Trinity House presents inspiring story

BY TAMI TARACCHI SPECIAL WRITER

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BYSCIAL WAITHS

Trinity House Theatre is a theater that rarely seems to stray from a theatrical challenge. The performance of "Juggers Rain" written by Ron Mark, now being presented there is certainly not an exception to their theatrical experimentation. You'll be whisked away to a world of surrealistic fantasy where you will learn that appearances are not always as they seem.

The play opens with the main character, Jugger, IP. W. Henry of Wextlandl, paying a bitaire tribute to the tree that sits in front of his house. This tree, we soon learn, is a symbol of survival for his family, We are introduced into the make-believe world that his family has chosen to live in. In their excentive world, their hard-ships and handicaps are overcome through faith and optimism. Their fantasy world has been created for them through the inspiring words of Jugger.

Jugger has belped them believe that they can sative things that others believed to be unattainable. His mentally retaired brother, Boogie, believes that he gives lectures at Harvard. Jugger's sister, Sissy, who suffers



"Jugger's Rain"

- Theater: Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W Six Mile Board (Northeast corner of Six Mile Road and I-275), Livonia
- CURTAIN TIMES 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through May 20, 3 p.m. Sun., May 7
- ► Tickets: \$7, calt (313) 464-

from arthritis, believes she is a ballerina. His other sister, Isbel who had to have a hysterectomy young in life, stuffs her dress with a doll and tells her family that

a doll and tells her family that she is preparant.
However, the one common dream that they all share is the return of their beloved father. Amost Each day they believe that he will return from work and be with his family. The sad truth is that he was burned alive in a forest fire many years earlier.
Their somewhat stable world is turned upside down when

Jugger's brother, Carney, (Guy Snyder of Livonia), a now famous television evangelist returns to re-move the lies that they have all come to believe. What he doean't realize is that the truths that they believe in is what has kept them happy, strong, and alive for many years.

atrong, and alive for many years.
While the characters at first seem too strange to be real people, we learn that they represent a family that truly is human. As Jugger said, "All people are flowers, with hair rooted in the earth, drinking up the truth. The body is a stem, strong as a tree—toes—blossoms opening to the sun like jewels." By this, we learn that this family has blossomed by being seemingly unhampered by being seemingly unhampered by the physical obstacles in their

While each performance is very good, you will be amazed by Lau-ra Gumina's performance as Veri-ty, Jugger's mother. The Redford resident steals every scene with her intense acting ability. P.W. Henry is inspiring as Jugger and Colleen Hayes is charming as Dulcy, Carney's wife.

Entertaining Choices

PUPPETS
"Jack & the Beenstalk," 2 p.m. Sat., April
"Joy, Livonis Ovic Center Library, 32777
Free Mile Road. Fun day with puppets 9
am. to 4:30 p.m. Sat., April 29 at the
larary, Fee \$30 p.m. Sat., April 29 at the
larary, Fee \$30 inchedes sta month membership in Detroit Puppeteers Guid. Rickets for "Jack & the Beenstale," \$3.
(313) 421-43000

ARCERSON THEATRE
"The First Year," through April 29, And son Center Theatre, Henry ford Musec Dearbon. Finday and Saturday por mances are at 8 p.m. Dinner theater ton available.
(313) 271-1620 eat. 383

ECWISH CHISTINGLE THEATER
"Golden Boy" by Calbord Odels opens for previews 8 p.m. April 26-27. Opening right 7 pm. April 30. The show continues through May 21 in the Aaron Defroy The-sure, Jewish Community Center, 6500 W. Maple, W. Bloomled. (910) 783-783.

MICIGRAN OPERA THEATRE
"Don Giovanni" continues to April 30 et
Masonic Temple, Detroit.
(313) 874-SINGI

Send items to be considered for publication to: Keely Wygonik, CELEBRATION OF SOME THE SCACOLART LOOKAGE STATES AND CONTROL OF SOME THE

(313) 404-44-45
PARRIMENTORINE RAND
Concert 3 p.m. Sun., May 7, Hamson High School, 12 Mile Road between Middlebet and Orchard Lake Roads, Farmington Hills. No charge. (310) 476-3014

Yokohama Mokuyokel and Ann Arbor Cantata Singers, 3 p.m. Sat., May 6, Unit-ed Methodat Church, 10000 Beach Daly, Rodford, No charge. (313) 937-3170

