Return Engagements' delightfully fun show

had products of the Birming-ham Player, Players, production of the large Players, production of the large Players, production of the large Players, the corner of large Pades and and Chestnut Speet, sputh of Maple, For ticket information call the box office at 644973 applies.

with "Return Engagements," a ro-minitic coincely by Bernard Stade, tild Birmingham Village Players open their season with a very funny, well, acted production that is irresis-tibly orgaging.

"The play's six scenes cover a period of 32 years as four couples at different times visit and then re-visit a room-in-a guest house near Stratord, Ontario. Their lives eventually interwine as the play humorously ex-

Iturns of love.

In the first scene, "Chemistry,"
Dalsy Lawrence (Cara Blelski) is an
aspiring, up-light actress which
checks into the guest house at the
night before her wedding, and finds
herself strangely attracted to the
clumsy bellboy, Raymond MacKay
(Ken Ebaugh), tie is the one person
who can make her laugh, and Raymond finds her dazning.

mond finds her dazzling.

In "Genes," the second scene, aging Pollsh immigrant Miranda Jablonski (Gali Sahney) longs to have a baby, and for that purpose has carefully selected and hired construction worker Joe Bristol (Steve Tadevic). Although a mutual love develops, pre-existing circumstances interfere.

In "Bester Period."

In "Passing Fancies," Fern and



Barbara **Michals**

Ollver Edwards (Joyce Clouthier and Paul Hoffmaster) are a sophisticated divorcing couple who spend a last weekend together to utilize their Stratiord theater tickets. Each plans to re-marry soon, and, as all this is very civilized and friendly, their newly-intendeds have also become acquainted. The latter, insipid dentits Henry Medcalf (Denial Wosch) and bubble-head Dawn Hammond (Diana McClain), turn up at the guest house with a surprise announcement.

The second act repeats each of the scene 20 to 25 years later. The well-constructed play not only has a wealth of witty dialogue but also offers characters so believable that one truly looks forward to the update on their lives.

Bleisk is polished and droll as the actress whose career and personal life both see-saw after her night at the guest house, and her comic timing is excellent. Ebaugh is very good with the difficult task of making the

endearing.

As Miranda, Sahney is wooderful at conveying the character's earthy warmth, extraordinary insight, and self-deprecating humor. She also-handles the Polish accent defly. Takevic is excellent at giving his character tenderness and depth, and his second act transformation into self-confidence works very well.

conlidence works very well.

Holfmaster is thoroughly convincing as the acerbic, egolistical Oliver,
a columnist overly impressed with
his own intellect. Despite a few line,
problems in the first act last Saturday night, he has a strong comic delivery. Clouthier gives Fern a clouding smugness, a humorous twist for a
psychology therapist who never
seems to fully understand her own
personal life.

Wrosch is amusing as the hope-lessly dull dentist who borders on nerdy, McClain's Dawn is the only one of the four-some who grows and matures in the intervening years, and she does an engaging transfor-mation from perky bimbo to confi-dent, capable wife and mother.

Director Robert Overmyer has the production well-paced, the characterizations well-developed, and the laughs flowing smoothly. It adds up to a very warm, delightfully fun show.

Barbara Michals is a retired Southfield English teacher. A the-ater critic for the last 17 years, she is an inveterate playgoer who regularly catches up on all the New York productions.

upcoming

things to do

Deadline for the Upcoming en-treatment calendar is three esthichead of publication. Send offis to be considered for publi-tion to: Keely Wyonik, Enter-imment Editor, the Observer & contrie, 30251 Schoolcraft ad Livonia 48150.

STRING QUARTET



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CINEMA DIRECTORY

IN HOOC PRINCE OF THEVES

er PG

University, will perform at Oakland University in Rochester 8 p.m. Sat-urday, Oct. 5. The concert will be in Varner Recital Hall on campus. Tickets are \$10, \$6 students and sen-ior citizens, 33 Oakland University students. Call \$70-3013 for ticket in-

ROAD RALLY
 Birmingham Bloomfield Art Asso-clation's second annual road rally
 "The Artisan 500" will be 5 p.m. Sai-urday, Oct. 5. Rally goers meet at
 the Birmingham Bloomfield Art As-sociation, 1516 S. Crashrook Road,
 rev up their engines and follow clues
 in search of public art in the Oakland
 area, then on to the Michigan Design

Center for buffet super, Call 644-0866 for information.

• MUSICA VIVALI
Juan Serrano, king of the Flamenco
guitar, with the Los Flamencos
Dance Theatre, 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct.
5, at the Smith Theatre, Oakland
Community College, Orchard Ridge
Campus (Orchard Lake Road, South
of 1-696) Farmington Hills. Tickets
117 general admission, students and
senior citizens 112. For ticket information call 473-2228.

● GRAND HOTEL

cabaret revue, "Simply Grand," at the Royal Oak Music Theatre, 316 West Fourth Street, downtown Royal Oak, 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 7. Tickets are \$15. Proceeds from the revue are to benefit the HIV/AIDS Advoare to benefit the HIV/AIDS Advo-cacy Project and Equity Fights AIDS. Tickets may be purchased in advance through all Ticketmaster outlets, the Royal Oak Music The-aire Box office 546-510, or through the Michigan Protection and Advo-cacy Service 1-800-292-5923 or 442-0520.

CLASSICAL GUITAR
 Classical Guitar Society of Michigan presents Gerald Klickstein, 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 6 at the Birming-

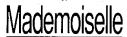
ham Unitarian Church, Lone Pine at Woodward in West Bloomfield. Tick-cts \$8 society members; \$12 non-members

CHAJES SALON

• CHAJES SALON
The Jollus Chajer Concert series launches its 1991-92 zeason with a receital by award winning planist Rina Dokshinsky, 3 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 6. This year the chamber music concerts comprising the "Sunday Salon Series" will be in the newly opened Janice Charach Epstein Museum/Gallery at the Jewish Community Center of Metropoitan Detroit, on the southwest corner of Maple and Drake in West Bloomfield. A pre-concert guided bour of the "Portralis" exhibit will be provided to

concert goers at 2:30 p.m. The con-cert is open to the public. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$7 for stu-dents and senior citizens. For infor-mation, call 661-1000 ext. 352.

CRANBROOK
Emmy Award-winning producer and writer Harvey Ovshinsky present a Screenwriter's Workshop, 7 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 8 at Thornica House, the former estate of Henry Scripps Booth. Called "How to Complete Your Scripp in Eight Months," the course is designed for aspiring screenwriters who want to complete a script and feel the need for more direction and motivation. The fee is 4306 for the eight-month session. For registration information, call, 645-3635.





Mademoiselle. Center Stage at Oakland Mall.

Everyone knows that fashion depends more on personal style than a large personal bank account, right? Well, to prove it once again, Jodie McKenzie, merchandising editor for Mademoiselle magazine, will show you how to put together all of the season's bottest looks with fashions and accessories found at Oakland Mall! New York beauty expert Gregory Paul Jordanoff will also show you the latest looks in hair and makeup, plus how to make those daytime-into-evening transformations sparkle this season.

Plus, guests at Mademoiselle's Center Stage will receive free gifts and a chance to register for exciting door prices. Fashion, fun, and free gifts!... Don't miss Mademoiselle-Center Stage at Oakland Mall!

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