'Guys & Dolls' looks fresh on stage

Catch "Guys and Dolls" 8 p.m. Tuesday-Friday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday through Oct. 28 at the Fisher Theatre, Detroit. Tickets $30-$65. Call (248) 645-6666 for tickets or (313) 872-1000 for more information.

BY LAURIE HUMPHREY
SPECIAL WRITER

In an explosion of color and energy, *Guys and Dolls* opened at the Fisher Theatre Oct. 9 to a full crowd.

The audience was treated to an array of colors with what was really a simple set. Mock neon-colored stores signs and a magazine stand graced the stage most of the time, allowing the actors plenty of room to perform.

The costumes, also bold in color, were a perfect complement to the simple, yet expressive signs. In a flash, one could see *purple, yellow and red zip across* the stage, while another look showed orange, blue and green. There was a virtual rainbow in almost every scene, but as vivid as the colors were, they paled in comparison to the talent of the performers.

One expects to hear strong voices at a musical, but it was the dancing that really set the Fisher stage on fire. The choreography in this touring revival of the 1950s musical pulled the audience into the show scene after scene.

Whether the dance routines were intended to be fun or sexy – and there were plenty of both – theater-goers were energized by movement. The steps were fast-paced, expressive and in-sync despite the extensive and authentic-looking costumes.

Clever dialogue portrayed stereotypes of women and men alike. From the dopey Miss Adelaide (Alexandra Foucard) to the prudish Sarah Brown (Diane Sutherland,) women seemed to be placed upon this earth for the folly of womanizing men initially unwilling to commit fully to the sanctity of marriage. When facing a future without these women, however, gamblers Nathan Detroit (Maurice Hines) and Sky Masterson (Brian Sutherland) submit to marriage – though not without a few commitment jokes.

Foucard delivered a wonderful performance, all the while altering her voice to fit her character. Only through her singing could one get a glimpse of her true, amazing voice.

Diane Sutherland was the other shining star in this galaxy of talent. She didn't rely on dialogue to tell her story. It was her body language and vocal control that made the audience feel her innermost thoughts as she moved from scene to scene.

■ 'Diane Sutherland was the other shining star in this galaxy of talent... it was her body language and vocal control that made the audience feel her innermost thoughts.'

There were only two downsides to what was a fabulous performance. First, the orchestra seemed to compete with a few of the musical numbers, but that will likely work itself out as everyone gets familiar with the building acoustics. Secondly, and this may just be a personal quirk, but as lead performer, Maurice Hines should have had more dance numbers. He is a skilled dancer who carries the audience with him as he sails across the stage.

He should not be standing in the shadows when fellow performers can benefit from his energy in group dance routines.

In a time when people are urged to go out and have fun, this show provides the perfect solution. This show is quick, witty, and it provides relief to anyone looking to take their minds off the world's troubles temporarily.

"THE HOTTEST TICKET FOR A MUSICAL IN YEARS!"
RICHARD CHRISTIANSEN, CHICAGO TRIBUNE

ON SALE NOW!

BENNY ANDERSSON & BJÖRN ULVAEUS'
MAMMA MIA!
THE SMASH HIT MUSICAL BASED ON THE SONGS OF ABBA

MASONIC TEMPLE THEATRE
DECEMBER 27, 2001 — FEBRUARY 9, 2002
Call TicketMaster (248) 645-6666
or www.ticketmaster.com. Tickets at the Fisher Theatre Box Office & all TicketMaster outlets.
Groups (20 or more) call (313) 871-1132

"THE SEASON'S FIRST MUST-SEE FILM!"
FUNNY, CHARMING AND UNBELIEVABLY MOVING"

"DREW BARRYMORE GIVES THE PERFORMANCE OF A LIFETIME!"
BILL BRIGGS, WESTWOOD ONE RADIO

"EMOTIONALLY REWARDING - TENDER, GRITTY AND HONEST."
DAN DINICOLA, CBS-TV, ALBANY

"DREW BARRYMORE SHOWS NEW DEPTH AND DISTINCTION IN A FULL RANGE PERFORMANCE"
JACKIE K. COOPER, ABC-TV, ATLANTA

"HEARTWARMING. WONDERFUL!"
JIM FERGUSON, DISH NETWORK

DREW BARRYMORE
RIDING IN CARS WITH BOYS
The story of a girl who did everything wrong, but got everything right.

ridingincars.com

STARTS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19

"CORKY ROMANO' TRULY MAKES YOU LAUGH!"
LOS ANGELES TIMES

"One Laugh After Another! Crowd-Pleasing!"
THE TIMES-PICAYUNE, NEW ORLEANS

"Kattan Is Brilliantly Out Of Control!"
GANNETT NEWS SERVICE

CHRIS KATTAN IS
CORKY ROMANO

www.wholecorky.com

AMC FORUM 30	AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20	AMC WONDERLAND
CANTON 6	MJR SOUTHGATE 20	SHOWCASE	SHOWCASE
SHOWCASE	SHOWCASE	STAR FAIRLANE	STAR
STAR	STAR JOHN R	STAR LINCOLN PARK	STAR
STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE	UA WEST RIVER

