

St. Dunstan's opening 'Anxieties of 1976'

The all-new "Anxieties of 1976" at St. Dunstan's Guild of Cranbrook will open Thursday, April 1. All Fool's Day.

St. Dunstan's players will be fooling, spoofing and satirizing just about every "anxiety" known to man or woman.

"Some 40 different numbers are now in final rehearsal," according to Jerry McMechan, general stage director of the production. "There are 22 singers, actors and dancers doubling all over the place." "Anxieties" calls for everything from solos—both comic and romantic—to duets, quartets and production numbers involving the entire cast. The skits range from brief black-outs to plays with both plot and punch-line.

The new "Anxieties of 1976" has been more than a year in the making. Last year, several members who had been involved in the first "Anxieties of 1968" suggested that a new revue by the same name might be a very timely effort for St. Dunstan's Bicentennial season.

They also pointed out that the 1968 show sold-out to the rafters for every one of its six performances. That was testimonial enough for the St. Dunstan's Board (and Play Reading Committee) to bless the group of writers who volunteered to go to work on new original material.

The writing group included (in addition to McMechan), Charles Campbell, Franklyn Doregan, William Everson, Isabel Himelhoch, Ron Myers and Dean Warner. They held their first planning session last May and have been hard at their creation of new "gags and skits and songs and verse" ever since.

Out of a call to the general St. Dunstan's membership to submit material, they also are using some reportedly hilarious spoofs of familiar television commercials written by Elise Heizer.

Some of the more provocative titles on the program include Figue for Four Fannies, Pre-Natal Guidance, rated PG, Who's Okay? I'll Fall in Love Tomorrow, Sensitivity U., More Perfect Union and Politikin' Rock.

"I think we probably could have staged two complete revues with all the good material that's been written and composed," McMechan claims. "But we've already cut to what we feel will give us the balance and pace you need in a revue. That's what the revue form is all about, of course. You keep it fresh, funny and fast. But we have a couple of songs that may stretch a year or two out of our audiences' toes."

Relative to audiences, the new "Anxieties" musical revue is evidently well on

its way toward sell-out crowds. The Saturday night performances already are sold out, but reservations are available for Thursday and Friday, April 1 and 2, and Friday and Sunday, April 9 and 11. Curtain is at 8 p.m. for all performances except Sunday, April 11, when show time is 7 p.m. Tickets are priced for adults and for students under 18. Reservations may be made by calling 844-0827. The playhouse is on Lone Pine Road, west of Woodward.

Director credits for "Anxieties of 1976" go to the individual writers of skit material with overall staging by McMechan. Isabel Himelhoch is musical director with assistance by Ron Myers and Patricia Benson. Choreography is under the direction of Betsy Todd.

The set design—based primarily on a unique system of moveable, flexible, multi-colored cubes—has been executed by Charlene Kenny and her set committee.

Pat Auer is in charge of creating and coordinating all the costume changes. Co-producers of the show are Lu Wuestler and John Wheaton.

Among the female members of the large cast are Patsy Badger, Louise Branson, Nancy Brassert, Margie Brooks, Judy Cochill, Alec Fieselmann, Lydia Fieselmann, Barbara Gowans, Susan Hartman,



Ed Guest (left), stage manager, and Jerry McMechan, general stage director, critique one of the more than 40 production numbers.

Fran Hayes, Gretchen Hitch, Margaret Guilford, Nancy Scott, Betsy Todd, Dean Warner, Jeanne Weston, Mary Anne Wilson and Debbie Wurtzsch.

Charles Campbell, Robert Death, Dick Eubank, William Everson, Larry Finn, Richard Guilford, Vince Hayes, Frances Ludy, George Ransford, Phil Savage, Ralph Todd, William Underdown and Fred Wuestler.

The "Anxieties" men are Jim Brooks,

ABBEY 1•2•3

1 "WINTERHAWK" (PG)
(a Blackfoot legend)
"CHAIRMAN OF THE BOSS" (R)
HOLLYWOOD SNEAK PREVIEW
FRIDAY 8:45 P.M.

2 Walt Disney's
"NO DEPOSIT—
NO RETURN"

3 "THE DUCHESS & THE DIRTWATER FOX" (PG)
Advanced tickets on sale for
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FAIRLANE

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SAT. MATINEE—5:15 P.M.
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SAT. & SUN. MATINEE
7th VOYAGE OF SINBAAD

2 "NO DEPOSIT—NO RETURN"
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Dor. Knotts
Wed. Sat. & Sun. Matinees
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RADIO CITY

513-5111
Woodward at 9th Mile
"LIPSTICK" (R)
Wed. 8:15 P.M.

SAT. & SUN. MATINEE
7th VOYAGE OF SINBAAD
1:00 & 2:00 P.M.

Please call theatre for schedule

TERRACE

1 "THE DUCHESS & THE DIRTWATER FOX" (PG)
Advance tickets on sale
LAST DAY

2 "I WILL, I WILL FOR NOW"
"TAKE THE MONEY AND RUN"
Advance tickets on sale

"LIPSTICK" (R)
SAT. & SUN. MATINEE
7th VOYAGE OF SINBAAD
1:00 & 2:00 P.M.

TOWNS 1&2

-Towne 1-
"THE DUCHESS & THE DIRTWATER FOX" (PG)

-Towne 2-
"SEVEN BEAUTIES" (R)

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Shelley Winters
Lenny Baker
"NEXT STOP
GREENWICH VILLAGE" (R)

Sat. & Sun. "TAXI DRIVER"
7th VOYAGE OF SINBAAD
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REDFORD/HOFFMAN
"ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN"
PG

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PG

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A beautiful pair of plums... A noose around his neck...
It's GOLDIE HAWN... It's GEORGE SEGAL...
as The Duchess... as The Dirtwater Fox...

THE DUCHESS AND THE
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PG SEAN CONNERY AUDREY HEPBURN ROBERT SHAW
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is a
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romance.
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