Theater artists gather to protest war on Iraq

When Gillian Eaton heard about the interna-When Gillian Eaton heard about the interna-tional theater community organizing to take a stand against a war in Iraq there was no ques-tion she wanted to be part of it. Since she teach-es in the Hilberty graduate program at Wayne State University in Detroit, it was easy to talk her colleagues into putting on a staged reading of Aristophanes' classic war comedy Lysistrata on Monday, March 3.

Theater artists in more than 390 communities in 32 countries will eather to participate in the

in 33 countries will gather to participate in the Lysistrata Project. Locally, 60 actors from the Performance Network in Ann Arbor, the Purple rettormance Network in Ann Arbor, the Purple Rose Theater in Chelsea, Jewish Ensemble Theatre in West Bloomfield, and Meadow Brook Theatre in Rochester will read the play at the 1,000 seat Bonstelle Theatre on the campus of Wayne State University. A smaller version of the project takes place at the Furniture Factory in Detroit.

Detroit.

Admission to the Bonstelle reading is \$5 with proceeds going to Freedom House, an asylum for political refugees from all over the world. The evening opens with Matt Watroba singing at

pointain teleges with Matti Watroba singing at 7:30 p.m.

Admission to the 8 p.m. Furniture Factory reading is \$3 with proceeds going to MADRE, a non-profit international women's human rights organization working in conflict areas.

We're doing it because it's a way to find solidarity with people who don't believe war is the only answer, sald Eaton, an actress with the Royal Shakespeare Company in London for many years before moving to Plymouth. We want to bring awareness about the human causalities of war. Just by doing something you feel you're not being passive. We want to all stand together in one place.

The play itself is very naughty, it's one of the most anti-war plays ever written. Athens and Sparta are at war and the women get together and decide to withhold sex. They're also flet the flow of money as well.

Annette Defetris believes the play is at relevant today at when Aristophanes wrote it morthan 2,400 years ago. Conceived by New York sectors Kathyn Blume and Sharron Bower, the Lysiarsta Project aims to make the Bush Administration aware of the growing opposition to a war on Iraq.

"It's a large group of women in theater coming

Administration aware of the growing opposition to awar on Iraq.

"It's a large group of women in theater coming together," said DePetris who along with her husband Jeffrey Nahan is involved in the project. DePetris is director of theater at the Rocper School in Bloomfield Hillis, Nahan is director of theater at Detroit Country Day School in Beverly van.

Hills.

"In a world swirling out of control, we want to protest the war," said DePetris "For the Bush Administration to know that we believe war is



Gillian Eaton played an instrumental role in bringing the Lysistratsi Project to the Bonstelle Theatre on the campus of Wayne State University in Defroit.

LYSISTRATA PROJECT

What Local actors stage a reading of Aristophanes' anti-war comedy. The production is part of an international theater artists protest against a war on Iraq

When/Where: Monday, March 3 - 7:30 p.m. at the Bonstelle Theatre, 3424 Woodward Ave. near the corner of Mack; and 8 p.m. at the Furniture Factory, 4126 Third St., Detroit

Admission: \$5 suggested donation. Proceeds from Bonstelle production go to Freedom House, a sanctuary for political refugees. Proceeds from Furniture Factory production go to MADRE, a non-profit international women's human rights organization working in

For more Information: Visit www.lysistratapro-

To volunteer. As an usher or parking attendant or to distribute literature or donate money for the Bonstelle production, call Amy Lynch at (313) 577-7899

not an alternative. I hope the message we send is one of hope."

Local musicians take stage to benefit intimate Trinity House

There's nothing like live music in an intimate setting. And that's the mission at Trinity House Theatre in Livonia where a concert to benefit the venue is set for saturday. March 1.

The theater is a very intimate environment. Picture seeing a concert or a play in your living room, said Bill Keith, spokesman for the 90-seat theater, which has been in existence for 22 years. Founded by Paul Patton and members of Trinity Baptist Church, it was incorporated as a separate non-profit arts organization in 1988.

Trinity House focuses on singer-songaviters in the folk genre with some representation of jazz and rock, said Keith. The theater's mission is to enrich and enliven the communities of southeastern Michigan through brave, truthful and encessary works of art.

Slated to perform at the benefit concert are local musicians Stewart Francke of Huntingston Woods, Jim Roil of Ann Arbor, Jim Bizer of Detroit, Jan Krist of Royal Oak and Lucy Webster and Raiston Bowles, both of Grand Rapids.

Francke, a well known local musician who has received numerous Detroit Music Awards, will be performing songs from his most received numerous Detroit Music Awards, will be performing songs from his most received numerous Detroit Music Awards, will be performing songs from his most received numerous Detroit Music Awards, will be performing songs from his most received numerous Detroit Music Awards, will be performing songs from his most received numerous Detroit Music Awards, will be performing songs from his most received numerous Detroit Music Awards, will be performed songs from his most received numerous Detroit Music Awards, will be performed songs from his most received numerous Detroit Music Awards, will be performing songs from his most received numerous Detroit Music Awards, will be performed songs from his most received numerous Detroit Music Awards, will be performing songs from his most received numerous Detroit Music Awards, will be performing songs from his most received numerous Detroit Music Awards, will be performing

recently renested where to Life.

Jim Bizer's music is a blend of humor and catchy nedodies with monster gui-tar playing and vocals. Bizer was selected as a finalist in the Kerrsille Folk Festival's "New Folk" songwriting competition in 2000 Last summer, he released Closer To The Surface. Jan Krist is a Thinity House favorite who began witling and singing songs in local folk clubs in 1980. She received praise at the

received praise at the Kerrville Songwriting



-Stewart Francke will perform songs from his recently released "Wheel of Life."

REMERIT CONCERT

What Showcase of local musicians in a concert to benefit Trinity House Theatre.

When: Saturday, March 1, doors open 7:30 p.m., concert starts

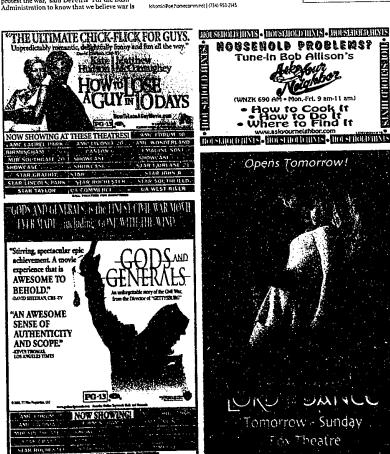
Where: Trinity House Theatre, 38840 W. Six Mile Road, Livonia.

Tickets: \$15 (\$12 (or Trinity House members), call (734) 464-6302 or visit www.trinityhouse.org.

Competition in 1991 and released her first album of songs, Decapitated Society, in 1992. Over the years, she has won numerous Detroit Music Awards, including Outstanding Acoustic/Folk Recording in 2002 for

Outpost of the Counterculture, Krist plans to perform songs from her most recent release Wounded Me Wounded You.

- Staff writer Nicole Stafford





Hobsehold Problems? Tune-in Bob Allison's