NO PASSES OR DISCOUNT COUPONS ACCEPTED

THE CRITICS BELIEVE IN AMERICA'S HIT COMEDY!
REX REED OF NEW YORK OBSERVER
"UPLIFTING, ROMANTIC AND DELIGHTFUL!
Just the kind of movie we need most of now."
GENE SHALIT OF THE TODAY SHOW
"THRILLING, MOST WONDERFUL AND BEYOND COMPARE!"
I've been reviewing movies for 35 years and 'Serendipity' joins my personal list of matchless romantic comedies! Stylish, filled with fun and very wise."
JOHN CUSACK KATE BECKINSALE
critics' choice
SERENDIPITY

AMC FORUM 30	AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20
BIRMINGHAM 8	CANTON 6	MJR SOUTHGATE 20
NOVI TOWN CTR. 8	SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS	SHOWCASE PONTIAC 1-8
SHOWCASE STERLING HTS.	SHOWCASE WESTLAND	STAR FAIRLANE 21
STAR GRATIOT	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING	STAR JOHN R
STAR LINCOLN PARK	STAR ROCHESTER	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE	UA WEST RIVER

WIN FREE TICKETS!
Meadow Brook Theatre
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S PROFESSIONAL THEATRE COMPANY

Murder on the Nile
The Duchess of Death's Most Diabolical Mystery!
OCT 17 - NOV 11
By Agatha Christie
It's a classic recipe for murder: Mix together an imperious dowager and her niece, a young English lord travelling incognito, a mysterious European doctor, a honeymooning heiress, and a minister with mixed motives. Put them all on a steamer cruising up the exotic Nile and what have you got? At least two murders!
MBT RATING: SUITABLE FOR OLDER CHILDREN.
Tickets start at just $17!
MBT BOX OFFICE:
(248) 377-3300
GROUP DISCOUNTS: (248) 370-3316
www.mbtheatre.com
Made possible by: BANK ONE
Observer & Eccentric
COUPLES NIGHT

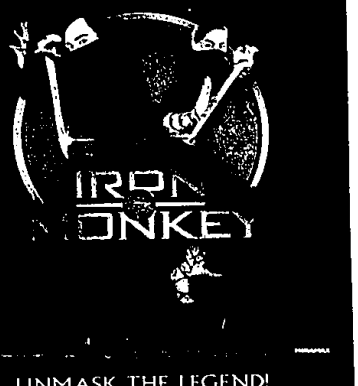
— Win Tickets to See MBT's —
MURDER ON THE NILE!
See today's O&E classified ads – Section 802, Boats/Motors – for the winning answer! Send postcard with the correct answer, your name, address & daytime phone to: MURDER ON THE NILE CONTEST, Meadow Brook Theatre, Oakland University, Rochester, MI 48309. Five winners will be randomly selected from entries with correct answers received by Wednesday, Oct. 31st.

Opening Night - All seats $12!

Dragon Tales LIVE!
A VEE Entertainment Corporation Production
"I wish I wish with all my heart to fly with dragons in a land apart..."
FOX THEATRES
November 1-4
Tickets: $10 • $14 • $18
Ticketmaster 248-433-1515
Ticketmaster.com • Olympiaentertainment.com

Look In Your Classified Sections To See If You Are The Lucky Winners!
The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers
It's all about you!

FROM THE ACCLAIMED ACTION CHOREOGRAPHER OF 'THE MATRIX' AND 'CROUCHING TIGER'
"AN OUTSTANDING MARTIAL ARTS ADVENTURE!"
"MAGICAL! A HISTORICAL FANTASY THAT EXISTS ON A GRAVITY-WARPING PLANE. A KICK!"
"A HIGH-KICKING, GRAVITY-DEFYING ROBIN HOOD! OVERWHELMINGLY BEAUTIFUL AND POETIC!



IRON MONKEY
UNMASK THE LEGEND!

AMC FORUM 30	NOW SHOWING:	AMC LIVONIA 20
BEACON EAST	BIRMINGHAM 8	MJR SOUTHGATE 20
PHOENIX AT ANN ARBOR CTR.	QUO VADIS	SHOWCASE AUBURN HILLS
SHOWCASE	SHOWCASE	SHOWCASE
STAR FAIRLANE 21	STAR GRATIOT	STAR GREAT LAKES CROSSING
STAR JOHN R	STAR ROCHESTER	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR TAYLOR	UA COMMERCE	FORD WYOMING