OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

National Amusements Showcase Cinemas

Showcase Auburn Hills 1-14
2150 N. Opdyke Rd.
Between University & Walton Blvd
248 373 2660
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. Sat.
THRU THURSDAY
NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP TOMCATS (R)
SUN. 1:10, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
MON-THURS 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
NP SPY KIDS (PG)
SUN. 1:00, ::00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00
MON-THURS 5:00,7:00, 9:00
NP HEARTBREAKERS (PG13)
SUN. 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50
MON-THURS 4:20, 7:10, 9:50
NP THE BROTHERS (R)
SUN.12:45, 2,50, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
MON-THURS 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
NP THE MEXICAN (R)
SUN. 1:20, 4:00, 6:30, 9:20
MON-THURS 4:00, 7:35, 9:20
ENEMY AT THE GATES (R)
SUN. 1:10, 4:15, 7:25, 10:00
MON-THURS 4:15, 7:25,10:00
EXIT WOUNDS (R)
SUN. 12:50, 3:00, 5:15, 7:25, 10:00
MON-THURS 5:15, 7:25, 10:00
15 MINUTES (R)
7:35, 10:10
GLADIATOR (R)
SUN. 12:45, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50
MON-THURS 4:00, 6:50, 9:50
SEE SPOT RUN (PG)
SUN. 1:00, 3:05,5:10
MON-THURS 5:10
RECESS: SCHOOL'S OUT (G)
SUN. 12:55, 2:45
MON-THURS, 5:00
HANNIBAL (R)
SUN. 4:30, 7:15, 10:05
; MON-THURS 7:15, 9:55
CHOCOLAT (PG13)
SUN. 1:25, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10;
MON-THURS 4:10, 6:40, 9:10
CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON (PG13)
SUN. 1:35, 4:05 6:30, 9:00;
MON-THURS 4:05 6:30, 9:00
TRAFFIC (R)
SUN. 1:05, 4:00, 6:50, 9:45;
MON-THURS 4:00, 6:50, 9:45
CASTAWAY (PG13)
SUN. 1:15, 4:00, 6:45, 9:35;
MON-THURS 4:00, 6:45, 9:35

Showcase Dearborn 1-8
Michigan & Telegraph
313-561-3449
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat.
THRU THURSDAY
NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP TOMCATS (R)
1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:50
NP SPY KIDS (PG)
1:05, 3:05, 5:05, 7:05, 9:05
NP THE BROTHERS (R)
12:45, 1:15, 2:35, 3:25, 5:05, 5:30, 7:20, 7:50, 9:40, 10:10
EXIT WOUNDS (R)
1:30 4:30,7:10, 8:10, 9:30, 10:15
SEE SPOT RUN (PG)
12:30, 2:25, 4:20, 6:15
DOWN TO EARTH (PG13)
1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:40, 9:45
NP AMERICAN DESI (NR)
1:45, 4:00 6:45, 9:00

Showcase Pontiac 1-5
Telegraph-Sq. Lake Rd. W Side of Telegraph
248-333-3241
Bargain Matinees Daily
+ All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Thurs, Fri. & Sat.
THRU THURSDAY
NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP SPY KIDS (PG)
SUN. 1:00, 3:00, 5:00,7:00, 9:00
MON-THURS 5:00, 7:00, 9:00
NP HEARTBREAKERS (R)
SUN. 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:25
MON-THURS 4:10, 6:50, 9:25
NP THE MEXICAN (R)
SUN. 1:20, 4:00, 6:05,9:15
MON-THURS 4:00, 6:40, 9:15
EXIT WOUNDS (R)
SUN. 1:10, 3:10, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
MON-THURS 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
CHOCOLAT (PG13)
SUN. 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:35
MON-THURS 4:20, 7:10, 9:35

