

By WALLY ROBERTS

# 'CURTAIN' GOING UP

"How are things in Gioeca Morris?"

Things are fine and ye don't hant to go to ould sod or check the smiling eyes of the nearest Irish lassie. All ye hant to do is go skipping merrily down to the Detroit Institute of Arts Theater where some bonnie actors are doing "Finian's Rainbow."

It's a grand musical, so grand and glorious it put your palpitating heart cross-wise in your sweet rib-cage.

The Detroit Summer Theater season has definitely hit its own "crock of gold" with this 200

karat production of "Finian's Rainbow." Everyone in the cast from little Henry to easy Oo, the Leprechaun who turns into a mortal, had as much enjoyment doing this too-seldom-produced musical as the audience did in witnessing the happy production.

"FINIAN'S RAINBOW" is the third musical at the Detroit Summer Theater's six week season. "Oklahoma" led the way. The sunny hit a few bumps as it rode into town. Next, "Guys and Dolls" rolled a few make-eyes on the technical side of the ledger. But then the "rainbow" appeared and who can remember the slight errors of the past. Sure "n" all of us make mistakes!

"Carousel" is playing this week at the Detroit Institute of Arts air-conditioned theatre. The pace and standard for the final three musicals have been set. Old Wally advises a quick visit to the Detroit Summer Theater. You can't go wrong with any of the last three shows ("Carousel," "Kiss Me Kate" and "Brigadoon") since they are loaded with melody. You remember "Finian's," don't you? It was something that musicals

contained before the song-writing well went dry about five years ago.

"Finian's Rainbow" has a sound script, chock-full of witty lines and satiric barbs. Its social significance has gained since its original showing in 1953. Civil Rights movements were hardly a glimmer in Martin Luther King's eyes back when this musical first played Broadway. Seen now in the flickering light of fire bombs and the sudden flash of a sniper's rifle "Finian's Rainbow" takes on a new stature.

Too bad that most of us back in those serene days of the less expensive Korean War couldn't take the time to listen to what Mr. Harburg and Fred Seldy were trying to tell us. Even the Great Society with its poverty programs was ably forecast by the song "When the Poor Become the Idle Rich."

EACH MEMBER shared in magic generated by this marvelous revival of a great musical. Robert Darnell's portrayal of Finian was brilliant. The old Irish coddler that he created was 100% hilarious. Marie Santelli as his wet Irish daughter warbled like a skylark and made love to Woody Mahoney (Jesse Joplin) in a most winsome way.

Will Lowe and Marshall Borden, a couple of off-season fugitives from the Wayne Classic Theater, captured the hearts of the audience. Will's slick interpretation of Og the leprechaun mesmerized the audience. Borden's Buzz Collins was flawless.

Producer Robert Adams need not worry about folks going out into the Detroit Metro community and telling their friends about the Detroit Summer Theater. Productions like "Finian's Rainbow" sell themselves and are conversation starters.

Phyllis Williams as "Miss Necessity" stopped the show with her rafter-shaking rendition of her foot-stomping number. Phyllis has a powerful voice and she knows how to use it. You'll see more of this gal in the near future. Given the right material she will go a long way in show business.



"I WON'T" — Eliza Doolittle (Debbie Zukin) rebels against her father Alfred (Tim Jenkins) while Henry Higgins (Gerry Gillbert) tries to referee. The Clarenceville Summer Theatre Players production of Shaw's "Pygmalion" opens this weekend for a two-performance run.

## Eliza, Higgins To Square Off In 'Pygmalion'

Eliza will battle with Professor Henry Higgins this weekend when the Clarenceville Summer Theatre Players production of "Pygmalion" opens.

Performances are scheduled for Aug. 2 and 3 in the Clarenceville High School Auditorium. Curtain time is 8 p.m.

"Pygmalion," as written by George Bernard Shaw, formed the basis for the book of the Broadway musical success "My Fair Lady."

The Clarenceville production is the first summer theater production in what the group's director, Bob Gregory, promises to be an annual affair.

INCLUDED in the cast are: Jerry Gilbert as Henry Higgins; Debbie Zukin as Eliza Doolittle; Doug Dagley as Col. Pickering; Rick Hartman as Freddie Eynsford Hill; Tim Jenkins as Alfred Doolittle; and Sydney Rooks as the bystander. Others are: Gary Stiffman as the heartstone man; Pauline Water as Mrs. Eynsford Hill; Betty Jo Dagley as Miss Eynsford Hill; Chris Nicholson as Mrs. Higgins; Trudy Whitlock

as Mrs. Pearce; and Lenora Finn as the parlor maid.

Assistant director of the production is Dorothy Killian, while Linda Beetham is the production manager.

A TOTAL of 21 Clarenceville youngsters are participating in the production so this means that just about everyone is doing double-duty both on and off the stage.

Tickets for the show are priced at \$1 per person in advance sales and \$1.50 a head at the door. Contact Gregory at 425-7671 or the Clarenceville Box Office at 477-9078 for ticket reservations.

### Wind Wire Tight

When twisting electrical wires around terminal screws or plugs or other appliances, always twist the wire around the screw in a clockwise direction. Then, when the screw is tightened, the wire will not be as likely to unwind or untwist. Instead, it will get wound up even tighter as the terminal screw is tightened.

## Concert Honors DIT

The Fourth Annual concert dedicated to The Detroit Institute of Technology (DIT) performed by the Detroit Concert Band will be held at 8:15 p.m., Friday, Aug. 2, at the Michigan State Fairgrounds Band Shell.

A highlight of the Detroit Concert Band's summer season of free performances, the concert, under the baton of Dr. Leonard Smith, will again salute DIT's educational role in Detroit's inner city.

Chester F. Malley, a trustee of the Institute and president of Malley's Corporation will emcee the program. Dr. Dewey F. Barich, president of DIT.

## OAKLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE and THE COURT THEATRE present SUMMER THEATRE IN THE COMMUNITY

THE FANTASTICK Jones & Schmidt/Fri., Aug. 2, 8:30 p.m. intimate musical playing in 9th year off Broadway in WHITE AMERICA/Duberman/Sat., Aug. 3, 8:30 p.m. chronicle of the negro's legacy in this country

PRIVATE EAR/PUBLIC EYE Schaffer/Sun., Aug. 4, 7:30 p.m. two delightful comedies of romance and infidelity in repertory each weekend

Through August 31 Ferndale High School, 881 Pinecrest. Reservations and information: LI 2-2535

General Admission-\$1.00 Reserved Section - \$2.00 General Admission-\$1.00

Group rates (25) - \$1.50 Series: \$4.00 for price of 2 - \$4.00

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Livonia's  
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Now thru Tues., Aug. 6  
Sidney Poitier - Abbey Lincoln  
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In Color  
Adults \$1  
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COMFORTABLY COOL!  
Now thru Tues., Aug. 6  
Recommended Adult Entertainment  
"I, A WOMAN" In Color  
James Mason - Lynne Redgrave  
"GEORGY GIRL"  
Starts August 7 "ROSEMARY'S BABY"  
Mat.Wed. - 1 Show 1pm - Adults \$1  
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WAYNE Drive-In  
Michigan Avenue - 5 Miles West of Middlebelt - Phone PA 1-3150  
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Now thru Tues., Aug. 6  
Doris Day - Robert Morse  
"WHERE WERE YOU WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT OUT?" In Color  
Dean Martin - Lena Turner  
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what's up tiger lily?  
"Do you get acid indigestion from hanky-panky?"

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WOODY ALLEN'S  
what's up tiger lily?  
"Do you get acid indigestion from hanky-panky?"

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