

2 stage veterans announced for show

Show-business veterans Rex Robbins and Polly Rowles join Jean Stapleton in the new comedy hit



REX ROBBINS

"Daisy Mayme" opening at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19. Robbins' numerous Broadway appearances include such hit shows as "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest," "Gypsy," and "Hello Dolly." He also will be seen this month in PBS's "American Short Story" series. Ms. Rowles' Broadway credits include "Forty Carats," "Auntie Mame," and "A Little Night Music." Supporting cast members in the George Kelly comedy are Margaret Hill Ritter, Kristen Lowman, Pamela Putsch (Ms. Stapleton's daughter), Will Love, and Doug Robinson. "Daisy Mayme" will run through March 16 at the Birmingham Theatre. Performances are Tuesday-Sunday evenings at 8 p.m.; Wednesday matinees at 1 p.m.; and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. For additional ticket information, contact the theater box office at 644-3533.



Alexis Smith plays the starring role of a madam in the national touring company of the musical "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas," opening March 4 at the Fisher Theater in Detroit.

Alexis Smith comes to Fisher

"The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas," a Broadway musical, will begin an open-ended engagement with a preview on Tuesday, March 4, at Detroit's Fisher Theatre.

Film and stage actress Alexis Smith will star in the national company coming to Detroit as a part of an 11-city, 14-month tour. Tickets for performances through April 19 will go on sale at the box office Sunday, Feb. 17. For further information call 872-1000.

The musical is produced by Universal Pictures and is based on a real incident involving the closing of a famed Texas brothel. The production won two Drama Desk Awards for the 1977-78 Broadway season.

Peter Masterson became interested in Larry L. King's magazine article about the closing of the Chicken Ranch in Lagrange, Texas, in 1973 and asked the journalist to work with him and composer/lyricist Carol Hall to musicalize the tale.

A COMPANY IS still playing in Houston where the show began; the

theater

Broadway company is going strong; the tour continues into 1981; and a movie version will be made this summer by Universal Pictures starring Dolly Parton and Bart Reynolds.

Alexis Smith was one of Hollywood's most glamorous and popular leading ladies during the '40s and '50s. She was the heroine opposite such leading men as Errol Flynn, Cary Grant, Clark Gable, Paul Newman and Humphrey Bogart. She won a Tony Award for her performance in the musical "Follies."

The cast also includes Larry Hovis from television's "Hogan's Heroes," William Hardy from the original production in Houston; and Marilyn J. Johnson who appeared in "Bubbling Brown Sugar" and will soon be seen in the film "Opening Night."

Tina Turner coming to db's

Vocalist Tina Turner returns Monday, Feb. 18, for a six-day engagement at db's Club in the Dearborn Hyatt Regency.

Known for her recordings as "A Fool in Love," and "River Deep, Mountain High," she is most identified with "Proud Mary."

Tina Turner's horizons have expanded since her early days in St. Louis with

Ike Turner and his Kings of Rhythm. The singer is from Nutbush, Tenn. Showtimes at db's are Monday-Wednesday at 8 and 10:30 p.m.; Thursday-Saturday are 9 and 11:30 p.m. Next up on the db's Club marquee will be song star Melba Moore, who comes in Feb. 25 through March 1. For further information call db's at 593-1234.

Performers share stage

Singer-songwriter Perry Leopold will join Detroit performer Lori Jacobs for a Winter Folk Concert at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 22, at the University of Michigan-Dearborn's Recreation Organization Center (ROC).

Philadelphia-born Leopold has been a warm-up act for Janis Ian, and Hall & Oates.

Lori Jacobs has been a Detroit performer for 12 years. She composes

nearly 80 percent of her own songs, which reflect her life, both past and present. Her second album "Everything Jake" contains the hit "Tugboat Annie." Ms. Jacobs is the author of a book of poetry "Have You Ever Felt Alone." For further information and ticket details, call the Student Activities Office at 593-5390.

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