Showcase Pontiac 6-12
2405 Telegraph Rd. East side of Telegraph
810-334-6777
Bargain Matinees Daily
+ All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat.
NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP O BROTHER WHERE ART THOU? (R)
SUN. 12:40, 2:45, 4:50,7:10, 9:25
MON-THURS. 4:50, 7:10, 9:25
NP TOMCATS (R)
SUN. 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:30
MON-THURS 5:20, 7:30, 9:30
NP THE BROTHERS (R)
SUN. 12:45, 3:00, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00
MON-THURS 5:10, 7:40, 10:00
ENEMY AT THE GATES (R)
SUN. 1:20, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
MON-THURS 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
15 MINUTES (R)
SUN. 12:50, 2:50, 5:00
MON-THURS 5:00
SEE SPOT RUN (PG)
SUN. 12:50, 2:50, 5:00
MON-THURS 5:00
CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON (PG13)
SUN. 1:30, 4:10, 6:40, 9:20
MON-THURS 4:10, 6:40, 9:20
TRAFFIC (R)
SUN. 12:55, 4:00,6:50, 9:40
MON-THURS 4:00,6:50, 9:40

Quo Vadis
Warren & Wayne Rds
313-425-7700
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows Until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Wed.Thurs. Fri. Sat.
NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP TOMCATS (R)
SUN. 1:00, 3:10, 5:15, 7:25, 9:35
MON-THURS 5:15 7:25, 9:35
GLADIATOR (R)
SUN. 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
MON-THURS 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
NP THE BROTHERS (R)
SUN. 1:45, 4:35, 6:45, 9:00
MON-THURS 4:00, 6:45, 9:00
EXIT WOUNDS (R)
SUN. 1:15, 3:25, 5:35, 7:45, 9:55
MON-THURS 5:35, 7:45, 9:55
GET OVER IT (PG13)
9:45
DOWN TO EARTH (PG13)
SUN. 1:05, 3:05, 5:15, 7:35, 9:40
MON-THURS 5:30, 7:35, 9:40
RECESS: SCHOOL'S OUT (G)
SUN. 1:40
MON-THURS 4:30
CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON (PG13)
SUN. 4:30, 7:15
MON-THURS. 7:15

Showcase Westland 1-8
6500 Wayne Rd.,
One blk S. of Warren Rd.
313-729-1060
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows Until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Wed.Thurs. Fri. & Sat.
NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP SPY KIDS (PG)
SUN. 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:15, 9:10
MON-THURS 4:50, 7:15, 9:10
NP HEARTBREAKERS (PG13)
SUN. 1:00, 4:15, 6:30
MON-THURS 4:15, 6:35, 9:30
NP THE MEXICAN (R)
SUN. 1:25 4:30, 7:10, 9:45
MON-THURS 4:30,7:10, 9:45
ENEMY AT THE GATE (R)
SUN. 1:00, 4:20, 7:00, 9:50
MON-THURS 4:20, 7:00, 9:40
15 MINUTES (R)
SUN. 1:15, 4:15,6:30 9:15
MON-THURS 4:15, 6:30, 9:15
SEE SPOT RUN (PG)
SUN. 12:45, 2:45, 4:45
MON-THURS 4:45
HANNIBAL (R)
6:45, 9:35
CHOCOLAT (PG13)
SUN. 1:30, 4:05, 6:30, 9:05;
MON-THURS 4:05, 6:30, 9:05
TRAFFIC (R)
SUN. 2:00, 5:00, 8:00
MON-THURS 5:00 8:00

Star Theatres
The World's Best Theatres
Bargain Matinees Daily $5.00 All Shows Starting before 6:00 pm
Now accepting Visa & MasterCard
"NP" Denotes No Pass Engagement

