Comedy is strong in 'Rose Tattoo'

Performances of the Meadow Brook Theatre production of "The Rose Tatloo" by Tennessee Wi-liams continue through Sunday, Jan. 25, on the Oakland Universi-ty campus in Rochester Hills. For ticket information, call the box office at 377-3500.

By Cathle Broklenbach

Director Charles Noite deftly sidesteps the trap in Tennessee Wil-llams' drama "The Rose Tattoo" and presents a balanced and wonderfully

presents a balanced and wonderfully funny production.

True, "Tattoo" is a passionate, iustry drama about love, grief and the sexual renaissance of Serafina Delte Rose. The potential trap in all the hot-blooded, arm-waving Sicillian emotion at the center of the play is to go for passion and downplay the brilliant, touching comedy Tennessee Williams wrote into "Tattoo."

With Jayne Houdyshell in the lead, Nolto has an actress strong enough to pull off the drams and to do magnificent things with the comedy. Henry J. Jordan plays the muscle-bound Italian truckfurer who woos Serafina. When the two get together, the play truly comes allow with a famny, tough electricity only two virtuoso players could generate. Secues in the first act explain two violent death of Serafina's husband four years earlier and her devotion to his idealized memory, but the play really begins when Alvaro drives his truckful of bananas into Serafina's ilfe.

"TATTOO" IS SET in a little town somewhere on the Gulf coast be-tween Mohlle and New Orleans, in a house created by set designer Peter Elicks, with his usual attention to de-tail. First impression is that "Rose" Hicks, with his total attention to de-tail. First impression is that "Rose" might as well be set in Sicily. Why then does Williams put in Le Strega, the witchy, non-Italian neighbor who





5 GOOD REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD EAT AT **TRINI & CARMENS**

Independent and family owned.
 Conturies of knowledge and culture.
 Sorving this area for 25 years. We are now serving the children and grandchildren of our earliest customers.
 We were the first with our own style Nacho- and

copied by many. 5. We serve quality food!



TRINI & CARMENS 332-6851



LA FAMILIA Martinez





Cathle Breidenbach

spies on Serafina and periodically joins in a melec of screaming children and blackgarbed Sicilian matrons who run 'round Serafina's house chasing a runaway goal, a chase reminiscent of a scene from a Laurel and Hardy movie?

After every noisy outburst from the Italians, the Sirega appears with her grey hair flying to keen, 'The crary Wops are at it again.' Evelyn Orbach plays Le Strega for its comic potential and cicarly shows the cultural contrast Williams Intended.

William Turention plays another

fural contrast Williams Intended.
William Turrentine plays aonher
non-Italian, Jack Hinter, a mildmannered, young sailor who fails for
Serafinn's 15-year-old daughter,
Rosa (Shirley Ann Raiagilan). He's
overwhelmed by Rosa's minishilited
passion and by the forrent of emotionalism of her household.
Compared to the rich, funny and
touching honesty of Serafinn's romance with Alvaro, the love between Rosa and Jack seems sweet
but callow.
WILLIAMS HAS a fetiah for hav-



ing his players wear underwear — women in slips and men in their un-derahirts — presumably because it's steamy down South and the weather reflects characters' equally steamy

reflects characters' equally steamy passions.

Elizabeth Toylor as Maggie in Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' may have looked sultry in a slip, but Williams would have done Houdyshell a favor if he'd let Serafina get dressed more often. Alvaro, on the other hand, looks splendid in his underskirt — so did Marlon Brando as Stanley in "Streetcar Named Desire." On second thought, maybe Williams had something with his undersware fetish. Divina Cook and Phillip Locker give line supporting performances as Assunta das the most obnozious traveling salesman imaginable.

Cathie Breidenbach of West Bloomfield has always loved the-ater. A former high-school Eng-lish teacher, she works in public relations, advertising and as a freelance writer.



Young performer grows up on stage

Continued from Page 6

Conlinued from Page 6

Turner has been studying and
teaching drama since the was a
youngsiter. At the age of 13, she told
George Roper that ahe wanted to go
to his school. He hired her as drama
teacher for the lower school, and she
laught drama in exchange for tultion. The third year, abe got a free
scholarship and graduated a year
early.

senoinramp and granuated a yearly.

An interesting sidelight: "My mother had started the theater department at Roeper but quit because she was pregnant with me."

After graduation, Type was accepted as a student by three drama schools in London and was planting to attend one on an overseas grant, when the school realized that she wasn't 18 yet and was underage for the grant.

the grant.

SHE PUT HER studies on hold but eventually decided to study in the United States. She was accepted by Julillard, the North Carolina School for the Arts and the University of Wincomin-Milwaukee.

"UWM was the school I really wanted to go to. It has emphasis on voice, speech and movement." She wanted to concentrate on an actor's technical abilities — with the same attention to technique as when she studied violin for Id years.

She was Is 8 when she got in, the youngest student there at that time. The rest of the students were 23-35. (Fier roommate was 15-year-old Linksey Frock, who now plays Betsy on "As the World Turns.") She

ceived her bachelor of fine arts ad master of fine arts equivalent in

and master of line arts equivalent in 1984.

Turner said she still owes \$22,000 in December working as a carriage for her schooling. She earned \$4,000 in December working as a carriage driver in New York's Centai Park but describes this as a harrowing experience she wouldn't want to continue.

While at UWM, she worked as the speech teacher's sasistant. The head of Jullilard contacted her school and she was recommended when the American Academy of Dramatic Arts was looking for a speech teacher. She taught at the academy for about nine months. 'I discovered teaching warm' what I want to do,' she said.

But sho does have a special interest in speech training. 'I'ts the big-gest key to doing what the playwright worse,' she said.

FROM THE YEARS up to when

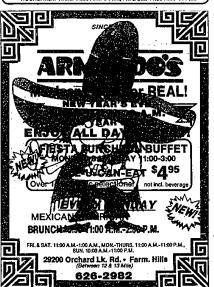
wright wrote," she said.

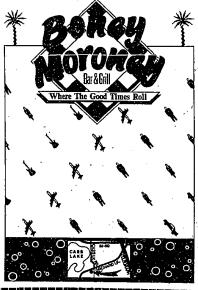
FROM THE YEARS up to when she first went away to college, Terner was definitely overweight.

"I'm five foot three and I weighed 180 pounds in college," she said. "They hired me with the idea of doing a lot of character roles." But during one summer at home, she decided to slim down and lost 69 pounds. When she went back to see the short of t









DINNER FOR TWO

Machus Special Offer With Coupon... \$ 14% (127 Value)



CHOICE OF ENTREE: Boston Scrod a la Scotty Broiled Lemon Chicken Broiled Oriental Chicken Breast Sauteed Provimi Veal Liver Chicken and Vegetable Stir Fry ALL ENTREES INCLUDE: Cup of our Homemade Soup Machus Salad Service National Salato Services Vegetable, Potato or Mixed Rice Machus Bread and Butter Small Carafe of House Wine (Red, White or Rose) or Small Pitcher of Beer

We Accept All Major Credit Cards Cannot be used with any other promotion Expires Jan. 31, 1987

DAILY FEATURES AND MACHUS FINE PASTRIES

3270 West Big Beaver Rd. Sheffield Office Park Troy • 649-1840