



David Caruso and Linda Fiorentino star in the psychological thriller "Jade" opening Friday at metro Detroit movie theaters.



Embark on an exciting exploration of the human brain at "It's All In Your Head: An Exhibit About the Brain," opening at Cranbrook Institute of Science.



Lyric Chamber Ensemble's "All that Jazz" program at the Gem Theatre features guitarist Michele Ramo and vocalist Heidi Hepler, pianist Dennis Tini and vocalist April Arabinn. Call (810) 557-1111 for ticket information.



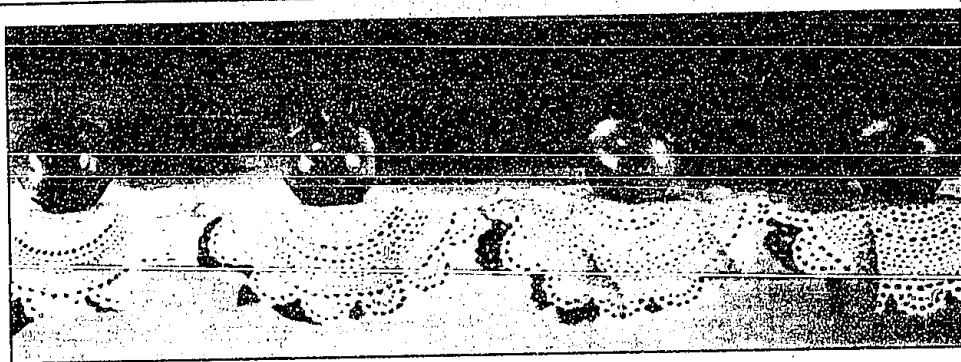
Hot tix: Dance Nounce presents three concerts at the Millennium Theatre Center in Southfield, Oct. 13-15. Call (810) 552-7000 for ticket information.

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1995 • PAGE 1 SECTION B



New features join Our Town celebration

BY MARY KLEMIC • STAFF WRITER

Our Town turns 10 this year, and it seems everyone is taking part in the celebration.

The annual event has a lot of "firsts" in 1995 — new features and artists who haven't been in Our Town before.

For the first time, for example, the Our Town committee will publish a guide to 40 galleries in Birmingham, complete with map. The free guide, "Art in the Heart of Birmingham," will be distributed when the show opens. Merchants and hotels are welcome to reproduce the guide for their customers.

"It's our concept of being a good neighbor to downtown Birmingham," Sally Gerak, who with Judy Istock co-chairs the 10th anniversary Our Town steering committee, said of the guide.

"We're hoping to broaden the impression that if you think art in this part of the state you think downtown Birmingham (along with) the Detroit Institute of Arts."

Our Town presents works by artists from all around Michigan. It is scheduled Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 19-22 at The Community House in Birmingham. Admission is free. Proceeds from sales and special events will benefit The Community House.

Visitors to the 1995 Our Town will find a bonanza in many ways. Besides striking a rich mine of fine art, they will be able to tap into "Art Lovers' Bonanza," a new feature this year. Art Lovers' Bonanza offerings include talks and a book signing. All are free and presented

CELEBRATION continued inside



Our Town sights: "Apple Foursome" by Elaine Cusumano of Troy and "Birmingham Porch" by Marilyn Gorman of Birmingham are among the works by Michigan artists featured in the 10th annual Our Town exhibit and sale, opening next week in The Community House in Birmingham.

Art Lovers' Bonanza Call (810) 644-5032 for reservations.

EVENTS

Displaying Art In Your Home — Rick Cammery of Au Courant discusses interior design considerations 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20. Reservations are required.

Armchair tours — of eight Birmingham galleries, in which owners discuss the who and why of their selections. Reservations are required.

Thursday, Oct. 19:

• Ray Fleming of the Robert Kidd Gallery, contemporary painting and sculpture, 10-11 a.m.

• Tom Hasted of The Hasted Collection, photography, 11 a.m. to noon.

• Pam and Tim Hilt of The Hilt Gallery, contemporary and folk art, 1-2 p.m.

• Mary Wright of Xochitl Gallery, contemporary Michigan art, 2-3 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 20:

• Elizabeth Stone of the Elizabeth Stone Gallery, children's book illustrations, 10-11 a.m.