Star Great Lakes Crossing
Great Lakes Shopping Center
248-454-6366

NP THE GLADIATOR (R)
12:00, 3:10, 6:30, 9:30
NO VIP TICKETS
NP SOMEONE LIKE YOU (PG13)
12:10, 1:20, 2:20, 3:30, 4:30, 5:35, 6:40,7:45, 8:50, 9:55
NO VIP TICKETS
NP SPY KIDS (PG)
11:30, 12:40, 1:40, 2:50, 3:50, 5:00, 6:00,7:10, 8:10, 9:20, 10:15
NO VIP TICKETS
NP THE BROTHERS (R)
12:05, 1:35, 2:25, 3:55, 4:45, 6:20, 7:05, 8:40, 9:30
NO VIP TICKETS
NP SAY IT ISN'T SO (R)
1:10, 3:35, 5:50, 8:00, 10:15
NO VIP TICKETS
NP HEARTBREAKERS (PG13)
11:35, 12:30, 2:10, 3:20, 4:50, 6:15, 7:30, 9:00, 10:10
NO VIP TICKETS
ENEMY AT THE GATES (R)
12:15, 1:45, 3:15, 4:35, 6:05, 7:25, 9:05, 10:20
EXIT WOUNDS (R)
11:55, 3:05, 5:25, 6:35, 7:55, 8:55
15 MINUTES (R)
11:40, 2:35, 5:20, 7:50, 10:30
GET OVER IT (PG13)
12:45, 3:40, 10:30
THE MEXICAN (R)
1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:35
SEE SPOT RUN (PG)
11:50, 2:05, 4:20
DOWN TO EARTH (PG13)
11:45, 2:15, 3:00, 5:20, 7:45, 8:50, 10:15
ENEMY AT THE GATES (R)
12:15, 3:15, 6:20, 9:15
15 MINUTES (R)
4:30, 10:20
CAVEMAN'S VALENTINE (R)
1:30, 7:30
GET OVER IT (PG13)
12:30, 6:00
THE MEXICAN (R)
2:00, 3:00, 6:00,9:00
SEE SPOT RUN (PG)
1:30, 4:00
DOWN TO EARTH (PG13)
1:00, 3:30, 5:45, 8:15, 10:30
RECESS (G)
11:30
HANNIBAL (R)
11:30, 4:45, 10:20
TRAFFIC (R)
12:10, 3:30, 6:45,10:15
CROUCHING TIGER HIDDEN DRAGON (PG13)
1:10, 4:00, 6:40, 9:30
CHOCOLAT (PG13)
12:00, 2:45, 5:40, 8:40

United Artists Theatres
Bargain Matinees Daily, for all shows starting before 6:00 PM.
Same day advance tickets available.
NV - No V.I.P. tickets accepted

United Artists West River
9 Mile,
One Block West of Middlebelt
248-788-6572
ALL TIMES SUN-THURS

SOMEONE LIKE YOU (PG13)NV
1:10, 4:05, 7:05, 9:40
TOMCATS (R) NV
1:05, 3:15, 5:25, 7:45, 10:05
SPY KIDS (PG) NV
12:45, 3:00, 5:20, 7:30, 9:50
THE BROTHERS (R) NV
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:20, 9:45
HEARTBREAKERS (PG13) NV
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
EXIT WOUNDS (R)
12:40, 2:55, 5:10, 7:30, 9:55
ENEMY AT THE GATES (R)
12:55, 3:45, 6:45, 9:35
DOWN TO EARTH (PG13)
12:50, 3:05, 5:15, 7:25, 9:30
SEE SPOT RUN (PG)
12:35, 2:50, 5:05, 7:15
TRAFFIC (R)
9:25

NP HEARTBREAKERS (PG13)
12:40, 3:30, 6:50, 9:40
NP SAY IT ISN'T SO (R)
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20
ENEMY AT THE GATES (R)
12:20, 3:00, 6:10, 9:00
EXIT WOUNDS (R)
1:50, 3:40, 6:15, 8:40
15 MINUTES (R)
7:40, 10:10
THE MEXICAN (R)
1:10, 4:10, 7:20, 10:00
SEE SPOT RUN (PG)
12:50, 3:20, 5:40
CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON (PG13)
1:50, 5:00, 8:20
TRAFFIC (R)
12:10, 3:10, 6:30, 9:30
CHOCOLAT (PG13)
1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50

Star Rochester Hills
200 Barclay Circle
248-853-2260
SUN-DAY THRU THURSDAY
No one under age 6 admitted for PG 13 & R rated films after 6 pm

