Getting Around

By ETHEL SIMMONS

Yvonne's gourmet dishes at Tweeny's

Yvonne Gill Davis has a down-to-earth approach to preparing and serving gourmet dishes. Maybe that's why she named her new Birmingham restaurant Tweeny's.

A tweeny in Victorian times was a maid, at the bottom of the social scale, who worked her way up," Ms. Davis explained. "That's what we're doing," she said with a laugh.

This well-known cook and restaurateur, who used to be chef at Detroit's Money Tree, sat at one of the white wrought-iron tables in her cafe on the lower level of the Great American Insurance Building near Crowley's.

She had come out of her kitchen after the lunch crowd diminished to talk about the new cafe, which seats 40.

"I COULDN'T [illegible] to this standard [illegible] seats," she said. "I'd have to have three cooks and eyes in the back of my head."

Ms. Davis had her head wrapped with a [illegible] and white [illegible] scarf and wore a white cook's coat and long apron. Her staff, totaling seven, includes three waiters who wear [illegible] and long white aprons.

The waiters serve lunch in [illegible] that change each day and are posted [illegible] Tweeny's is [illegible] Ms. Davis expects to add a [illegible] supper on Thursday and Friday, when the Birmingham stores are open late for Christmas shopping. She also wants to have an afternoon tea [illegible] with English [illegible] on Friday.

At lunch the offerings usually include a kind of strudel, two kinds of crepes, a pate plate and a soup and salad lunch.

I lunched on the Savoury Strudel, a filling, delicious entree with breast of chicken in Madras curry sauce. A selection of breads (French, orange, honey-date and garlic) accompanied the meal, which also included a salad of baby bibb lettuce, julienne ham strips, cheese and mushroom. Whipped butter was also served.

FOR DESSERT I ate a traditional English sherry trifle, white, light and fluffy.

Yvonne's Cuisine A La Carte, opened upstairs just about a year ago, has been moved to the inner courtyard where Tweeny's is located under a skylight.

The shop features all kinds of marvelous foods made up by Yvonne to serve for elegant company or family meals—everything from canned delicacies to main course dishes and rich desserts.

Many of the dishes sold in the shop are then made up to serve at lunch. "Lunch is kind of a super offthrew of a professional kitchen," Ms. Davis said.

One might be served cognac calves liver pate stocked in the shop. "Let's face it. This is not what you'd get in just a crepe cafe."

DINERS CAN enjoy looking into the kitchen through a picture window that has been [illegible] and watch dishes being prepared. The kitchen staff can also look out; it works both ways.

A bright display of huge copper pots and other cooking paraphernalia, all functional, hangs on an overhead rack in the kitchen. These pots also are used for serving when Ms. Davis caters, which is one of her A La Carte specialties.

"Some of these pots are from the Savoy Hotel in London," she said. "They sold off all their coppers."

Tweeny's has been open for about two weeks now. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. for lunch, and the shop is open till 6 p.m. Ms. Davis said they can still toss a house salad, offer quiche or pate for people who want to lunch after 3 p.m.

'Peter Pan' for youth

New York's Dreamstuff Corp. will perform "Peter Pan" at the Detroit Youtheatre in the Detroit Institute of Arts Nov. 13 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Featuring original puppets and live actors on a revolving stage, the new musical adventure through Never Never Land is also the first Magic Carpet show of the season—and a special salute to Girl Scouts and Canadian Girl Guides.

Magic Carpet is a community service providing transportation directly from selected neighborhood shopping malls to the museum's auditorium on seven Saturdays throughout the Youtheatre season. Participating malls include Southland, Westland, Macomb Mall and Pontiac Mall.

Magic Carpet tickets include Youtheatre admission and round-trip charter coach transportation. Regular general admission tickets are priced for children and adults, or less per person in groups of 20 or more. Tickets and information are available at the art institute ticket office, 832-2730.

Film series about women

Sister Cinema will inaugurate one of the first series of films made by or about women in the United States on Sunday in Detroit.

The initial event, a fundraising party, features the 1929 movie "The Wild Party" starring Clara Bow, and a variety of films made by local women artists. This fundraiser is at 3 p.m. only; showings for the following programs are at 3 and 5 p.m. on alternate Sundays at the First Unitarian Church, Cass and Forest (red door facing Forest). Call 823-1347, 533-0331 or [illegible].

'Oedipus' set for première

The world premiere of "Oedipus," a musical adaptation of the original script by Sophocles, will be presented Nov. 5 by Oakland University's Barn Theatre.

The playwright's adaptation of the work is Darien Martus, an OU graduate and staff member of the university's New Charter College.

Martus has written music and lyrics that [illegible] to give the play a universal image. "Oedipus" focuses on the thought progressions a human undertakes in a search for [illegible] identity.

The Barn Theatre's version of "Oedipus" will be presented in February at the 9th Annual American College Theatre Festival in Washington, D.C. The by-invitation-only program features representatives from University Theatre companies throughout the country.

The play will be repeated at OU on Nov. 6-7, Nov. 12-14 and Nov. 19-21. Curtain is 8:30 p.m. in the Barn Theatre on campus. Tickets are priced for general admission.

Special matinee performances are available for groups on request. For information, call 377-2245.

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