

Observer
AMUSEMENTS
 MOVIES—DRAMA—RESTAURANTS
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Eastern Michigan Un. Campus, Ypsilanti
 EMU THEATRE—MARCH 15-19
 RESERVATIONS: HU 2-3453

ANTON CHEKHOV'S
The Three Sisters

NOW LOOK HERE, NINCHKA—IT DOESN'T MEAN WE'RE GOING TO DEFECT JUST BECAUSE I ASKED YOU TO JOIN ME AT THE SKIPPER'S TABLE!

Why don't you join the 'in' crowd and dine at the Skipper's Table? Smorgasbord lunch, all you can eat, 99c, from 11:30 a.m. 'til 2 p.m. Slightly higher evenings, Sundays and Holidays. Closed Mondays. Two locations: 33201 Plymouth Rd. at Farmington Rd., Livonia, and 7030 W. 7 Mile Road, block west of Livernois.

Wally Roberts **UP' GOING CURTAIN**

Greece, resplendent in its glories and present delights is extolled lavishly in the pre-Broadway musical, "Ilyia Darling" currently enjoying a four-week engagement at the Fisher.

Similar to the Greek cuisine in Detroit's Greek section—"Ilyia Darling" is far too rich and redundant. The Greeks love to eat and drink. They heap the plates high with gustatory delights. Lamb dishes are always stacked with side orders of rice. Their desserts are dripping with honey. In short, calories come in calories.

So it is with "Ilyia Darling." Nothing is done halfway or the least bit underplayed. The initial scenes become heavy. The heavy scenes become heavy. The heavy scenes become heavy. Songs that could be clever are labored.

The entire show suffers from extravagant tastes. The opening number wherein the bouzouki players stand their ballistics until their plastic picks are ready to split gets tiresome. Half as much to set the atmosphere would have been plenty.

In fact, the bouzouki music could have been incorporated into an overture. "Ilyia Darling" opens cold without an indication of what melodies are to come. After much of the first act has dragged on you quickly realize why an overture is missing. The Greek music as composed by Manos Hadjidakis has no noticeable lift or lift. The musical score is pedestrian and uneventful.

Oliver Smith's sets are breath-taking. They move in and out with the greatest of ease. Too bad there wasn't something interesting going on in front of them.

"Ilyia Darling" only comes alive when the Greek male dancing chorus (18 muscular gents) cartwheel and defy gravity with the very athletic choreography of One White. Even the dancing as good as it is does get a bit repetitive after 10 or 12 kneebends that end with a kick.

Melina Mercouri as the "Never On Sunday" lady of easy virtue arrives early in the scene as a wide-eyed and innocent. It's almost as though they were trying to exonerate the world's oldest profession. Her initial appearance in the shipyard left pools of treacle everywhere. Her gold hair is gorgeous, a white shirt discreetly covers her statuesque figure, and her cultured voice gives the impression that she is the local Sunday School teacher. Oh, if only all whores were so wholesome!

Orson Bean does his level best to sell the show, but Author Jules Dassin has weakened the original characterization seen on the screen by making the American tourist a genuine boob. Jules has Orson running around in sneakers, two or three cameras dangling from his neck, a laundry baseball cap site irreverently atop Orson's bean, throughout the show. Really such deference to stereotyping was an exercise in excess.

"Ilyia Darling" is a good example of an author such as Mr. Dassin, feeling that he must make certain concessions to a less sophisticated audience. Old Wally feels he has misjudged the intellectual level of musical comedy fans. His version was a success since he did not pull

Local Band Takes Title

The English Ryders, a band composed of students from Livonia and Redford Township, won a recent Battle of the Bands at Farmington High School.

Members of the group, formed four months ago, are: Rick Juchartz, Thurston, drummer; Ken Victor, Bentley, base guitar; John Goff, Thurston, rhythm guitar; Chuck Thompson, Redford, lead guitar; Lee Watkins, Franklin, organ player; and Bob Franklin, Thurston, singer.

The group will participate in the Battle of the Best at Cobo Hall in April.