NP SPY KIDS (PG)
12:40, 2:50, 5:00 7:10, 9:20
NO VIP TICKETS
NP SOMEONE LIKE YOU (PG13)
12:50, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 10:00
NO VIP TICKETS
NP TOMCATS (R)
1:30, 3:40, 5:50, 8:00, 10:20
NO VIP TICKETS
NP HEARTBREAKERS (PG13)
1:40, 4:20, 7:30, 10:10
NO VIP TICKETS
ENEMY AT THE GATES (R)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50
EXIT WOUNDS (R)
2:10, 4:50, 7:45, 10:05
MEXICAN (R)
1:50, 4:40, 7:40, 10:15
NO 7:40 TUES 4/3
SEE SPOT RUN (PG)
12:45, 3:00, 5:10
CHOCOLAT (PG13)
1:10, 3:50, 6:40, 9:10
CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON (PG13)
1:20, 4:30, 7:20, 9:35

SHOOTING GALLERY FILM FESTIVAL
NP TOO MUCH SLEEP(NR)
7:15, 9:30
NO VIP TICKETS

STUDENT DISCOUNT NOW AVAILABLE WITH VALID SCHOOL I.D.

Star Southfield
12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern off I-696
248-355-STAR
No one under age 6 admitted for PG13 & R rated films after 6 pm
FOR SHOWTIMES AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS BY PHONE
CALL 248-375-2222
www.STAR-SOUTHFIELD.com
NP FEATURES - SORRY NO VIP DISCOUNT TICKETS ACCEPTED

NP SPY KIDS (PG)
11:30, 12:30, 2:00, 3:20, 4:30 6:00,7:00, 8:30, 9:30
NO VIP TICKETS
NP SOMEONE LIKE YOU (PG13)
11:30, 2:15, 1:45, 3:00, 4:10,5:40, 6:45, 8:10, 9:20, 10:30
NO VIP TICKETS
NP TOMCATS (R)
12:00, 1:40, 2:45, 4:00, 5:00 ,6:30, 7:30, 8:45, 9:45 AND VIP TICKETS
NP BROTHERS (R)
11:45, 12:50, 2:30, 3:40, 5:15, 6:20, 7:20, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00
NP HEARTBREAKER (PG13)
2:00, 4:45, 7:40, 10:30
NO VIP TICKETS
NP SAY IT ISN'T SO (R)
2:20, 7:45
NO VIP TICKETS
EXIT WOUNDS (R)
11:45, 2:15, 3:00, 5:20, 7:45, 8:50, 10:15
ENEMY AT THE GATES (R)
12:15, 3:15, 6:20, 9:15
15 MINUTES (R)
4:30, 10:20
CAVEMAN'S VALENTINE (R)
1:30, 7:30
GET OVER IT (PG13)
12:30, 6:00
THE MEXICAN (R)
2:00, 3:00, 6:00,9:00
SEE SPOT RUN (PG)
1:30, 4:00
DOWN TO EARTH (PG13)
1:00, 3:30, 5:45, 8:15, 10:30
RECESS (G)
11:30
HANNIBAL (R)
11:30, 4:45, 10:20
TRAFFIC (R)
12:10, 3:30, 6:45,10:15
CROUCHING TIGER HIDDEN DRAGON (PG13)
1:10, 4:00, 6:40, 9:30
CHOCOLAT (PG13)
12:00, 2:45, 5:40, 8:40

United Artists Theatre
7501 Highland Rd.
S.E. corner M-59 & Williams Lake Rd.
24 Hour Movie Line
248-666-7990
CALL TT FILMS 15 ST
We've tripled our lobby and added five new screens. The only theatre in Oakland County with the new Dolby digital EX sound system and more...Check us Out!
Our expanded parking lot is now open
Free Refill on Popcorn and Pop

