## It's her party and she'll rock if she wants to

Much to her surprise Lesley Gores still going strong after four decades in the music business. The difference between now and the 1960s is all in her perspective. All Age 16 she was living every ternager's diream as her first hit song, 16 s hip Partir sourcel to the top of the charts. Today, at 50-ome liling, she's less impressed with success and more interested in rocking her audience. On Saturday, March 29, Gore headlines the American Goiden Music Spectacular Concert at Ford Community and Performing Arts Center in Dearborn. Sonny Geraci. Randy and the Rainbows, Kathy Young, and Earl Lewis & The Channels fill the rest of the bill.

"When I recorded 40 years ago I didn't espect these songs to still be played," said Gore in a phone interview from her home in New York City. And I never thought that flet 40 years I'd be getting up in front of an audience. I didn't think my music

up in front of an audien I didn't think my music

## AMERICAN GOLDEN MUSIC SPECTACULAR

What: A concert featuring golden oldies by Lesley Gore. Sonny Geraci, Earl Lewis & the Channels, Kathy Young. and Randy & the Rainbows

Where 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 29

Where: Ford Community & Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Ave. at Greenfield, Dearborn

Tickets: \$35, \$45, call (313) 943-2354



was help-ing the world back then. I have a different opinion now of what I do. "Now when I meet

Gore when I meet people I realize it's some kind of connection to a time that was more Innocent. It raps people back. It's a wonderful energy. It's important especially during these trying times to make people happy;

Imppy."
There's no doubt Gore's come a long way from singing in the junior high school choir in Engleword, New Jersey. She credits part of her success to Quincy Jones who discovered her. His songs like Judy's Turn to Cry (Mercury Records) kept he public resking for more. She gave them one of the first feminist songs Fou Don't Own Me, her favorite.

## SWITCHING GEARS

In later years her popularity seemed to dwindle but hadn't. Gore simple switched gears. She went on to entertain audiences in musicals and dramas on stage, and in TV series like The 1d Sulfian Show, The Donna Reed Show, and

AMC FORUM 30

Baiman, playing cat woman's sidekick.

All the while she continued to write songs. She earned an Oscar nomination for co-writing Out Here on My Own for the film Fame with her brother Michael Gore. Current projects include composting maxic for a pop album - and performing, Gore spends 50-60 days on the road a year.

So what keeps her going? When Gore's music director is checking out the sound system in Dearburn in the afternoon, she'll be heading to the gym for 45-

heading to the gym for 45-minutes on the treadmill. When she plays a city that doesn't have a health club

doesn't have a health club her runs around town. Otherwise Gore says she's not able to do her 45-minute show. "In winter most of the audiences are bally boomers, said Gore. In summer families bring kids, grandparents. It's interest-ing to see these young kids sing these songs.

"I'm excited about doing the stuw in Michigan. We're going to rock your socks off."

Piglet's

MOVIE

"A honey pot of a film!" 'Big,**big** funi"

## THEATRE

McCann, who volunteers at the Redford Theatre, knows in detail how theaters used to operate. He worked as an usbor and chef of services at Detroit's former Mrchigan Theatre in the '40s, during the heyday of theater-going.

Trunning up and down the aides, your legs god a lattle tired, says McCann. Back then, going to the movies was a big night out.

Times have changed for sure, says McCann. Bark then, going to the movies was a big night out.

Times have changed for sure, says McCann, Different is the movies going public's attitude and the atmosphere of theater and toriums. But because of the efforts of people like McCann, the Redford Theater represents and captures some of the past. The theater not only has been showing films for 75 years but also has undergone almost full interior restoration.

To commemorate the venue's anniversary and showcase the restoration progress a celebration featuring silent film and live performances is dated Saturday. April 5.

"They're going to take patrons through the biscopy of the theater year by year," explains McCann, a member of the Motor City Theatre Organ Society, which runs the venue.

Performers include Michigan Opera Theatre singers, the Redford Harmony Club barber shop quartet and Tony Of Priero on the theater's original organ. Old show programs and tickets issued for such movies as

Singin' in the Rain and National Velvet, as well as other memorabila, will be on view in the lobby.

John Skelly, a theater volunteer from Livonai, is in charge of such artifacts and currently is organizing and cataloguing them.

This a fouch of the past, said.

Skelly, 41. These things and the theater are from a bygone era that's not coming lack?.

That may be true, but the theoter's 1,576-seat auditorium now has the power to transport visitors back in time. Done in the Oriental style, the theater seems to be an entrance into a Pageda complete with goiden gates, original painted ladescapes and stencifed warriors. The domed ceiling is painted a deep midnight blue like the vky. Light projected on to the surface creaters moving clouds.

"If you would have seen it in 1994," says McCam. This wall was all gray, painted to look like gray blocks."

The organ, which is in its original location, is now regularly used, a half hour before each film screening and during intermission.

And although the auditorium's seats are reproductions, there are plenty of original details, including the exit signs, to admire.

The ambiance, the warnth' remarks McCam. 'R just takes year back in time.'

The Redford Theatre is always looking for assistance Donations can be sent to the box office 17360 Labser, Detroit, Mich., 48219. To volunteer your time, request an application, call (313) 537-2560

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