

Attic's 'Abundance' features local talent

"Abundance," Beth Henley's saga of love, lust and betrayal in the Old West, features Kate Willinger of Southfield as Macon Hill, and Tom Suda of Lathrup Village as Professor Elmore Crome at the historic Strand Theatre in downtown Pontiac through March 22.

The Attic Theatre and city of Pontiac are collaborating to bring the Attic's mainstage production to the Strand.

To order tickets, call 875-8284 or 645-6666. The Strand Theatre is at 1 N. Saginaw in Pontiac.

In "Abundance," Henley leaves the Southern Gothic settings and her focus on "Miss Firecracker Crank" and Pulitzer Prize-winning "Crimes of the Heart" to explore the West.

Macon wants riches and adventure, freedom and love as boundless as the Western sky. Beth Johnson seeks her "one true one." They are mail-order brides, waiting to be picked up by their respective husbands-to-be, when they meet by chance at a train depot somewhere in the Wyoming Territory.

Willinger, who recently made her debut on the Attic stage as Arsinée in "The Misanthrope," plays Macon Hill. She is a former member of the Hillberry Company.



Thomas Mahard (as Willian Flan) gives a gift to Kate Willinger of Southfield (as Mrs. Willian Flan) in the Attic Theatre's production of Abundance at the Strand Theatre in downtown Pontiac through March 22.

Orchestra highlights 'Old Time Movies'

old-time movies have been done a lot on the West Coast by chamber orchestras where a single ticket to a benefit concert can cost \$1,000," DiBlasi said.

Leading off the evening's program, Ernest Bloch's "Concerto Grosso No. 1 in d minor" features orchestra violinist, Victoria Haltom, violist, Christopher Tew, and woodwind flutist, Diane Lord.

"Ernest Bloch is a composer who spanned classic, romanticism and into the modern. Concerto Grosso was written in 1925," DiBlasi said. "A music history points out that Bloch's style was based on a mystic identification with what he conceived to be the Hebrew spirit."

"As a composer, Bloch wrote a lot of folk tunes," said concertmaster, Haltom. "He's well known for his ethnic folk melodies. He's written a lot of famous, Jewish music."

LSO principal flutist, Robynn Rhodes' enthusiasm for "Suite for Flute and Jazz Piano" by Claude Bolling bubbles over as she describes the homogenization of two vastly different styles spotlighted in the second selection of the evening.

"THE FLUTE is baroque. The flute and jazz piano play off each other till in the second part there is harmony instead of separate melodies by the classic style flute and jazz piano, a melding of the two genres."

Joining Rhodes on stage is percussionist, Pam Manos, bassist, Dave Reese, and pianist, Diane Lord.

"The Bolling is unusual," said Haltom. "Because in jazz music there are no parts written for any instruments, no violin, no piano, no any instrument. The Bolling allows classical musicians to play in the style of jazz without any jazz training."

Adept at playing classical and jazz flute, Rhodes attended the Philadelphia Musical Academy and Wayne State University. She studied with Loren Lind of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and Ervin Monroe, principle flutist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Rhodes, who made her debut at Orchestra Hall in Detroit, toured China and Japan with the Wayne State University Symphonic Band. She performs around town with chamber and orchestral ensembles, and with the jazz group James Tatum Trio Plus.

The four year LSO member said, as a child she didn't even know what a flute sounded like, when she saw a classical flutist walk out on stage for a performance.

"I've tried lots of instruments," Rhodes said, "but when I saw it shine, and reflect the light on stage, that was it for me."

After intermission the lights go down and the projectors whirl with silent movies as the Livonia Symphony Woodwind Quintet takes center stage.

By Linda Ann Chomin special writer

If Scott Joplin's ragtime music sets your bones a-jumpin', and gratifies by silent screen legends like Charlie Chaplin, Laurel and Hardy, Fatty Arbuckle and Buster Keaton are your cup of tea, grab a bag of popcorn Friday night, March 20, and head for the "Old Time Movies" with the Livonia Symphony Orchestra.

The fun starts 8 p.m. sharp when the orchestra under the musical direction of Francesco DiBlasi accompanies the "Little Tramp" in an evening of antics that'll leave you wishing for those silent golden days of comedy at the Livonia Civic Center Library Auditorium, Farmington Road at Five Mile.

Tickets are \$10, (\$6 seniors/students) at the Livonia Civic Center Library, Madonna University, Schoolcraft and Levan, and Hammell Music, 15630 Middlebelt. Tickets are available at the door the night of the concert.

"IT WAS a lot of work to put this together. This week we went through 15 reels of film to get what we wanted," said DiBlasi. "We are using three projectors (run by Gordon Draper) to keep the continuity."

The idea to feature silent movies set to chamber music came from DiBlasi's daughter who plays with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.

"My daughter tipped me off. The

table talk

Radisson Plaza

March 19-21, Tango's European Bistro in the Radisson Plaza Hotel at Town Center, is offering dinner 5:30-11 p.m. and music by Kaleidoscope, 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. For information, reservations, call 827-1382.

Deli Unique

The results of Deli Unique's "Deli Primary" are in President Bush, Turkey with colelaw and broccoli on eye — hold the broccoli won the Republican race in a landslide. The Governor Clinton (Southern fried chicken on a roll with lettuce, tomato and a flower garnish) won in the Democratic race. The contest was held at The Deli Unique of West Bloomfield, The Deli Unique of Bingham Farms and The Plaza Deli of Southfield March 9-16. Patrons cast their vote by ordering the specialty sandwich named in honor of their favorite candidate.

The Lark

Russian feast, 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, March 30 and 31 at the Lark, 6430 Farmington Road, West Bloomfield. Fixed price dinner featuring the cuisine of the imperial Russian empire. Cost \$97.50 per person includes complete dinner with

vodka or champagne, but not other beverages, tax or gratuity. Call 661-4466.

Houlihan's

Houlihan's Restaurants have teamed up with Second Harvest National Food Bank Network and its member food bank affiliates throughout the country to collect canned foods. For each donation, Houlihan's is providing a Greenback, a \$2 off coupon to be applied to the cost of any food item through April 30. Canned goods collected at Houlihan's of Troy, 2650 Coolidge Highway, will be donated to Gleaners Community Food Bank.

Dinner theater

"Social Security" featuring Rae S. McIntosh of Birmingham, opens Friday, March 20 for a six week run at the Allen Park Motor Lodge. Cost \$21.50 per person includes coffee, tea, dinner and show. Dinner 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, show 8:30 p.m. Dinner 6:30 p.m., show 8 p.m. Sunday, March 29 and April 26. Call 386-6900 for reservations.

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Couples and groups March 21, 1992

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