

Flautists travel through musical maze

By KITTREDGE CHERRY
Staff Writer

Caught in a labyrinth, they are forced to retrace their steps again and again, now wandering, now scurrying through the winding passages until at last they find their goal: F sharp.

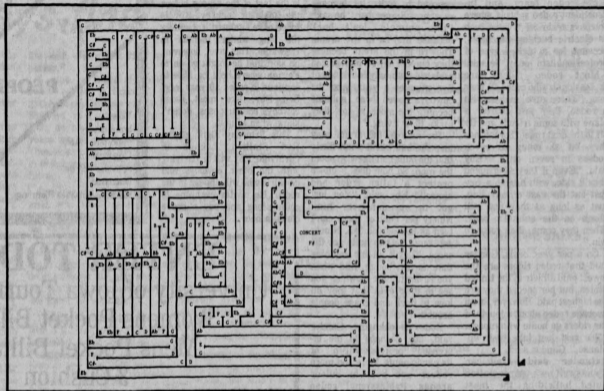
The maze is musical, a piece by Peter Tod Lewis, head of the UI Electronic Music Studio, conceived when he visited the labyrinth gardens at Alcazar, Spain. Sunday at 1:45 p.m. it will be performed for the first time by 30 flautists, all UI students or faculty, stationed throughout the UI Museum of Art.

Each will start at the lower right corner of the maze and proceed at their own pace through a series of twists and dead ends, playing each pitch as they encounter it until they have all reached F sharp.

So begins "Fantasy of Flutes: Baroque and Modern," the first in a series of concerts that will be performed in the museum on the first Sunday of each month. Admission is free and the public is invited.

"The idea is to put the arts together," said UI music Prof. Betty Bang Mather, who planned the program and will perform in it. She will also provide what she calls a "guided tour": some historical and musical background before each piece.

The concert proper will begin at 2 p.m. in the Carver Gallery with a solo performance of a



Bach allemande. The first half of the concert consists of Baroque music, which is characterized by a texture of two principal voices—a melody and a bass—in which the intervening space is filled by improvised harmony. A concerto by Boismortier will demonstrate the contrast between a single flute and many. Six French dances, some by Boismortier, some by Montéclair, will follow.

The first half of the concert

will conclude with four selections from *The Delightful Pocket Companion*, a songbook published for amateur flautists in 1750, a time when every gentleman learned to play the flute, and every lady to play the harp. That year, the year of Bach's death, also marked the end of the Baroque period. This fall an abridged version of the book, edited by Mather and including a recording of her playing selections from the book, will be published.

The first modern piece will be the premiere of "Long Hill May" by UI Prof. Donald Jenni. Jenni composed the piece in May 1976, as a birthday present for Mather's husband, Roger.

An avant-garde duet by Japanese composer Joji Yuasa will be followed by "Syrinx en triple," a new arrangement of Debussy's "Syrinx," which commemorates the Greek story of the first flute. According to the myth, the mischievous Pan, half man half goat, fell in love

with a nymph named Syrinx and tried to catch her. Repulsed by his horns and goat legs, she hid in a river and prayed to be changed into a reed. Her prayer was granted, and from that reed Pan made the first flute.

The concert will conclude with another piece by Jenni entitled "Cherry Valley" and a Bach air that was specially arranged for the first National Flute Association convention in 1973.