

'Good Doctor' to close season

The Neil Simon-Anton Chekhov comedy with music, "The Good Doctor," is the final show to open at the Wayne State University Summer Theatre Festival in the Hübner Theatre. It begins Friday, and continues through Aug. 14, with performances Wednesday through Saturday at 8:30 p.m.

"The Good Doctor" is Simon's stage adaptation of stories by Chekhov, with music by Peter Link. It consists of nine vignettes, ranging in mood from farcical to poignant, and linked by "The Writer" himself (Chekhov), played by Hübner veteran Wayne S. Turney, who offers wise and droll comments on the characters he has created.

To add the various roles in the sketches, Turney is joined by Hübner actors Michael Rothhaar, Deborah Eckols and Michael Tylo, and by guest actress Mary Gutzi, a graduate of the University of Detroit.

When "The Good Doctor" opened in New York it was described by Leonard Harris of CBS as "warm, wise, funny, tender, compassionate, very rib-tickling," and by Newday's George Oppenheimer as "an evening of enchantment," a comedy that should appeal to your head, your heart and your funnybone.

The Hübner production is directed by Richard Spear, with setting by Russell Smith, costumes by Daniel Thomas Field and lighting by Gary M. Witt.

Reserved seat tickets are on sale at the Wayne State University Theatre Box Office, Hübner Theatre, Cass and Harbuck, Detroit 48202. For telephone reservations, call 527-2972.

Running concurrently with "The Good Doctor" is Edward Albee's "Seascape," being presented in the Studio Theatre downstairs at the Hübner.



Wayne S. Turney (center) as The Writer (Anton Chekhov) in Neil Simon's "The Good Doctor" is surrounded by characters he has created, played by Michael Tylo (top left), Michael Rothhaar (top), Mary Gutzi (lower left) and Deborah Eckols.



Michael Cullen (foreground, left) and Harper Jane McAdoo find themselves being watched by a pair of sea creatures, played by George C. Kappaz (left) and Deborah A. Pietruska in the WSU Summer Festival production of Edward Albee's "Seascape."



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