His punches and the entire subject of prostitution was treated on a more realistic, down-to-earth level.

His stage version of this successful film is loud, noisy, and tawdry where the film had charm, intimacy, and tenderness. If he could capture that feeling before the show hits Broadway, he could have a hit.

However, the job of making "Ilyia Darling" a more effective theatrical piece is almost an impossibility. New songs are needed. The script needs a complete rewrite job. Having three of the original Greek players from the original screen version could well be dropped. They seem quite out of place in this rather tasteless version of what was a most delightful film.

Maybe the new title for this disastrous stage version of "Never On Sunday" should be "Never On Broadway." The world of pimples, prosthetics, and pandemonium will take a rest for awhile.

Stevenson High Plans Musical

Lerner and Loewe's hit musical "Paint Your Wagon" will be presented March 9, 10 and 11 by Stevenson High School.

This is the school's first full-scale musical and the production involves 16 teachers and 200 students.

The cast alone totals 28. Tickets may be purchased by calling the school at 261-1250 and leaving a message for Mrs. Phyllis Cowden. Members of the cast also have them for sale.

"Paint Your Wagon" is the story of a California Gold Rush miner and his daughter. The miner, Ben Rumson, and his daughter, Jennifer, are searching for gold when Jenny finds a nugget. The news spreads like wild fire, and before her father meets a tragic death.

The production is directed by David Green, Lew Kaplan (text), Lowell Eversen (songs), Dick Saunders (orchestra) and Ken Burso, choreography. The set is being designed by Art Anderson, and costumes by Jenny Wingate.

MOVIE GUIDE

ALGERS DRIVE-IN
 Wayne & Wayne Road
 Wed. to Thurs. Mar. 8-14
 Zero Motel—Phil Silvers
 "A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM"
 Tony Curtis—Verna Lisi
 "NOT WITH MY WIFE YOU DON'T!"

CA 2-8810
FREE IN CAR SEATERS

WAYNE DRIVE-IN
 Mich. Ave. 1 Mile W. of Wayne Rd.
 Wed. to Thurs. Mar. 8-14
 "ADAM AND EVE"
 "RAPE OF THE SABINE WOMEN!"
 No One Under 18 Admitted

PA 1-3150

STATE-WAYNE
 Mich. Ave. 1 Mile W. of Wayne Rd.
 Wed. to Thurs. Mar. 8-14
 2 Walt Disney Hits in Color
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 "THOSE CALLOWAYS"

PA 1-2100

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 "FARMHOUSE 431"
 Dean Cain
 "WHO'S BEEN SLEEPING IN MY BED?" (in Color)
 Starts Mar. 15—Dr. Zhivago
 Tickets Now On Sale

CA 1-0210

QUO-VADIS
 Wayne & Wayne Road
 Opposite Midway—Wed. and Thurs. Mar. 8-14
 "A FISTFUL OF DOLLARS"
 Franco Zeffirelli—Clint Walker
 "HONK! BUT THE BELLY"
 Starts Mar. 15—"Dr. Zhivago"
 Tickets Now On Sale

GA 5-7700

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DOCTOR ZHIVAGO
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SUN. at 1:00 P.M.		
EVENINGS		
MON. thru FRI. at 8:00 P.M.	\$2.50	\$1.00
SATURDAY at 6:00 and 10:00 P.M.		
SUNDAYS at 5:00 and 9:00 P.M.		

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Father Tom Vaughn

Acclaimed as one of the nation's leading young jazz pianists is Father Tom Vaughn, an Episcopal priest from Midland, Mich. He will give a three-night series of concerts at the Penn Theater in Plymouth on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 13, 14 and 15.

Sponsored by the Plymouth Youth Council, the R.C.A. recording artist clergyman will present performances that include both jazz standards and original compositions.

Seats for the concerts are available now. Just clip out the coupon below and mail it with your check or money order for tickets. Reserved seats are also available at the Penn Theater or Melody House, Plymouth.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 13, 14 and 15 — 8:30 p.m.

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