

Hilberry Theatre to perform



Among cast members of "P.S. Porter to Springsteen" are Paul Michaels (left), Nicolò Hakim of Birmingham and Hal Adams. The production opens Thursday, Jan. 18, at Wayne State University's Studio 150.

upcoming things to do

ACTORS ALLIANCE

"The Fantasticks," longest-running musical in the world, will open Friday, Jan. 17, at the Actors Alliance Theatre Company in Southfield. Four performances will be held each week through Sunday, Feb. 23. Buckner Gibbs, who has performed with the Hilberry and the Missouri Repertory Theatre, will be featured as El Gallo. For ticket information, call 642-1326.

ACTORS TRAINING

A new six-week term of actor training programs for adults (age 16 and up) is offered at the Actors Alliance Theatre Company in Southfield. Acting classes for all skill levels are available for the Winter Term, which begins Saturday, Jan. 25, and runs through Wednesday, March 5. For a free brochure, call the theater from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays at 642-1326.

ENCORE CINEMA

"The Passenger" (1975), an Italian film directed by Michelangelo Antonioni, will be screened at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, at the Encore Cinema Film Series at Kingwood Auditorium at Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills. Jack Nicholson and Maria Schneider star. Admission is \$3, \$2.50 for students and senior citizens over 65. Filmmakers should use the 500 Lone Pine entrance. For a complete Encore Cinema schedule, call 645-3655.

BRITISH FARCE

"No Sex Please, We're British," a farce by Anthony Marriot and Alisdair Foot will be the second dinner theater production at Tutag's Supper Showcase in Warren. Performances will be Fridays-Saturdays from Jan. 17 through mid-March. Among cast members is Tom Stein of Birmingham as Mr. Needham. The production is presented by Robert McKenna and Richard Vreeland in association with Dennis Wickline Productions, Inc. Call 754-5555 for reservations and information.

AT NICKY'S

The Alexander Zonjic Quintet performs, in a return engagement, at 8 p.m. Mondays at Nicky's at the Top of Troy Building. The quintet plays at 9 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays at Alexander's in Detroit.

COMEDY-MYSTERY

Troy Players will present the comedy-mystery "Catch Me If You Can" at 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, Jan. 17-18, 24-25, and Friday, Jan. 31, at the Troy Community Center. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and students. For information and reservations call 879-1285 anytime.

CASTING CALL

Auditions for the Troy Players production of the musical "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, Jan. 20-22, at the Troy Community Center. Those auditioning will be asked to read from the show and to sing and dance. For further information, call 879-1285 anytime.

ACTORS COLLECTIVE

Detroit Actors Collective will present

ent its showcase production, "All of the Monkeys," at 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 21-22, and Thursday-Friday, Feb. 27-28, at Knox Auditorium at First Presbyterian Church in Birmingham. "All of the Monkeys" is an original play by professional Birmingham actress Jan Radcliff. The production is directed by Dr. Arthur Boer of the University of Detroit. For tickets at \$6, call 642-4838.

FILM FESTIVAL

The Richard-Burton-narrated documentary "A Wall in Jerusalem" (1969) will be featured at the second program in Adat Shalom's fourth annual Jewish Film Festival at 7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 12, in the synagogue's Youth Lounge, in Farmington Hills. Dan Greenberg, professor of film at Oakland Community College and the Observer & Eccentric's film critic, will introduce the films and comment on them. There is no admission charge. For more information, call 851-5100.

MUSICAL REVUE

"Be-Bop and Blues," presented by Theatre of the Arts, extends Friday-Saturday through Feb. 15 at the Allen Park Dinner Theatre at the Allen Park Motor Lodge. The musical revue highlights the bygone era of the '30s and '40s. "Rebecca" of West Bloomfield is the show's musical director and pianist. Elizabeth Porter of Bloomfield Hills is the female vocalist. Nick Beasanki and David McDonald are the male vocalists. For more information, call the Allen Park Dinner Theatre at 386-1300 or TAP Ltd. in Farmington Hills at 855-4293.

STUDIO 150

Area residents Eric Gill of Southfield, Nicolò Hakim of Birmingham, Thomas O'Connor of Birmingham, Eugene O'Connor of Bloomfield Hills and Linda Quiroz of Franklin are appearing in "P.S. Porter to Springsteen," an original musical revue opening Thursday, Jan. 16, at Studio 150 in the General Lectures Hall at Wayne State University in Detroit. Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays and 7 p.m. Sundays through Jan. 26. For ticket information, call the WSU box office at 577-2972.

IRISH MUSIC

The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, in conjunction with the O'Hare School of Ceili Dance in Plymouth, will present a program of traditional Irish music at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11, at the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick — metro Detroit's oldest Irish club — in Warren. John Early of Redford is club president. For tickets at \$5, call 537-3489.

DRUM, BUGLE

The Motown Invaders Drum and Bugle Corps is seeking boys and girls ages 12-18 to perform in a competition musical unit. Drum and bugle corps include amateur musical units, which travel and perform during the summer months, with national championships held in August at Camp Randall Stadium at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. The Motown Invaders is accepting memberships in brass, percussion and flags. For more information, call Kronk Recreation in Detroit at 898-8359.

The Hilberry Theatre has been invited to present three plays at the Edinburgh Festival in Scotland, Wednesday-Sunday, Aug. 20-24.

Howard Burman, director of the Wayne State University Theatres in Detroit, said plans are to present "Wenceslaus Square" by the late Larry Shue, playwright in residence at the Milwaukee Theatre, and two plays being written by WSU theater faculty members.

Emphasis of the Edinburgh Festival is on new works, and only new plays are eligible for awards. "Because we represent the United States, we feel it is also important for us to do American plays," Burman said.

"Wenceslaus Square" is about an American professor's return trip to Czechoslovakia six years after the 1968 Soviet invasion. The two works-in-progress also concern themselves with contemporary violations of human rights.

In "On a Refusal to Mourn the Death of a Hero," Howard Burman and his collaborator, N.C. Sorkin, use the hijacking of a busful of children to explore

the effects of terrorism and the exploitation of fear.

Von H. Washington, director of Wayne State's Black Theatre program, says his play, "The Operation," in a hospital to examine the problems of the black male and his efforts to forge a place for himself in American society.

Prior to the festival, the Hilberry company will present the three plays in rotating repertory for two weeks, Tuesday, July 15, through Saturday, July 26, in the Studio Theatre, downstairs at the Hilberry.

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"Going to be missed"

Rock star Rick Nelson, who died when his private plane crashed Dec. 30, was the headliner at a "Summer Solid Gold" concert last July at Meadow Brook Music Festival. "We were really proud to have had Rick Nelson here," said Jim Spittle, production director for the music festival at Oakland University in Rochester Hills. "I think he was one of the innovators in rock 'n' roll. He's really going to be missed." The sold-out concert at Meadow Brook was billed as a rock 'n' roll spectacular and also starred other nostalgic favorites: Joey Dee and the Starlighters, the Contours, the Diamonds, the Angels and the Shirelles.