NP TOM CATS (R)
1:30 (4:30 ❖ $4.25) 7:15, 9:30
NP SOMEONE LIKE YOU (PG-13)
1:40 (4:30 ❖ $4.50) 7:20, 9:30
NP SPY KIDS (PG)
12:15, 1:30, 2:30 (4:00, 5:00 ❖ $4.25) 6:30, 7:30, 8:00, 9:40
GLADIATOR (R)
(4:30 ❖ $4.25) 8:00
SAY IT ISN'T SO (R)
12:20, 2:40 (5:00 ❖ $4.25) 7:30, 9:40
NP HEARTBREAKERS (PG13)
1:00, (4:10 ❖ $4.25) 7:10, 10:00
NP THE BROTHERS (R)
1:15, (4:15 ❖ $4.25) 6:45, 9:10
ENEMY AT THE GATES (R)
1:20, (4:10 ❖ $4.25) 6:50, 9:40
EXIT WOUNDS (R)
12:30, 2:50 (5:20 ❖ $4.25) 7:50, 9:55
GET OVER IT (PG13)
9:00
SEE SPOT RUN (PG)
12:15, 2:30 (4:45 ❖ $4.25) 7:00
THE MEXICAN (R)
12:40 (4:00 ❖ $4.25) 6:40, 9:20
WED. 12:40 (4:00 ❖ $2.50) 7:15, 9:20, 10:00
CHOCOLAT (PG13)
12:45, (4:10 ❖ $4.25) 6:45, 9:20
DOWN TO EARTH (PG13)
12:30, 2:45, (5:10 ❖ $4.25) 7:45, 9:50
RECESS (G)
12:20, 2:40 (5:00 ❖ $4.25)
CROUCHING TIGER (PG13)
SUN. 7:10, 9:45
MON-THURS. 1:15 (4:20 ❖ $4.25) 7:10, 9:45
TRAFFIC (R)
7:00, 10:00
THE EMPEROR'S NEW GROOVE (G)
12:15, 2:30

SUNDAY - FREE KIDS SHOWS
KIDS 12 AND UNDER FREE
ADULTS $1.00

SUNDAY 4/1
LITTLE VAMPIRE (PG)
12:00, 2:15, 4:30

SATURDAY & SUNDAY 4/7 & 4/8
DIGIMON THE MOVIE (PG)

Visa & Mastercard Accepted

Main Art Theatre III
110 Main st 11 Mile
Royal Oak
248 541 0180
call TT FILMS ext 542
(DISCOUNTED SHOWS*)
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE OR PHONE 248-542-0180
VISA AND MASTERCARD ACCEPTED

REQUIEM FOR A DREAM (NR)
(1:30, 4:15) 7:00, 9:15
BEFORE NIGHT FALLS
(1:00, 4:00) 6:45
CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON (PG13)
(1:15, 3:45) 6:30, 9:00
SHADOW OF THE VAMPIRE (R)
9:30

Maple Art Theatre II
4135 W. Maple, West of Telegraph
Bloomfield Hills
248-855-9090
(DISCOUNTED SHOWS*)

POLLOCK (R)
SUN. (1:00 4:00) 6:45, 9:15
MON-THURS (4:00) 6:45, 9:15
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME (R)
SUN. (1:30 3:45) 6:30, 9:00
MON-THURS (3:45) 6:30, 9:00
CHOCOLAT (PG13)
SUN. (1:15, 4:15) 7:00, 9:30
MON-THURS (4:15) 7:00, 9:30

Oxford 7 Cinemas, L.L.C.
Downtown Oxford
Lapeer Rd. (M-24)
(248) 628-7101 Fax (248) 628-1300
NOW OPEN

AMC Uptown 20
Hampton & 7 Mile
734-541-9999
Call theatre for Features and Times.

$1.00 Ford Tel 41.50
313-561-7220
AFFORDABLE FAMILY PRICES
$1.00 TT 6 pm After 6 pm $1.50
Ample Parking - Velvet Center
Free Refill on Drinks & Popcorn
(SUN. No children under 6 after 6 pm except at G or PG rated films)
MATINEES DAILY
YOUR BEST $1.00 AND $1.50 MOVIE BUY

102 DALMATIONS (G)
SUN. 12:00, 2:15 4:30
BUGLATS IN PARIS - THE MOVIE (G)
SUN. 11:30, 1:05, 3:00
THE WEDDING PLANNER (PG13)
SUN. 7:00, 9:15; MON-THURS 4:30, 7:00, 9:15
MISS CONGENIALITY (PG13)
SUN. 7:15, 9:35;
MON-THURS 5:00, 7:15, 9:35

Ford Wyoming Drive-In Theatre
Dearborn
(313) 846-6910
Children under 12 are Free
Electric In Car Heaters
ALWAYS TWO BIG PICTURES TOGETHER

