

A Fantasy In A Magic Forest

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ing ballet in Marin County.

THEY MET at Dominican College where Mrs. Gabert was in charge of classes in classical ballet and also working with the college in an arts program for under-privileged children, and

where Page went to play the piano and organ and to compose in the quiet of the campus.

Mrs. Gabert agreed to do the choreography for Page's stories and music.

It was agreed between the two that the dances should be kept on a simple plane so that chil-

dren could perform.

THEIR COLLABORATION will be climaxed next Friday at 1:30 p.m. and Saturday at 8 p.m. in Angelico Hall with performances of Page's first two ballets that will benefit scholarships for artistically-promising

youngsters.

With Mrs. Gabert, Page has been heavily involved in the rehearsals for those performances. And this, he says, has provided him with his first real indoctrination into ballet.

He is not bothered by the fact that the title role of Christopher will be danced by a girl, gifted Melanie Radke.

"IN A CHILDREN'S performance," he says, "I think the audience is quite able to understand and willing to accept that."

But he is concerned that there are so few boys among the county's many talented young ballet students.

"I suppose," he says, "this is because ballet has a reputation for being such a feminine thing. I guess I once thought that way myself."

"BUT AFTER watching the rehearsals, I have come to realize that ballet is tremendously athletic — quite physical. One wonders how many of the young athletes would be able to stand up under the grind of ballet."

Page is also presently at work on a Christmas program of dance, song and recitations, to be presented at a liturgical service in Marin, as well as upon a new children's ballet.

He describes himself modestly as "fairly proficient at both the piano and the organ."

BUT IT IS toward composing that his musical and career in-



CAROL BLAKE will dance the part of the Bat when the Joan Edgerton Gabert School of Classic Ballet students perform Paul F. Page's "The Adventures of Christopher" as a scholarship benefit at Dominican College next Friday and Saturday.

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