• Elaine Yaker, Marla Bowman and Nanette Carmick of Pierce Street Gallery and Pierce Street Portraits, photography and children's literature, 11 a.m. to noon.

Saturday, Oct. 21:

• Laurie Tennant of The Bell Gallery, contemporary variety, 10-11 a.m.

• Pierre Bittar of the Pierre Bittar Gallery, impressionistic paintings, 1-2 p.m.

Mini-gallery talks — by 41 Our Town exhibitors 10 a.m. to noon and 2-4 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Oct. 19-21.

Book signing — West Bloomfield artist Chris Urwin will sign her book, "Artistic Impressions One," 2-4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19. The book includes several Our Town exhibitors. Sales will benefit The Community House.

Our Town

When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 19-22

Where: The Community House, 380 S. Bates in Birmingham.

Reservations: Required for some events, call (810) 644-5832.

Familiar features:

• **Gala Preview** 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 18. Tickets are \$175 (Benefactor) and \$100 (Friend). Call for reservations.

• **Professional Women's Breakfast** 7:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 19. Admission is \$5, call for reservations.

• **Art & Jazz VI** 6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20. Tickets \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door.

• **Artists' reception** 5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 21.



Chinese Influence: This portion of the painting by Fran Nicolson of Birmingham shows the rich color and detail of the work. Our Town also features a variety of events, including talks by participating artists, gallery owners and an interior designer.

Humorous musical enjoyable for all ages

BY LIBBY PATNEY
SPECIAL WRITER

There's hardly a more perfect way for youngsters and adults to spend an afternoon than with the enthusiastic actors and actresses of "Once Upon a Mattress." They serve lunch, put on a great performance, and finish with singing a snappy "thanks for coming" tune.

The musical begins with a procession of the characters from this humorous tale. This provides the audience with a sneak preview of the story. Among the characters is Winifred, the princess who must be tested for sensitivity if she is to marry Prince Dauntless. In the Sunday performance, Winifred is played by Shelley Yager, a sophomore at Ferndale High School. (The show is double cast. Saturday's Winifred is Kimberly Falter of West Bloomfield.)

"Once Upon a Mattress"

9070000 Paper Bag Productions Ltd. presentation at the Players Club, 3321 E. Jefferson, Detroit.

Shows: 7:30 p.m. (Sat.) show 1 p.m.

Saturdays, 1 p.m.

(Sun.) 2 p.m. (show)

Sundays through Dec. 17.

Weekend \$7, includes

lunch. Call (810) 459-

7549 for reservations.

School: She is in the Sunday cast as Lady Larken a lady in waiting. All the young women in the play "ladies in waiting."

They're waiting for the Prince to get married

Fager not only steals the prince's heart, but she steals the show with her exceptional acting abilities. She knows how to deliver humor with wonderful facial expressions and her voice provides a sweet instrument for the songs she sings.

Another actress of note is Kim Adams, a freshman at North Farmington High School. She is in the Sunday cast as Lady Larken a lady in waiting. All the young women in the play "ladies in waiting."

They're waiting for the Prince to get married

so they can get married. A regular with Paper Bag Productions, Kim has a wonderful voice and is truly believable as a forlorn maiden in need of marrying Sir Harry, played on Saturdays by Jeremy Nabors of Birmingham, and on Sundays by Dane Joseph of Southfield.

Dave Langham of Novi gives the third outstanding performance in the Sunday production. He's delightful as the "mute" King who is "over ruled" — make that nagged — by the Queen, played by Laura Nanes of Southfield.

Other area youngsters who add to the week-end productions include Alyson Adams (Farmington Hills), Scott Lenter (West Bloomfield), Erin Martell (Livonia), Susan Mentzer (Beverly Hills) and Jessica Falter (West Bloomfield).

Acting isn't the only outstanding feature of this production. The costumes are rich and

MUSICAL continued inside



Talented cast: Members of the Sunday cast of "Once Upon a Mattress" are (from left, first row) Martina Ross, Dave Langham, Shelley Yager, Brett Beckerson, Laura Nanes and Jennifer Dau. (From left, second row) Erin Martell, Dane Joseph, Megan O'Brien, Kim Adams, Annette Janik, Alyson Adams, Courtney Cagnon, Meghan Duke, Elizabeth Towell and Jennifer Fraser.