

Hilberry offers comedy

The French farce, "The Lady from Maxim's" by Georges Feydeau, opened officially Wednesday at Hilberry Classic Theatre. "The Lady from Maxim's" will play in repertory until March 20, alternating with "Of Mice and Men," "Death of a Salesman," and "The Devil's Disciple."

Feydeau wrote 80 plays including "A Flea in Her Ear" and "Cat Among the Pigeons," both of which have been done by the Hilberry. (In 1969, the Hilberry won an American College Theatre Award for "A Flea in her Ear.") Feydeau has been called "The greatest French comic dramatist after Moliere" by Marcel Achard

and "possibly the greatest writer of farce of any country at any time" by Eric Bentley. He wrote his plays in one draft, and usually his first writing.

"The Lady from Maxim's" is about a normally sober doctor who awakens one morning with two things he brought home from Maxim's — a hangover and a lady of the evening. The ensuing confusion is further complicated by the case of mistaken identity, a host of relatives, generals, wives, and friends, and a curious anesthetizing machine.

Jan Lewis Gist is the lady and John Michael Hosking is the doctor in the Hilberry production. Harper

Jane McAdoo plays the wife, Wayne S. Turney is the faithful friend and partner, and Hilberry newcomer Bruce Matley is the servant. Michael Rothhaar and Rex M. Ellis will share the role of the General.

Individual and discount-rate tickets are on sale at the Hilberry Theatre Box Office, Cass and Hancock, telephone 577-2972. Individual tickets at the regular price are on sale at J. L. Hudson ticket offices. Additional outlets for student tickets are at the Wayne State University Book Store, the Highland Park College Book Store and the Oakland University Ticket Service.

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