

At Schoolcraft

'Superstar' Loud, But 'Beautiful'

By KATHY MORAN

"Beautiful!" "Exciting!" "Great!" "Out of Sight!"

These were just a few of the comments flying around as the audience streamed out of the explosive "Jesus Christ Superstar" concert performed by the America's Rock Opera Company Friday night at Schoolcraft College.

Based on the Superstar album, the concert was an emotion-charged probing into the question—"Who are you, Jesus Christ?"

Although the concert posed no answers, it reflected the desperate cry to know about Christ in terms of modern society.

As Judas said, "Every time I look at you I don't understand why you let things you did get so out of hand."

THE AMERICAN ROCK Opera Company comes from St. Louis, Mo., and created its production in 14 days.

It will be appearing in Detroit, in Cobo Arena, Thursday, May 13, with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and at Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, May 11, in Bowen Field House.

The rock opera performance left such an impact on its Observerland audience that Monday morning one spectator said, "I'm still feeling high."

And the audience was not all young rock enthusiasts—a good proportion were adults including a number of nuns, priests and ministers. In fact,

two-thirds of the 2,100 tickets sold went to non-students of Schoolcraft.

"I really enjoyed it," one of the nuns said. "Sometimes it was too loud—I blocked my ears several times. But it was beautiful!"

Any person knowing the words to the album was at a distinct advantage because sometimes the seven members of the orchestra overpowered the 12 singers.

But in general, the com-

pany did an excellent job of accommodating to the non-acoustic gymnasium, which is clearly designed for basketball crowds.

A number of people brought the words to the album with them, and when the hearing got tough, pulled out the words to follow the songs.

COLORED LIGHTS were used to project the singers against the gym wall—not only adding to the atmosphere but also singing out

the main singers for those who couldn't see well. But the lighting really came on strong when strobe lights were used in the "Trial Before Pilate."

Outstanding singers were Sylvia Cooper (Mary Magdalene), Art Rushton (Peter and King Herod), Eron Tabor (Pontius Pilate) and Denny Belline (Judas). The whole group and orchestra brought the house a thunderous, whistling standing ovation after the charged finale.

Amusements

LRTG Will Stage French Comedy

Theater goers will have only three nights to see the Livonia-Redford Theatre Guild's presentation of Jean Anouilh's "Waltz of the Toreadors."

This French farce will be staged in Bentley High School auditorium, 15100 Hubbard, Livonia, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, April 29 and 30 and May 1, at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$2 Thursday and Friday and \$2.50 Saturday. For advance tickets, call Mrs. Thomas A. Tuskin, 11330 Hillcrest, Livonia.

Many of the guild's best-known performers will take part in the "Waltz."

Among them are Moya Taormina, "Stop the World," Shirley Leibel, "Come Back, Little Sheba," Howard Egan, "Oliver," Jerry Sims, "The King and I," and Norman Smith, "Cabaret."

The lead is played by a talented newcomer to the guild, Errol Fortin, and the director is Jim Wojcik.

your guide to

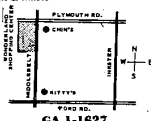
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