

# Imogene wows 'em at Adat Shalom

By MARY GNIEWEK  
TV and stage actress Imogene Coca was in Farmington Hills Monday afternoon to receive a commemorative award at Congregation Adat Shalom.

Miss Coca, appearing with Rock Hudson at the Fisher Theatre in the musical comedy "On the Twentieth Century" cut short rehearsal the day before her Detroit premiere to attend the function sponsored by the State of Israel Bond organization.

Dressed in a blue and white dress with a corsage pinned to her pale purple jacket, Miss Coca carried a wide-brimmed hat and walked with a limp from an ankle injury suffered during rehearsal last week.

She was recognized for "her artistic talent and friendship to the people of Israel" with the commemorative plaque.

"Thank you so much," she told the audience. "I love Israel and I feel very involved and concerned. I'm very grateful. This means a great deal to me."

A petite woman whose brown locks reveal mere threads of gray, Miss Coca's career began on Broadway in "New Faces of 1934."

For years, she was Sid Caesar's partner on TV's "Show of Shows." Her comedy performances won her a Peabody award, five Emmy nominations and three Emmy awards.

She and Caesar were presented with an award from the Television Arts and Sciences for excellence.

"WE DON'T SEE each other often, but when we do we get along beautifully," Miss Coca said. "When we're together, we sit in dead silence — we don't talk to each other — we just look at each other and laugh."

"I have a deep affection for Sid. We have always been close friends."

She said their television show was well orchestrated.

"Most amazingly, there were no production problems. The scenery and costume changes were all handled well. It was miraculous."

Asked whether she preferred television or stage work, Miss Coca said, "I love both. It depends on what I'm doing and when I'm doing it."

Still wearing short hair with bangs — her trademark for years — Miss Coca described how she chose that style.

"It was really quite by accident," she said. "I wore a long permanent for years. One day a man came up to me and said my hair looked awful."

"He said he was a hairdresser and asked if he could cut my hair. He did and I liked it. He told me never to get another permanent and I didn't."

"He was my hairdresser for years. I can't find him now. I wish I could."

Also honored at Adat Shalom Monday was Mrs. Emma Schaver, the Israel Bond's 1979 Woman of the Year.

Mrs. Schaver, who maintains homes in Southfield and Jerusalem, has played a leading role in transmitting loan fund dollars to Israel.

## Senior housing to be discussed

The public is invited to a meeting which will discuss the senior citizen-family housing to be constructed at Drake and Freedom roads, Farmington Hills.

The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. June 18 in the Farmington Library, 23500 Liberty.

Speakers will include members of the Farmington Hills Housing Commission and Building Authority and the Farmington Area Commission on Aging.

The meeting is being sponsored by the League of Women Voters and the Farmington Area Advisory Council to the Commission on Aging.



Imogene Coca came to Adat Shalom this week to be honored for her artistic talent and friendship to the people of Israel. (Staff photo)

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