



Johnny Seaton appears as the King of Rock 'n' Roll in "Elvis: A Musical Celebration" coming to Detroit's Fox Theatre in January.

upcoming things to do

Deadline for the Upcoming calendar is one week ahead of publication. Items must be received by Thursday to be considered for publication the following Thursday. Send to: Ethel Simmons, Entertainment Editor, the Observer & Eccentric, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia 48150.

● 'ANYTHING GOES'
Troy Players recently appointed Connie Patrick to direct its second production this season, the Cole Porter musical "Anything Goes". Auditions are at 7 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, Jan. 3-5, at the Troy Community Center. Performances will be the first three weekends in March. For information call 879-1285.

● CHRISTMAS SHOW
The Attic Theatre in Detroit presents "The Gift of the Magi", Peter Eckstrom's musical adaptation of O'Henry's classic Christmas story. Also on the bill, as a prelude, is an original work by Edward Shaw of Birmingham, "Two-Time and Bags", the story of two street people who make the most of their situation to

find the Christmas spirit. Shaw says, "It's 'The Gift of the Magi' in a contemporary urban setting." Performances are at 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Fridays, 8:30 and 9 p.m. Saturdays and 2:30 and 7 p.m. Sundays. Last scheduled performance is at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 24. For tickets call the Attic Box Office at 875-8284.

● AUDITION TIME
Equity auditions for understudies for the roles of Rose and Geoffrey in "Stepping Out" by Richard Harris will be held at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 27, at the Birmingham Theatre. Performance dates are Friday, Dec. 30, through Sunday, Feb. 5. Rose is a 40ish black woman from Trinidad. Geoffrey is a 40ish male. Both should have some knowledge of tap dancing but need not be accomplished dancers. For more information call 644-1096.

● NEW WORKSHOPS
Mark Hildley's Comedy Castle and the Motor City Improv announce the opening of registrations for a new series of workshops taught by Jonathon Round. Workshops at the

Comedy Castle in Berkley feature an introduction to "Smart Comedy," a combination of theory, technique and stage work for young stand-ups. Workshops at the Motor City Improv in Detroit are geared toward teaching the fundamentals of creating skill comedy in the time-tested tradition of Second City. Workshops at the Comedy Castle begin Saturday, Jan. 7, and Monday, Jan. 9. Workshops at the Motor City Improv start Sunday, Jan. 8. For further information, call 543-6485.

● 'CAN-CAN'
Cole Porter's musical "Can-Can" is coming to the Detroit's Fisher Theatre, opening Wednesday, Jan. 18, and continuing through Sunday, Feb. 5. The show stars Tony-Award-winner Chita Rivera and the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes. For reservations and information, call the box office at 872-1000. To order tickets by phone, call Ticketmaster at 423-6666.

● SESAME STREET
A lovable alien named Tee Hee teaches a special lesson about communication and understanding when she makes a surprise visit to 123 Sesame Street for the new Sesame Street Live's "Big Bird and the ABCs," appearing Wednesday, Jan. 25, to Sunday, Feb. 5, at Cobo Arena in Detroit. Tickets at \$9.50 and \$7.50 are available at the box office and all Ticketmaster outlets, including Hudson's and AAA locations. To charge tickets by phone, call 423-

6666. For general information, call 567-6000.

● ELVIS PRESLEY
The multimillion-dollar musical "Elvis: A Musical Celebration" will play Detroit's Fox Theatre, Tuesday-Sunday, Jan. 17-22. This multimillion-dollar musical showcases 49 of Elvis Presley's most remembered songs while recounting his life story. Julian Whitaker, Johnny Seaton and Terry Mike Jeffrey each play the role of Elvis at different ages of his life. Tickets are on sale at all Ticketmaster outlets, including Hudson's and AAA locations, the Joe Louis Arena Box Office, and the Fox Theatre Box Office open Monday-Friday and on event weekends from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. For general information, call 567-6000.

● NEW YEAR'S
The Gnome Restaurant in Detroit presents "New Year's Eve Jazz Extravaganza," with Judge Myron Wahls on piano, Phil Lashly on alto sax, Gayleynn McKinney on drums, Austin Cromer on vocals and Ron English on guitar. For \$25 per person a full dinner is served, consisting of an appetizer, salad, choice of prime rib, rainbow trout or Middle East combination plate, champagne toast at midnight and party favors. The "New Year's Eve Jazz Extravaganza" will be from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 31. The regular menu will be available before 9 p.m. For more information, call 833-0120.

Romantic music is his specialty

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Kosins memorizes all his songs and refuses to use sheet music on the job.
He takes his cues from the great pianists of the '40s and '50s — Eddy Duchin, George Shey and Carmen Cavallaro — and tries to emulate their high standards and subdued styles.
"They played listening and dancing music so people could talk without being intruded on. They let music speak for itself. I've been in clubs where I wish the band would take a break," he says. "You have to know

when to be background and when to be foreground."
He takes his lead from the crowd and is more likely to sing on weekends when the crowds seem in a dancing mood. Then he steps up the beat and the banter for a lively crowd out to dance.
Sebastian's minuscule dance floor, a strip of tiled space squeezed like a feather between the bar and the piano, may be small but the limited space doesn't seem to hamper couples stepping to the music.
Kosins says the dance floor accommodates 10 or 12 couples and

"up to 20 on a busy Saturday." Twenty may be stretching it, even though check-to-check dancing requires less floor space than more hyperactive modes of moving to music.

SEBASTIAN'S SOPHISTICATED, New York decor and gourmet menu might lead customers to expect a cover charge or a stiff minimum, but the restaurant charges neither. Six nights a week Kosins's music adds its mellow flavors to the cosmopolitan atmosphere of Sebastian's and invites people to take a turn on the dance floor.

This New Year's Eve Sebastian's offers three seatings for dinner, and the trio will play from 7 p.m. until morning. Although he usually doesn't know what he's going to play until he sits down at the keyboard, for New Year's, Kosins has planned a sentimental set to follow the requisite "Auld Lang Syne" played at the stroke of 12.
He will resurrect a forgotten, romantic song called "You're My Past, Present and Future," a song he thinks captures the nostalgic, thoughtful mood that follows the midnight frenzy of New Year's Eve.

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