

Dance company's works run gamut

Dances to tempt classical music buffs, jazz lovers, abstract thinkers and fun-loving folks will be presented by the Murray Louis Dance Company at Detroit's Music Hall Center.

Their engagement, which includes some of Murray Louis' most popular and newest works, runs from Wednesday, Dec. 12, through Sunday, Dec. 16.

A major personality and force in American modern dance, Murray Louis is the winner of the 1977 Dancemagazine Award and the recipient of two John Simon Guggenheim Fellowships. Among the 53 ballets to his credit, Louis has choreographed works for Rudolph Nureyev, the Royal Danish Ballet and the Berlin Opera Ballet.

Dance critic Clive Barnes wrote in the New York Post, "Murray Louis is among our most physical of dancers and most brilliant of choreographers."

MURRAY LOUIS presents Detroit dance fans with his world-famous circus piece, "Hoopla," a humorous medley of circus acts. His recent creation "Figura" plays with tango and flamenco motifs in a light, humorous mood.

The Murray Louis Dance Company has achieved critical acclaim around the world. Its tours have included Western Europe, the Spoleto Festival in Italy, Central and South America, and a U. S. State Department-sponsored visit to India. In 1974, Louis completed an educational film "Dance as an Art Form" that has been aired on network television as far away as Norway and Bangladesh.

Evening performances of Murray Louis Dance Company are at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. Matinees are at 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets can be purchased at the Music Hall box office, 350 Madison, Detroit, or by calling 963-7680, Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For group rates, call Joan Heidt, 963-7622.



The Murray Louis Dance Company will perform Wednesday, Dec. 12, through Dec. 26 at the Music Hall Center in Detroit.



Navin Johnson (Steve Martin) is not too bright, but he's enthusiastic, in "The Jerk." Universal's rags to riches to rags story.

The Movies

LOUISE SNIDER

Culture Center marks season

Students at the Center for Creative Studies (CCS) — College of Art and Design are busily preparing for the festivities of Noel Night, the University-Cultural Center's annual tribute to the Christmas season.

Noel Night, which will take on the theme of an old-fashioned Christmas, is Wednesday, Dec. 12, 8-9 p.m.

CCS is located at 245 E. Kirby, near the Detroit Institute of Arts, in Detroit's University-Cultural Center. Free parking is available on campus. Further information may be obtained by

calling 872-3118.

Activities of the evening will include the CCS student Christmas sale of ceramics, glass, fabric works, metal works, graphics, wood, drawings, paintings, sculptures, photographs and more.

Holidays bring the season's best

With the weather hardly conducive to a great flurry of activities, with vacations freeing children and adults from school and work, and with the spirit of giving being matched dollar for dollar by the spirit of self-indulgence, the Christmas season has proven to be prime time for film distribution.

And for moviegoers, dismayed by a lackluster year, the holidays provide a rare opportunity for making choices. Often, the best films are saved for last.

This year, there are more than two dozen new films or major re-releases scheduled. If you don't have time (or money) to see all the ones you want, don't despair. Most of them will be around through January, and some will continue through the gloomy days of February.

Here's a quick survey of what you can expect.

"BLACK STALLION" and "Wise Blood" already have received critical praise at scattered film festival showings. "Black Stallion" is the classic children's adventure story of a boy and a beautiful Arabian horse. The long, lyrical opening sequence has impressed many viewers.

"Wise Blood," based on the novel by Flannery O'Connor and directed by John Huston, is a bizarre story of a boy who rejects the fire and brimstone concepts drilled into him by his preacher-grandfather.

Another fine literary work made into a film is "The Europeans," adapted from the Henry James novel. Lee Remick is reputed to give a radiant performance as the American who, after living abroad for many years, returns to New England in search of a secure marriage.

A marriage that ends in a custody battle is the subject of "Kramer vs. Kramer." Dustin Hoffman, Meryl Streep and young Justin Henry are the principals in a drama that strives for accuracy.

A different style of accuracy energizes "All That Jazz," a boisterous, sexy musical with Roy Scheider as a hard-driving choreographer. The autobiographical musical was directed and co-authored by Bob Fosse.

ANOTHER AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL film is Neil Simon's "Chapter Two," about a man starting over again after his wife dies of cancer. Marsha Mason repeats her real-life role as the woman who helps him forge a new life.

"The Jerk" and "1941" are two of the louder comedies. The former stars Steve Martin, and the latter features John Belushi. A scale model of Los Angeles, said to have cost \$1 million, is used in "1941," a comedy about a Japanese attack on the city of angels.

Peter Sellers plays a retarded gardener who becomes a political adviser in the provocative comedy, "Being There." Art Carney, George Burns and Lee Strasberg make a mischievous senior trio who decide to end their days, "Going in Style."

The last days of the Battista regime provide the setting for "Cuba," a romantic adventure with Sean Connery and Brooke Adams. Las Vegas is the principal location for "The Electric Horseman," a satirical, contemporary romance with Jane Fonda and Robert Redford.

Finally, assuming the race to complete the elaborate special effects is won, two intergalactic adventures, Disney's "The Black Hole" and Paramount's "Star Trek: The Motion Picture," will open with all the wizardry money can buy.



Divorced parents Dustin Hoffman and Meryl Streep confront each other over custody of their young son, whom they both love, in Columbia Pictures' "Kramer vs. Kramer."

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