SPECIAL EVENTS

'Kindertransport' riveting drama

Jewish Ensemble Theatre pre-sents "Kindertransport" through New 3 in the Aaron DeRoy The-atre at the Jewish Community Center, 660 W. Maple, West Bloomfield, Tickets \$13 to \$23, call (810) 788-2900 or Ticketmas-ter (810) 645-6666.

BY HELEN ZUCKER SPECIAL WRITER

BY HEEN ZUCKER
SPECLUA WINTER
The Jewish Ensemble Theatre
production of "Kindertransport,"
by Diane Samuels, is riveting.
Directed by Rivi Yaron, the play
could use a quicker tempo in Act
'II, but much of it is powerful.
Using one terrific set, a storage
room that does duty as a train
station and a living room,
designed by Melinda Pacha, the
cast delivers half a century of
madness, guilt and courage.
Dana Powers Acheson is
remarkable as Eva, the child
who leaves home at 9. She takes
one suitcase. All that's permitted
is clothes, but she manages to
keep her harmonica, a Passover
book, and the Rat Catcher book.
The horrible illustrations haunt
her until she becomes a young
woman, adopted, happy in her
new life; so happy she doesn't
want to go to the U.S. with her
mother who has miraculously
survived. Acheson is appealing
in her outbursts, her brightness,

REVIEW

her honesty with Lil, the Englishwoman she comes to love. Acheson has presence.
Cheryl Leigh Williams does a wonderful job as Helga, Eva's mother. Helga sends her daughter to England, wanting her to be self-sufficient enough to wait out the war. Williams looks like uppor-crust German, very blonde, very pretty, very well-dressed. When Helga turns up after the war, she's still blonde, but Williams gives us a woman who's been turned inside out. She leaves for 'Uncle Otto's in America because there is nothing here.'
Hillary Ramsden as Evelyn, (Eva who now has a grown daughter) wipes dust from chairs, glasses, tables, as if she were attacking old enomies. Her outbursts verge on hysteria.
Evelyn is trying to find someone to blame; she opens Pandara's box, a trunk full of old letters from her German mother, and tears them up, burying her past, calling it ashes, leaving her daughter without a heritage. At the end she gives her the harmonica, the Passover book, and the Rat Catcher book she arrived with, but her daughter doesn't

know what she's got.
Elif Celibi is full of confidence
as Faith, Evolyn's daughter.
Celibi looks like someone who
was raised in freedom and never
thinks about it.
She pokes about in jeans, discusses different apartments,
asks if she's Jewish. Reminded
of her baptiam, she nods. She
helps clear the room of silver and
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of her baptism, are hods. Sne helps clear the room of silver and glass.
Chuck O'Connor does a fine Job as the Rat Catcher, a creature who screeches at windows. He plays screaming conductors, mailmen, and all sorts of persona with passion.
Evelyn O'nhech does a wonderful job as Lil, the warmhearted, practical Englishwoman who meeta Eva at the train station in 1938, and cares about her for the rest of her life. Lil is the serons heart of the play. Terrible forces which around her. She manages to evacuate Eva to the country at one point, but Eva returns, and Lil never loses her balance. Orback manages to convey all this.

As Artistic Director of JET.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, Oct. 25
"THE ASSOCIATE"
Contemporary comedy about an investment banker who devises a bizaria way to find success in the "Old Boys" network. Stars Whoopi Goldberg.

LOOKING FOR RICHARD
All Pacino dons three hats as creator, director and stor of Shakespeare's gripping tale, *Richard III.* Størs Pocino, Winona Ryder, Alec Baldwin.

"TO GILLIAN ON HER STIH BIRTHDAY

"TO GILLIAN ON HER 37th BIRTHDAY"
A romantic comedy/drawa bootu of ather
who discovers that his obsession with his
late wile has damaged his relationship with
his teenage daughter. With his help of
friends and family he learns to let go of the
past to regain his daughter? Wow. Stars
Peter Gollagher. Kathy Baker.

"HIGH SCHOOL RIGH"
The story of an idealistic teacher who leaves a private school to teach at Marion Barry High—an liner city school so tough that it has its own cometery. Stars Jon Lovitz. Tia

MICHAEL COLLINS"

The story of the legendary Irish leader who led the fight against England's Black & Tans to free Ireland from British rule Stars Llam Necson and Julia Roberts.

-BURYTVING PICASSO*

EURYVINIC PICASSO
Exclusively at the Main Art Theotre, on examination of the personal life of the legendary modern arrist Pable Picasso. Stars Anthony Hopkins.
Scheduled to open Monday, Oct. 28
OFF THE WALLA GERATIVE JOURNEY
The Detroit Film Theotre, 5200 Woodward, October 13(13), 5832 730, will hold, a weak

Detroit (313) 832-2730, will host a sneak preview of this new documentary film short by Harvey Ovshinsky 7 p.m., Monday, Oct. 28. *Off the Wall* tells the story of an unusual collaboration between Ovshinsky and his close friend, Michigan artist Arthur Schnelder, Ovshinsky will discuss the film after the screening. Admission is \$5.50.

Scheduled to open Friday, Nov. 1

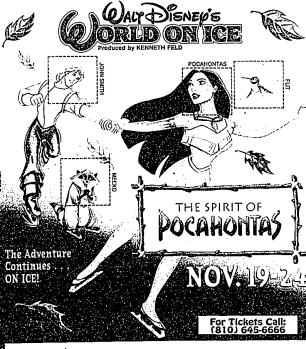
"THE GRASS HARP"
This coming of ogen saga is adapted from a Truman Capote novel, about a teenage boy who goes to live with its mailed aunts and call with the accreting people of a small Southern town. Stars Walter Matthau, Jack Lemmon, and Slays Spacek.

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Describe for entries: 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31. Twelve whylers will be picked in a ra-p.as. performance. Wissers who do not call by Nov. 13 will forfelt their Scients. Emp

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Orbach manages to convey all this.

As Artistic Director of JET, much of the credit for this production goes to Evelyn Orbach. Sound Designer R. Thomas Bray has put together a poignant medley of train whistles, bells, and night sounds. Kudos to all.

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