Youth theater

PAPER BAB PRODUCTIONS

"Rip Van Whide," an original musical weekends to May 25, Player Cale, 3321

E. Jefferson, Detroit, Tickets 87, include lunch, Saturdays lunch are noon, show I p.m.; Sandays, lunch i p.m., show 2 p.m.; 7800-824-8314

LSO presents jazzy concert

Livonia Symphony Orchestra presents "Jazz with Class," 8 p.m. Sat., May 6 at the James P. Carli ista. They will be joined for the Sat., May 6 at the James P. Carli ista. They will be joined for the symphony, under the direction of Joy Road, Livonia. Tickets are situdents. Tickets available at the door, Hammell Music in Livonia, Statudents. Tickets available at the door, Hammell Music in Livonia, Ticket surface, and Livonia. Ticket surface is the Jacobson's at Laurel Park Place, Madonna University, and Livonia Civic Center Library, For more information, cali (313) 421-1111.

James Dapogny's Chicago Jazz of Borodin.

Hrahms' Academic Featival Over-ture, Elsa's Procession to the Ca-thedral from Wagner's "Loheng-rin," three dances from the Gayne Bailet of Khachaturian, and Polo-vetaian Dances from Prince Igor of Borodius

Dance groups celebrate spring

Midwest Dance Theatre is pre-senting their spring concert, "Vi-vadanse" — a spectrum of dance, from fun-filled "Western Epi-sodes" to the classical "Pas de Quatre," 3 pm. Sun., April 30 at Mercy High School in Farmington Hills. Call (310) 660-9444 for tick-ct information. The company, under the direc-tion of artistic director Evelyn Krasson, is also re-staging Kres-son's original 1985 ballet, "Win-ter Mourning" in memory of the

son a original 1985 ballet, "Win-ter Mourning" in memory of the 10th anniversary of her son's death. Seemingly healthy, he died suddenly from a heart attack.

death. Seemingly healthy, he dies suddenly from a heart attack.

Michigan Classic Ballet Company presents, "The Seasons of Spring" 4 p.m. Sat., May 6, at the Smith Theatre for the Performing Arta, on Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge campus in Farmington Hills. Call (810 616-4349 for ticket information.

A ballet and jazz workshop will be offered 7-9 p.m. Priday, May 6, at the Smith Theatre. Mary C. Geiger, artistic director, and Renee Gramattico, choreographer and artistic director of An Arbor Dance, will conduct. The fee for participants who must be at least 12 years of agr, is \$15; the observation fee is \$5. Dancer can participate in the workshop, and strend the concert for \$20.

Michigan Classic Ballet, a participant in the MidStates Regional Dance America, was recently aversed as Honger Company. For

ticipant in the MidStates Region-al Dance America, was recently named an Honor Company. For the third consecutive year, Michi-pan Classic Ballet will perform on Gala Night at the MidStates Fes-tival, May 17-21 in Fort Wayne,



Director: Mary Geiger is Artistic Director of the Michigan Classic Ballet

Ind. The event is hosted by the Fort Wayne Ballet Company. Detroit Dance Collective is cel-ebrating its 15th anniversary with

ebrating ita 15th anniversary with family concerts, aponsored by Target, May 11-12 at Southfield's Millennium Center.
Tickets for a reception after Friday's concert are \$10. Call (510) 552-7050.
Concert highlights include Kramer's work, "Fine Folk," made possible through a Creative Artist Grant to Kramer by the Arts Foundation of Michigan in conjunction with Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs.

cil for the Arts and Cultural Af-fairs.

The piece features music by popular singer and musician Dean Rutlege, formerly with The Kingston Trio, and The New Christy Minstrels.

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Alidwest Dance Theatre
"Vivadanse"
Wass: 3 p.m. Sun. April 30
Where: Mercy High School.
29300 11 Mile Read,
Farmington Hills
Tickets: Adults 58, students
and senior citizens \$5. Call
(810) 669-9444

Michigan Classic Ballet
"The Seasons of Spring"
When: 4 pn Sai, May 6
Where Smith Theatro for the
Performing Arts, Cabland
Community College, Orchard
Ridge Campus, 27055
Orchard Lake Road
Famington Hills
Rickets Sa adults, S6 children
and senior citzens. Call (610)
661-4349

Henry Ford Community

Full Circle Dance Circle
When 2 on Tuesday, May 9 &
8 p.m. Wed., May 10
Where Adray Auditorium,
McKenze Fine Arts Center, on
campus, \$101 Evergreen,
Deathorn Dearborn. Tickets: \$6 adults, \$4 students,

senior citizens and children. Call (313) 845-6314.

