

Marygrove offers science fiction show

Theater

When the Marygrove Theatre opens for the September season, playgoers in the Detroit area will be offered an unusual new show "Venus Man."

Billed as a science fiction musical comedy — an offbeat combination at best "Venus Man" recounts the havoc created when a visitor from a distant planet lands a flying saucer in the midst of a South Carolina town and finds himself face to face with some of the most "God fearin', whiskey drinkin', possum huntin'" residents in the South.

Written by Detroit's Robert Miller, the play was 10 years in the making and is loaded with show tunes.

An architect, engineer, and inventor, Miller has designed a highly technical set which boasts such things as computers, laserlike lights, a flying saucer and a female robot named P1 — all Miller's own invention.

THE SHOW will be presented by the Science Fiction Theatre Guild, a new organization founded by Miller, his wife Mary and other Detroit area the-

ater professionals who are dedicated to bringing more science fiction to the stage in Detroit during the coming seasons.

The music for "Venus Man" will be conducted and arranged by music director Wendell Clark and is choreographed by Delores Bolling, formerly of the Christopher Ballet. Andy Hurley is directing.

The show stars Hal Doyle, Soula Raptis and John Ervin. Both Hurley and Doyle recently appeared in the Universal Studio's production "Somewhere in Time," filmed on Mackinac Island.

Showtimes at Marygrove Theatre, 8425 W. McNichols, will be at 8 p.m. Friday-Sunday, Sept. 7-9 and 14-16. Matinee performances Sept. 8, 9, 15 and 16 will be at 2 p.m. For further information call 854-1438.



Peaches (Soula Raptis) and Rufus (Hal Doyle) see a flying saucer in scene from musical "Venus Man" by Robert Miller.

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