

2 1-acts: one good, one so-so

Performances of the Theatre Guild of Livonia-Redford production of a "Pair of Plays" continues at 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday at the Theatre Guild Playhouse, 15138 Beech Dale, just south of Five Mile Road in Redford. Tickets at \$2.50 may be reserved by calling 348-2817. By Debi Barsamian, special writer

"An Actor's Nightmare" and "Black Comedy" are both avant-garde comedies that impact the audience more directly than would more traditional selections. Both one-acts, presented by the Theatre Guild of Livonia-Redford, are curiously thought-provoking. The comedies are the culmination of the guild's second annual Summer Theatre Workshop. The better of the two plays, "An Actor's Nightmare," is the least well-produced. It is a disappointment. Generally, the play is well cast, and the performances are good. Ric Winfrey portrays George Spelvin, a confused accountant, thrust on a stage without knowing his lines or even what play he's in. Winfrey gives a strong performance. He is confused, humorously pathetic and genuinely entertaining. Other good performances are given by Nobla Abrams, Karen Collareno, David Tuck-

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INDIVIDUAL perfor mance are all presenta- tions. The ed, and the ent. effective in black out it part, coe- production and moti- and these eshed and Comedy." y cast is and per- Carol rival. It is Loomis' debut as an actress, is simply great. Loomis is a g funny character actress. You won't get enough of her.

DENNIS KLEINSMITH is a com-

pletely believable homosexual art dealer. Wendy Milano gives a good portrayal of an obnoxious debutante. Tom Loomis is wonderful as her overbearing father. Stephen Sell and Daniel Taylor present solid characters in their roles. Colleen Hackney is almost frightening as a vindictive drunk. Alan Madeline is really outstanding as the poor, bewildered artist trying to please everyone but only finding himself in more hot water. The set is well done. It is an important facet of this play, and it functions

well. Lighting for this show is complex and difficult. There are moments that lighting cues lag, but these only detract slightly from the quality of the show. Of the two scripts, I liked this one-act the least. Its basic gag becomes tedious, despite the fact the production is so good. Still, the play offers artistic and technical challenge, and the cast and crew rise to the occasion with flair. Congratulations to Judy Pierson. It is her debut in the role of director, and she shows great potential. Pierson can be proud of her first effort. This production is worth seeing.

Youth Symphony sets tryouts

Metropolitan Youth Symphony has slated auditions for its 1983-84 season Saturday, Aug. 27, at Nardin Park Methodist Church in Farmington Hills. Young music students from the Detroit area are being invited to join this new youth organization, which completed its premiere season last year. Interested music students in grades 5-12 should call for an audition appointment by Monday, Aug. 22. Contact persons are Martha Stefanko or Betty Nevey, at 561-7242.

Rehearsals are Saturdays from September-May at the Southfield-Lathrup High School on 12 Mile Road. Three formal concerts and a mid-year scholarship competition are planned.

The three conductors who shared the podium last season are returning. Leif Bjaland will conduct the symphony orchestra, Douglas Bianchi will lead the concert orchestra and Judith Culler again will guide the youngest musicians in the string orchestra.

5 Hats plays Mountain Jack's

The group 5 Hats will play jazz and rhythm and blues from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Mondays-Saturdays beginning

Monday, Aug. 29, at Mountain Jack's on Rochester Road in Troy. The band will continue through Oct. 1.



Singing under the stars

Soprano Kim Manasian and baritone Mark Vondrak will perform highlights from Broadway's best with the Oakway Symphony Orchestra, directed by Francesco Dilibasi. The show starts at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 23, in the open court of historical Botsford Inn, Grand River at Eight Mile, Farmington Hills. Tickets at \$8 are available from Hammill Music and Madonna College in Livonia, and from Botsford Inn and Executive Office Supplies in Farmington. The singers are members of Company Four and have performed with Michigan Opera Theatre and at the Birmingham Theatre.

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