, he said, a professional musician must also be a "good businessman, be friendly, able to negotiate and spend time doing press kits. Things have changed, we're more high tech."

"After you get the business aspect out of the way, you have to dig within to do the creative aspect," Tachoir said. "You spend so much time in the office... it's hard to find the time to be creative."

Tachoir and his family reside in Nashville. "It was a choice between the music centers of New York, Los Angeles or Nashville," he explains. "Nashville is a lot like Pittsburgh in that it's family oriented. It's worked out real nice."