THE BROTHERS (R)
FINDING FORRESTER (PG13)

EXIT WOUNDS (R)
VALENTINE (R)

TOMCATS (R)
VERTICAL LIMIT (PG13)

DOWN TO EARTH (PG13)
HANNIBAL (R)

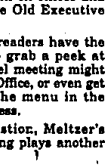
SAY IT ISN'T SO (R)
DUDE, WHERE'S MY CAR (PG13)

MOVIES START AT DUSK

Cinemark Movie 16
The Best Seat in Town
28600 Dequindre Rd.
Warren Mi
810 558-8207

DRACULA 2000 (R)
12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25
MEET THE PARENTS (PG13)
11:30, 5:15, 10:45
FINDING FORRESTER (PG13)
2:05, 7:55
THE MOVIE BUGLATS IM (G)
11:45, 2:30, 4:40,6:50, 9:00
UNBREAKABLE (PG13)
12:05, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:20
THE CAT (R)
11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:25, 10:15
MISS CONGENIALITY (PG13)
11:15, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55
13 DAYS (PG13)
12:30, 3:40, 7:15, 10:20
SUGAR AND SPICE (PG13)
12:20, 2:35, 4:50, 7:05, 9:20
VALENTINE (R)
11:50, 2:15, 4:45, 7:05, 9:30
THE LEGEND OF DRUNKEN MASTER (J)
12:15, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:35
THE PLEDGE (R)
11:05, 5:50, 10:45
VERTICAL LIMIT (PG13)
2:10, 8:00
LITTLE MICKY (PG13)
9:40
CHARLIE'S ANGELS (PG13)
11:40, 2:15, 4:40, 7:10
DUDE, WHERE'S MY CAR (PG13)
12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:25, 9:35
ONE HUNDRED & 2 DALMATIONS (G)
11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
THE WEDDING PLANNER (PG13)
12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
FAMILY MAN (PG13)
11:05, 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:35

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
FIRST SHOW OF THE DAY
$5.00



MUSIC

Reception honors pianist

Ruth Laredo, often referred to as "The First Lady of American Piano," will be honored Friday at a reception hosted by The Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival.

Laredo will play DeFalla's "Ritual Fire Dance" at the by invitation only reception in the Bingham Farms home of Dr. and Mrs. Norman and Harriet Rotter.

Orchestra Hall concert

On Thursday, April 5, Laredo will perform with jazz pianists Marian McPartland and Dick Hyman in concert that blurs the lines between jazz and classical music. The 8 p.m. program features a everything from Bizet to Basie, Chopin to Jobim. Together the trio will present a tour de force of musical diversity and piano virtuosity.

Laredo made a successful tour of the U.S. as a soloist with the Warsaw Philharmonic, which culminated in a performance of Rachmaninoff's First Concerto at Carnegie Hall.

A three-time Grammy Award nominee, Laredo has been widely praised for her recordings. She recently released a recording featuring Stravinsky's The Rite of Spring, with The Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival, and Rachmaninoff's Suite No. 2 for Two Pianos with James Tocco.

Tickets for the concert titled "Three Piano Crossover" are $15-$46, available at the box office 3711 Woodward Ave., Detroit, or call (313) 576-5111.

Festival

Celebrating its eight year, the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival, June 16-30, features Laredo and other world-class artists such as pianist/festival artistic director James Tocco, violinists Ani and Ida Kavafian, Joseph Silverstein, and members of the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings. Artists perform throughout Southeastern Michigan at a variety of venues including Cranbrook Educational Community, Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit Zoo, St. Hugo of the Hills Catholic Church, Kirk in the Hills, Temple Beth El and Ann Arbor's Kerrytown Concert House.

This year, the nationally-recognized festival will join in Detroit's 300th birthday celebration by presenting a roster of performing artists who have history in and ties to Detroit.

The combination of the Detroit contingent, as well as the non-Detroiters add up to a virtual "who's who in chamber music."

Returning non-Detroiters include violinists Henry Meyer and Juliette Kang, cellists Paul Katz and Nathaniel Rosen, soprano Linda Hohenfeld and the Miro String Quartet.

