

'Johnny Belinda' scheduled

"Johnny Belinda," one of the first American plays to explore the world of the deaf, will open at the Hilberry Theatre on June 2 for a two weekend run.

Part of the Bonstelle Theatre series, "Johnny Belinda" has been moved to the air-conditioned Hilberry for the comfort of patrons. This play by Elmer Harris will be performed Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 p.m. with Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. through June 11.

Guest artist Hal Youngblood, Detroit area radio personality, will play the role of Black McDonald, Belinda's father.

SET ON AN ISLAND off the coast of Nova Scotia, Canada, "Johnny Belinda" tells the story of a deaf-mute girl whose harsh world changes when a young doctor from the mainland teaches her sign language for the deaf. Raped by an islander, she gives birth to a son whom she calls Johnny Belinda.

When the father tries to steal the baby, she shoots him. She is eventually cleared by a court, however, and goes off to marry the doctor.

In the leading role of Belinda is Kim Cook (Westland). Others in the cast include Tim Holton (Birmingham), Richard Buzinski (New Baltimore), Elizabeth Gulick-Eastman (Detroit) and Kim Carney (Lansing).

The play is directed by Robert T. Hazzard, with special assistance in sign language by Harmon Beekman and Shelley Dwaiby. Set design is by Chris Phillips, costumes by Susan Lambeth and lighting by Reid G. Johnson.

Tickets are on sale at the Wayne State Theatre Box Office (Cass and Hancock), Detroit 48202 (telephone 577-2860), or at Hudson's, Oakland University Ticket Service, Highland Park College Bookstore and the WSU Bookstore.

Tickets for Wayne State University's eighth summer Theatre Festival, which opens July 5, go on sale Monday. Free brochures available on request by calling 577-2822.



Hal Youngblood of Bloomfield Hills (left), Kim Cook of Westland and Timothy Holton of Birmingham have leading roles in "Johnny Belinda."

German film slated

"Effi Briest," a German film, will be shown by the Detroit Institute of Arts Detroit Film Theatre on May 26 at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the museum auditorium.

The film is an adaptation of a 19th-century novel about a young woman married to a Prussian diplomat many years her senior. The film was directed by Rainer Werner Fassbinder and released in 1974.

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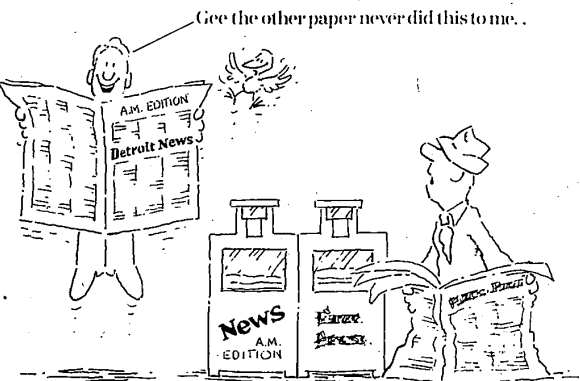
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