Detroit Dance Collective
"Fifteenth Anniversary
Celebration"
When: 8 p.m. Thurs, & Fri., May

11-12
Where: Millennium Theatre
Center, J.L. Hudson Dr.
(adjacent to Northland Mail), Southfield. Tickets: \$15. Call (810) 552-

Sully's features blues band

By MARK GALLO
BYECKIL WHITES

Little Charlie & The
Nightcats, who will be appearing at Sully's, 4758 Greenfield,
Dearborn, April 27-28, (313)
465-1920, have been the most
consistently exciting jump-andswing blues band in America
for the past decade, beginning
with their 1937 Alligator
Records debut, "All The Way
Cray," something of a modernday classic.

With the release of their sixth
CD for Alligator, the brand
spankin' new "Straight Up,
they find the melves in the entable position of also being one
of the most popular blues
bands in the world. The reasons
why aren't difficult to surmise.

Little Charlie Baty and Rick
Estrin are celebrating 20 years
together in 1995, and show
drumming Dolny Strange has
been with the fellas for nearly
as long. Bassist Ronnie James
Weber, a vetrean of work with
Kim Wilson (Fabulous Thunderbirds) and West Coast starMark Hummel, is the third bassist. Jay Pettroon had the Job
until 1990, when he was re
placed by Brad Lee Section.
Weber signed on last year, and
adds standup acoustic base to
the stars of the show are

the arsenal
The stars of the show are

Baty and Eatrin, though. Two decades of alchemy is an elusive commodity that most bands would wheel and deal and steal for. Baty and Eatrin have it in spades. Little Charlie is one of a handful of the most impressive and influential guitarists, with his combination of Charlie Christian sawing. Speedy West rockabilly and Chicago and Texas blues licks — often sharing space in the confines of a single song. On "Straight Up," that's most conspicuously present in his showcase piece, "Gerontology," a classic West Coast swing number stamped with Baty's instantly recognizable fleetingered and compact guitar runs. Estrin, an impressive harp player, writes sly and compact songs perfectly formatted to the band's many expertly juggled styles. As a vocality in the side of Cab Calloway, and he's gut the biggest grin this side of Cab Calloway, and he's gut the biggest grin this side of Cab Calloway, and he's gut the biggest grin this side of Cab Calloway, and he's gut the biggest grin this side of Cab Calloway, and he's gut the biggest grin this side of Cab Calloway, and he's gut the biggest grin this side of Cab Calloway, and he's gut the biggest grin this side of Cab Calloway, and he's gut the biggest grin this side of Cab Calloway, and he's gut the biggest grin this side of Cab Calloway, and he's gut the biggest grin this side of Cab Calloway, and he's gut the band. Baty says they spend about half the year on the road. When they're back home in Callfornia, though "we be well as truly have a home life."

Between the U.S. and Europe, Little Charlie & The

Nightcats play somewhere around 250 nights a year. It's no surprise then that a couple of British blues mags named them the Best U.S. Touring Bend two

rear running.

It's also no surprise that Estrin won a W.C. Handy Award (the blues version of the Gramps) for witting the Song of the Year ("My Next Ex-Wile") last year. The constant road exposure has paid off in other ways, too.

When Baty and Estrin met, at a party, Baty was a harp player just beginning to spend more time on guitar. When he heard Estrin, the playing of the guitar took on more of an immediacy.

mediacy.

The Nightcats — named after an early 1950s Little Watter band — tour as a stripped down and ready to roar quartet. They bring that big band power quartet to town this weekend.

"Sully's has become one of our favorits clubs," Little Charlie said. "It's the Detroit market our."

icy coletaine May De Silval

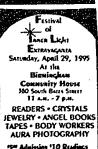
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If you have a question or comment for Mark Gallo, call him at 953-2047, mailbox number 1899, on a touch-tone phone, or write him at 17he Observer Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 2016.

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val, May 17-21 in Fort Wayne, Ind.



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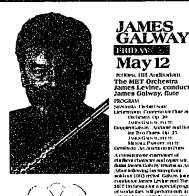
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