

By WALLY ROBERTS

'CURTAIN GOING UP'

"You don't really love me. You just want me around for one thing."

Don Ameche's micro-skirted girl friend makes this observation in "There's a Girl in My Soup" at the Fisher Theatre. Her icy appraisal of his torrid advances keeps the audience wondering if he will capture "that one thing" before Act I finishes.

AS OFTEN happens in these bright, little comedies, the male animal usually loses the first round, was the second, and complications ensue during the third round to end the game in a tepid tie.

"There's a Girl in My Soup" follows the formula faithfully, and why not? The audience wouldn't have it any other way. Every now and then the Fisher has to schedule a comedy for the three businessmen. "There's a Girl in My Soup" projects all kinds of fantasies for these men who enjoy their sensual pleasures on the vicarious side of the ledger.

It's always a joy to see the never-aging Don Ameche bouncing about the stage. His last appearance was in "Henry, Sweet Henry." You'll recall he played a kooky musician from suburban Scarsdale.

IN "SOUP" he continues his lecherous ways. This time he has traded his sheet music for the chafing dish and the omelet pan. Don is the suave Robert Danvers' composer of gourmet recipes. His cookbook contains as many tasty dishes as will frequent his chic apartment. The play opens with Mr. Danvers latest affair about to conclude. His publisher (played flawlessly by Elliot Reid) calls to remind him about some articles he's writing. Really, it is just an excuse to introduce a puritan counterpart to the bawdy gourmet. Mr. Reid is the chaste in his marital affairs as Don is relentless in his chasing; extraordinary marital affairs.

Don's publisher has a goveness for the children. You'd swear she's deadringer for Sophia Loren. Mr. Ameche wastes little time in giving her his card and informing her that he is available most any time.

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Terence Stamp - Joanna Pettet
"BLUE"
In Color

EVERYTHING seems to be going fabulously well for this generalizing Don Juan when into his life comes Marion. She has left her hippie bedpartner. Her cold approach towards things sensual amazes our womanish observer who is alternately overwhelmed by her pulsating radiations and repelled by her cynicism.

Marion, played by Jennifer Tilly, is a masterpiece of comic timing. She dares Don only he all but feels he has lost his match. But remember the formula? You're right - the curve comes down right on Act II with the customary reward after much laughter has paved the way.

"There's a Girl in My Soup" will never take its prize. It is a frothy, little-decay. During the holiday season it will be at the Fisher until Jan. 8 when it is proper to be merry, this three-act comedy will keep you in good spirits.

Michael Zaslow as the hippie boyfriend of Marion has a "morning after" scene that stops the show. Mr. Zaslow is only the stage twice during the evening, but he makes every minute count.

The same can be said for Elaine Eig, Donald Ewer, and Pamela Grey. Mr. Ameche and Miss Tilly can be thankful for such a strong supporting cast.

The stuffy married man is asked in the last act why in the world he has never had any post-marital adventures. He replies, "Having an affair is rather like picking your nose in public when you have a perfectly clean handkerchief in your pocket." Here and there in "Soup" you'll find some unusual moralistic periwinkle.

Art Work Featured

A fantastic, six-foot long paper dragon is one of 100 creations from Art Workshops for Young People which will fill the Detroit Institute of Arts' education corridor with color and imagination.

The show will display work from students enrolled in 1968 Workshop sessions through Jan. 12. The dragon was a group project, created by some of the youngest artists. (Approximately 400 students, from first grade through high school enroll in each series of museum-sponsored workshops.)

Other eye-catching items are 36 inch diameter "round paintings," plastic sculpture and painted wood constructions.

Ashkenazy To Teach Miss Gingold At Meadow Brook

New Narrator

Vladimir Ashkenazy, one of the world's outstanding young pianists, has accepted appointment as artist-in-residence of the 1969 Meadow Brook Summer School of Music at Oakland University.

Beginning July 7, he will conduct master classes in piano for a select group of no more than three students. Candidates for the classes will be chosen through competitive auditions in the United States and Canada.

Ashkenazy has been called by Harold Schonberg of the New York Times "The greatest living pianist of his generation." Born in Gorky in 1937, he made his first public appearance at the age of eight and won second prize at the fifth International Chopin Competition in Warsaw at the age of 17, before entering the Moscow State Conservatory.

In 1959, Ashkenazy came suddenly into international prominence by winning first prize in the Queen Elizabeth Competition in Brussels.

He has appeared for the last two seasons as guest soloist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in Meadow Brook Festival concerts at Oakland University and will return this summer for his third consecutive appearance.

"The extension of his role at Oakland University to the teaching function constitutes an event of signal importance for emerging concert artists wishing to concentrate upon interpretation of the repertoire," commented Wilbur W. Kent, Jr., associate dean of the School of Performing Arts and director of the Meadow Brook Summer School of Music.

Hermoine Gingold will replace Yvette Mimieux in a narrator's role at the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Kresge Concert on Jan. 11.

Miss Gingold will read the originally programmed "Facades," which features verses by Dame Edith Sitwell, in a musical setting by Sir William Walton.

Miss Mimieux had to withdraw due to changes in a movie production schedule.

Tornadoes took the lives of 116 Americans in 1967, the Insurance Information Institute reports. In the last 50 years, 9,300 deaths have been attributed to tornadoes.

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Russian Life Is Speech Topic

Oakland University Russian Language and Literature Professor, Helen Kovach, will be the keynote speaker before the Tuesday, Dec. 17 meeting of the Oakland Conservatory Club.

Open to the public, the 8 p.m. event will be held in the Knights of Columbus Hall, 30755 Southfield Road, Southfield.

Mrs. Kovach, a native Russian, has been a U.S. citizen for six years, a member of the OU faculty for the past 10 years, and fled from behind the Iron Curtain at the end of World War II.

Her view of "Life Behind the Iron Curtain" was brought up-to-date during a six-month return visit to Europe and several Communist-ruled countries last year.

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