

"Young Tom Edison" Slated for February

More than 12,000 elementary school students from Detroit and suburban schools will journey to The Detroit Institute of Arts the week of Feb. 15-19 to see a live stage production of the musical play "Young Tom Edison." Witnessed last year by the same number of students, this is the third stage production made available to metropolitan area youngsters by the Theatre Arts Department of the Museum.

The play dramatizes episodes in the life of Edison while he lived in Port Huron, Michigan as a young man. Produced by Harnick-Adams of New York, the play is an limited tour of the middle west. Previously, the plays have been available on through Detroit Public Schools and metropolitan area parochial schools but this year attendance is open to students from suburban area schools. Students attending are usually from the fourth through sixth grades and are brought

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Produced and Directed by William Conrad

Screenplay by Henry Clever and John Kneubuhl

NIGHTLY 7:00 AND 9:05 P.M.

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SATURDAY MATINEE FEB. 6th

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SATURDAY MATINEE FEB. 6th

DOUBLE CHILLS

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"TWO ON A GUILLOTINE" 1:55 and 5:10

STARTING WED., FEB. 10

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"TWO ON A GUILLOTINE" opens Feb. 3 at State Wayne, Dearborn, Penn. and Terrace Theatres, the Dearborn and Algiers Drive Ins. Starring Connie Stevens in a dual role as the wife of the "World's Greatest Illusionist", Cesar Romero, and also as his daughter, the film features Dean Jones as the young reporter who falls in love with Miss Stevens.

Two Area Residents Will Perform at WSU

INTERLOCHEN, Mich.—The 100-member, teenage symphonic orchestra of the Interlochen Arts Academy will appear at Wayne State University Sunday (Feb. 7) night in its second appearance of a four-city concert tour of southern Michigan.

The performance, scheduled for 8:15 p.m. at WSU's Community Arts Auditorium, will include some of the major works of Haydn, Debussy, Hindemith, Wagner and Rimsky-Korsakov. The concert is open to the public.

The musicians, who range from 13 to 18 years old and have been called by one Philadelphia critic as "self-disciplined and confident in performance as any mature professional orchestra," open their four-day tour at the University of Michigan, will appear at Eastern Michigan University Monday afternoon and in Grand Rapids Tuesday.

The academy, an outgrowth of the summer National Music Camp, is in its third year as the first boarding high school in the country for youth talented in music, art, drama or dance. Coupled with these subjects is intensive instruction in a full range of academic subjects.

Sunday's concert will have two conductors: one the founder and president of both the camp and academy, Dr. Joseph E. Madry, and the other the orchestra's regular conductor, Dr. Thor Johnson, academy director and conductor of the Chicago Little Symphony.

Sunday's program will include Franz Joseph Haydn's "Symphony No. 83 in G Minor," called "La Poutie" or "The Hen," because of a clucking sound of an oboe in one movement.

Area members of the orchestra include: Jan Hopkins, 16, violin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard P. Hopkins, 28238 Donald, and Linda Stark, 17, violin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard T. Stark, 20175 Northport.

In 1926, the Rev. John P. McNichols, S.J., University of Detroit president, purchased 64 acres of "swampland" at Six Mile and Livonia. Today this tract, plus additional acreage, comprises the main campus of the University of Detroit.

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CURTAIN GOING UP

By WALLY ROBERTS

Cherkov's bucolic slice of realistic country life in "Uncle Vanya" is a far cry from the suburban frantic antics found in "Three Men on a Horse." No one will deny this premise. However, if one elects to do as difficult an acting experience as "Uncle Vanya" you must have talented people available.

Old Wally visited two university theaters this week. The U of M players in Ann Arbor made a valiant attempt to persuade audiences that "Uncle Vanya," the first U of M production of a full length Cherkov play, had great merit. As Director Burgin states in his program note: "Although a father of realism and the writer of plays for which naturalistic acting was created, Cherkov is for the English speaking theater of today, a problem in style as subtle and complex as the older classical dramatists."

Of the eight actors only one individual solved this intricate problem of style. Tom Manning as Mikhail Astrov, the Doctor, played his role with sensitivity and a superb sense of understanding. Cherkov's survey of society ranges true and clear through Mr. Manning's solid grasp of all the tiny nuances and shadings of meaning so carefully built into the Cherkovian drama. Kathleen Thompson as Sofia, the jilted young lady, played her role beautifully. At times, she slipped into some shoddy moments, but on the whole her portrayal was quite acceptable.

Director Burgin did what he could to establish atmosphere. The Russian songs, the dim lighting, the Cossack-type curtains call—all added to the Slavic influence. In fact, I half expected to see a Samovar in the lobby for tea at intermission. The Moscow Art Theater's manner by which an actor works from within cannot be brushed on from a can labeled "acting paint." Actors have to live, experience and generally have great maturity in the theater before they are able to handle a Cherkov play.

The University of Michigan players group, however, deserves an accolade for getting their feet wet with a full-length Russian play. "The Cherry Orchard" of "The Three Sisters" might be an ideal choice for next season. By the way, Zelma Weisfeld's costumes were superb and did much to give the actors visual support.

As I indicated earlier, the suburban hanky-panky found in "Three Men on a Horse" seemed several light years away from "Uncle Vanya." John Cecil Holm and George Abbott were honored to be mentioned in the same column with Anton Chekhov. Abbott gained theatrical fame as one of Broadway's ace directors of farce. Mr. Holm is a reputable actor. Between the two of them they fashioned a top farce in "Three Men on a Horse."

Audiences at the Bonstelle Theater went home without any philosophic messages as you might after "Uncle Vanya." Smiles wreathed the face of the happy throng as they ducked out into the sub-zero weather. In fact, the warmth and happiness generated in the theater spilled outside and TV news warmed up the air for at least two blocks.

Art Show Opens Feb. 8

The Annual Juried Art Show will be held Feb. 8 through Feb. 13 in the Northland Dome. Exhibiting their work will be western suburban artists.

The dome is located opposite the Hudson Department Store at Northland.

Sponsored by the Three Cities Art Club, admission to the show is free of charge.

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Women's Symphony

The Detroit Women's Symphony Orchestra will present its second concert of the season on Sunday, Feb. 14, at Community Arts Auditorium at 8 p.m.

Guest soloists are: Patricia Mota, soprano soloist, and Harry Wrightman, pianist, and Mrs. Harry Wrightman, publicity chairman and member of the executive board.

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