



# Getting Around

By ETHEL SIMMONS

A dinner that begins with sake—hot rice wine—and ends with green tea ice cream makes a delicious Japanese meal, as served at the Mikado restaurant in the Detroit Plaza.

But the meal, which also includes a special soup, salad and entree, is only the first half of an entertainment package in downtown Detroit.

The second half is the Michigan Opera Theatre production of "Showboat" at the Music Hall Center. This is the first time the Mikado and Music Hall have offered a dinner theater package.

I sampled the dinner half of the evening on a recent afternoon at the Mikado where I brought along my appetite, as requested. The only differ-

ence was that at lunch the entree, a combination of shrimp tempura and beef teriyaki, is not as large as the portions offered at dinner. (But I found both lunchtime portions quite ample).

DINNER THEATERGOERS also will find that after they park their cars next to the Music Hall they will be brought by hotel van to the Detroit Plaza at the Renaissance Center.

After dining at the Mikado, they will be whisked back to the Music Hall by van in time for the opening curtain.

The package includes the parking, transportation, dinner and theater. Hotel guests can take the van directly

# Green tea ice cream just part of package

to the Music Hall and return.

Diners may choose the tatami room or western-style room for their meal. I wanted to eat in the tatami room, where the tables are low and you sit at floor level comfortably, with your feet resting in a recess.

The original waitress in kimono explained the dishes as she served them. First there was Japanese egg flower soup, then succulent salad with sliced cucumbers and bay shrimp in a marinade of sake, vinegar, water and sugar.

THESE PREFACED the tempura—large shrimp, green beans and yam all quick-fried in a batter—served with a dipping sauce, a light soy sauce.

Beef teriyaki, a broiled steak, was served with Mikado's sauce, similar to the tempura sauce. Both sauces added a tang to the main dishes.

I've always been mad about tempura, and the Mikado's was very good. The beef teriyaki likewise was excellent, tasting well aged.

It was my first opportunity to try green tea ice cream and I certainly recommend it. Two big scoops, and the taste has a sweetness yet a refreshing flavor.

We opted for plum blossom wine at lunch, which is lighter than sake, but sake would be my choice at dinner.

THE CLASSICAL American musical

"Showboat" stars Barbara Meister as Magnolia, Ron Hunsman as Gaylord and Gloria Hodes as Julie.

Dinner theater evenings continue tonight, Sunday, Nov. 5 and Thursday-Sunday, Nov. 9-11. Dinner runs 5:30-6:30 p.m., with the show at 6:30, except Nov. 11 when the show at 6:30 precedes dinner.

It's nice to have an elegant evening

that metro Detroiters as well as visitors, can take pleasure in, featuring two of the city's finest dining and entertainment attractions.

The Mikado is the Detroit Plaza's most popular restaurant, and the Music Hall's Michigan Opera Theatre has received national acclaim for its productions.

# Early music group to visit OU campus

The Ensemble for Early Music, a group of five musicians who specialize in presenting music of medieval Europe authentically, will give a workshop and two concerts at Oakland University. There will be a noon concert lecture Thursday, Nov. 2, a workshop at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 4 and a concert Nov. 4 at 8 p.m.

The following Saturday, Nov. 11, they will give a 9:30 a.m. workshop at Old Christ Church, Jefferson at 175 in Detroit and a concert that same evening at 7 p.m. at the Detroit Institute of Art.

Members of the ensemble are

Johanna Arnold, soprano, Daniel Collins, countertenor; Tina Chancey, viola da gamba, vielle, rebec (all string instruments of the medieval period); David Hart, wind instruments and plucked string instruments; and Frederick Henz, harpsichord, portable organ, hardy-gurdy and other early instruments.

The workshop and concert on Saturday, Nov. 4 will be held in Verner Hall on the campus. There is an admission charge for the events. For information on the appearances of the Ensemble for Early Music, call the Performing Arts department at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 832-2731.

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