

# B'ham thespians playing at Marquis Theatre

Four Birmingham residents will take their places on the stage of the newly renovated Marquis Theatre of Northville at 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22.

The event will be Lerner and Loewe's musical "Brigadoon," fourth production of Performing Artists Unlimited, a relatively new repertory company.

Bill Premin, founder of this company, will direct, co-produce and star in the role of Jeff Douglas, a New Yorker. While hunting in the Highlands of Scotland, Douglas and his friend, Tommy Albright, portrayed by Phil Cole of Novi, accidentally discover a small village named Brigadoon.

The village comes into being for only one day every 100 years.

BILL PREMIS is known to metropolitan Detroit theater audiences both as an actor and director. His acting credits include the role of Willie Loman in "Death of a Salesman," Allen in "Come Blow Your Horn," the Wazir in "Kismet" and Pellinore in "Camelot."

Premis has directed "Come Blow Your Horn," "Barefoot in the Park," "Enter Laughing" and "Death of a Salesman" for the Windsor Light Opera.

He also has directed for the Dearborn Civic Theater and the Jewish

Community Center.

Probably the best-known portrayal by this versatile artist is that of Tevye in "Fiddler on the Roof," a role he has recreated in four different theater groups for some 20 or more performances.

It was with this musical that Premis started his repertory company in 1977, the beginning of an idea he had carried for a long time—to bring high-quality, inexpensive theater to communities throughout the Detroit area.

HIS SUCCESS with "Fiddler on the Roof" prompted him to attempt a second production, "Camelot." With the combined efforts of Premis and Andrew Henderson, who is co-producer and musical and technical director, "Camelot" came to life on the stage of the Marquis Theatre.

Of nine performances, five were sold out. These performances marked the rebirth of a theater which had been doomed to be torn down and replaced by a parking lot.

In addition to Premis' theater activities, he is the purchasing director for the Troy Public School District and conducts the St. Colette Choir of Livonia.

Residing in Birmingham with her husband Bill is Judith Premis, lyric soprano, cast as the lovely Scotch lass, Fiona MacLaren.

A graduate of the University of Michigan School of Music, she is experienced in oratorio, opera and musical theater. Ms. Premis has been soloist with the Scandinavian Symphony, the Dearborn Choral Arts Society, Mt. Clemens Symphony and the Rackham Symphony Choir.

SHE IS PRESENTLY a music teacher in the Wayne-Westland Schools. Ms. Premis received a "Kenny" award for her outstanding performance of Tuppitt in Rodgers and Hammerstein's "The King and I" with the Dearborn Civic Theatre.

In Performing Artists Unlimited's first venture, "Fiddler on the Roof," she played Tevye's eldest daughter, Tzeitel. In the 1978 production of "Camelot" she portrayed Guinevere.

In April she revealed a flair for comedy in the role of Mrs. Banks in a Neil Simon comedy "Barefoot in the Park."

Relatively new to Birmingham and to the stage is Dean Unick, a self-employed, licensed carpenter and contractor. Unick attended the University

of Massachusetts before moving to Michigan.

He has appeared as the Duke in "Two Gentlemen of Verona" and Mortimer in "The Fantasticks."

Last October, he made his debut with Performing Artists Unlimited as King Arthur in "Camelot." Unick is cast as Harry Beaton, the would-be-suitor of Jean MacLaren, sister of Fiona, who threatens to destroy the magic of Brigadoon.

JOINING the repertory company for the first time this summer was Marjane Zolnier, wife of Birmingham stockbroker Robert Zolnier. Ms. Zolnier is the executive director of business and finance for the Troy Public Schools.

She and her husband have two children, a daughter, Chris, and a son, Steve, who are both presently college students. Ms. Zolnier will be one of the vendors and townfolk in "Brigadoon."

The entire cast and production staff are experienced persons who have been

selected from the entire Detroit area. Included in the cast are many family members from Birmingham, Livonia, Northville and Dearborn.

Choreography will be done by Coleen Kelly, a drama and dance instructor at Taylor Center High School in Taylor. Ms. Kelly has a dance degree in theater and dance from Eastern Michigan University.

MUSICAL DIRECTOR and technical director Andrew Henderson has conducted, composed and performed with such organizations as the Marjorie Lawrence Opera Theatre, National Education Television and the Dearborn and Livonia-Redford Civic Theatre groups.

This production of "Brigadoon" will be performed at 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22; at 2:15 and 8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 23; at 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 28; at 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29; and at 2:15 and 8 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 30.

For ticket information call 349-8110 or 349-8113 between 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

## Exhibition centers on Polish culture

An exhibition of photographs, books and other items portraying more than 1,000 years of Polish culture will be on display in the Oakland Center at Oakland University through Tuesday, Sept. 18.

The exhibition, entitled "The Panorama of Contemporary Polish Culture," shows a proud cultural tradition which featured a high level of civilization with numerous historical buildings as early as the 10th century A.D.

Presentation of films, slides and Polish music is included in the exhibit every day. For additional information call 377-2020.

The exhibit sponsored by the Oakland Center was organized and directed by Dr. Zofia Kafarski of Bloomfield Hills.

Display items are a courtesy of the Polish Consulate of Chicago and Mrs. Kafarski's own collection.

Two evening movie presentations are scheduled. "Copernicus" will be shown Thursday, Sept. 13, 8-9:30 p.m. at Oakland Center, Room 128, on the OU campus near Rochester.

A film on a Polish theme (title to be announced) will be screened from 6:30-8 p.m. Sunday at the same location.

## Former resident receives Emmy

Kevin Carlisle, who was known as Bruce Carlisle when he lived in Birmingham, was awarded an Emmy for choreography for the third Barry Manilow special on Sunday's telecast.

Mrs. Donald McGee, who now lives in Troy, said, "We were neighbors on Southfield Road in Birmingham."

His parents are Ted Carlisle of Studio City, Calif., and the late Ruth Carlisle, who died there recently.

Mrs. B. R. Jones, who still lives on Southfield Road, said, "I knew the family for a long time."

Mrs. Jones said her daughter-in-law, Marian Nevill Kirk Jones, taught Carlisle when he studied dance at The Community House.

"My daughter-in-law now teaches dance at Arizona State University and has him over for demonstrations now and then," she said.

Kevin Carlisle graduated from Birmingham Seaholm High School, went to Juillard School of Music in New York and became choreographer and business manager for the "Gary Moore Show." He also has been choreographer for the "Dean Martin Show."

Bruce Carlisle changed his stage name to Kevin because there already was a member of Actors Equity named Bruce Carlisle.

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## Benefit performances slated

A benefit for Muscular Dystrophy will be held at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the Community Arts Auditorium at the Michigan State Fairgrounds in Detroit. A Saturday matinee at 2 p.m. also is scheduled.

Saturday night's highlight will be the Disco Dolls. The performances will feature gymnastics, belly dancing, disco musicians and clowns. Proceeds will go to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

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