Outstanding pianist: *Ruth Laredo will perform at Orchestra Hall on Thursday, April 5. She will be honored Friday, April 6, at a reception hosted by the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival.*

Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival
When: June 16-30
What: Over 20 concerts are presented during the festival at 10 locations throughout Southeastern Michigan.
For more information about the festival and related events, call (248) 559-2097 or www.greatlakeschambermusic.com
Related events:
■ Reception honoring pianist Ruth Laredo – 10:30 a.m. Friday, April 6 at a private home in Bingham Farms. By invitation only to a circle of festival supporters known as Festival Friends requiring a donation of $100 or more.
■ Gala Festival Preview Party – 7 p.m. Saturday, May 5, Walter P. Chrysler Museum, Auburn Hills. Festival director pianist James Tocco will perform. Event offers silent auction, tour of museum's classic car collection, strolling buffet dinner. Tickets $75 per person, patron tickets, $125 per person.

Thriller goes behind scenes of politics in the White House

VICTORIA DIAZ

"The First Counsel," by Brad Meltzer
Warner Books, $25.95

In this highly readable thriller by University of Michigan alum Brad Meltzer ("Dead Even"), a young counsel for the President finds himself framed for a murder in the White House. Michael Garrick also finds himself in love with the first daughter, Nora, who is haunted by a dark secret that once brought her to the brink of suicide.

On the fateful day when White House ethics counsel, Carol Penzler, is found poisoned in her office, it's directly after she and Michael have argued – loudly. Michael, then, is faced with finding the real villain before he's forced to take the blame. In this world of high-powered politics, however, truth is often a gray area – almost unrecognizable, even when it's staring you in the face. Suspects seem to be crawling out of the White House woodwork.

Could the culprit be the formidable Edgar Simon, chief counsel to the President, seen making a drop-off of $40,000 at a deserted spot one night near the nation's capital? Could it be Pam, Michael's highly competitive, ambitious office-mate – or the smirky overachiever, Julian Zane? What about the President's close adviser and personal friend, Lawrence Lamb? Is the President's daughter not really to be trusted when the chips are down? Or is someone else lurking in these historic shadows, waiting for Michael to take the blame?

Several things work together to make this story a gripping page-turner.

Bringing readers to the scene

Certainly one of its strongest attractions is Meltzer's contemporary landscape. On these pages, he displays a near-masterful touch at bringing readers to the scene. When we're done reading, we feel almost as if we've visited the nooks, niches, and crannies of the historic Executive Mansion. As the ever-more-desperate hero seeks the killer, we move through the sequestered Oval Office, the President's bowling alley, the plush movie theater, the Situation Room (the most highly secured area in the Executive complex), the Indian Treaty Room, and many points between and beyond. We even catch a whiff "of fresh flowers from the White House florist" in the tradesmen's entrance. We also get a chance to tour Air Force One, and drop in on offices and corridors of the Old Executive Office Building.

In addition, readers have the opportunity to grab a peek at how a high-level meeting might go in the Oval Office, or even get the flavor of the menu in the White House Mess.

Without question, Meltzer's bullet-fast pacing plays another important role in this novel's success, as does his crackling, convincing dialogue. This is not a story in which the dialogue slows the action or seems apart from it; here, conversation is a part of the action, always moving things forward and building the delightfully relentless momentum.

Just as important, Meltzer's characters reveal themselves through the words they speak to each other. When an exasperated Michael asks Nora, "What're you, a psychopath?" and Nora replies "Only if I kill us. If we live, I'm a daredevil." We quickly get a nutshell portrait of the differences in these two souls. (Despite the title of this novel, Meltzer's unruly Nora turns out to be the most luminous character in the drama, though certainly not always the most likable.)

Out of place

On the negative side, Michael's mentally retarded father seems a bit out of place here, almost as if he's wandered in from another novel. He's so clearly and hauntingly depicted, however, that many readers may find themselves hoping he'll have his own story some day.

In addition, some readers may find themselves doubtful that someone as exasperatingly apologetic as Michael could have attained the highly-coveted White House Counsel Office by age 27.

Victoria Diaz is a Livonia resident and writes about books, theater and movies for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.