

Passion, raw energy in Stratford's 'Romeo and Juliet'

Performances of "Romeo and Juliet" presented at the Stratford Festival Stage through November 15. For ticket information, call the Festival Box Office at 961-4688.

By HYUN GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

The Stratford Festival's production of "Romeo and Juliet" has all the youth, passion and raw energy that Shakespeare intended and the stage rarely delivers.

This production, which runs in repertory through Nov. 15 at the Ontario Theatre's Festival Stage, has two lovers who actually look the part of gaily teenagers and yet have

the magic of Shakespeare's language with insight, intelligence and clarity. Here are two leads that bring the youth of Franco Zeffirelli's famous film version but handle the language with more vitality and understanding.

Megan Porter Follows, star of television's "Anne of Green Gables," is a young woman in her 20s who easily passes for the 14-year-old Juliet. She brings to the part the flushed look of a girl enraptured by the latest pop star, which is exactly the intensity Shakespeare had in mind for a love that is more glibly captured than profound attraction. Follows moves comforta-

bly and speaks the lifting verse with ease. She is Juliet and is well matched by her Romeo.

Antoni Cimolino has the larger role and has more opportunity to lose the thread, but he rarely does. Here is the perfect Romeo, not a wimpy, love-struck sap but a boisterous young man, looking for love and adventure wherever he can find it. Cimolino handles the language with skill and gives substance to the impassioned speeches, but he is equally believable crumpling and jostling with his buddies.

"Romeo and Juliet" is not so much about the triumph of love

over death as it is about the foolishness of adults who allow the young to suffer for their quarrels. The "love" of Romeo and Juliet is an ardent but superficial passion brought to boiling by the rivalry of their families.

Director Richard Monette suggests this theme by doing the props and costumes in the style of 1930s fascist Italy. The idea of political tension and impending war is made, but never forced and Monette doesn't make the mistake of altering the text or making obvious references to that period. Debra Hanson's props and costumes are brilliant from the playboy whites to the

brown shirt uniforms to Juliet's soft, girlish fashion. The clothes and props are close enough to our own time to emphasize the timelessness of Shakespeare's poetry and wisdom.

As always Stratford surrounds its leads with superb supporting actors. Barbara Byrne is funny-as-Juliet's garrulous and doting nurse, making every comment hilariously clear. Culin Fero, who a few years back played Romeo on the Stratford stage, is an appropriately touchy and bitter Mercutio, Romeo's ill-fated friend. Lorne Kennedy is a tempestuous Tybalt proudly strutting in his Mussolini garb. Bernard

Hopkins as Friar Lawrence brings sympathy to his role of a peace-maker who sees his plan go tragically awry.

The best thing about this production is that it offers a perfect introduction to Shakespeare for young and old alike. The language is spoken impeccably, the action is brisk and includes sword fights as well as balcony love scenes and the love scenes are played without the dreary hearts and flowers but rather with the wit, joy and insanity of teenage love. And the devoted fans that Follows has won for "Anne of Green Gables" will gladly follow her to this higher plane.

UPCOMING THINGS TO DO

To get your announcements in the upcoming entertainment calendar, send items to be considered for publication to: Keely Wyman, Entertainment Editor, The Observer & Eccentric, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia 48150.

RADIO SHOW
A light-hearted recreation of a typi-

cal radio show of the '40s, "Three Gals & A Guy," features the music of Harry Warren at Punchinello's, 184 Pierce, Birmingham, 8:30 p.m. Fridays, 9 p.m. Saturdays, through June 27. Some of the featured songs are "42nd Street," "Jeepers Creepers," "We're in the Money," "The More I See You," and "Chat-

tananga Choo Choo." For information, reservations, call 644-5277.

STRING ORCHESTRA
Blue Lake International exchange program presents the Tannus String Orchestra from Germany in concert, 7 p.m. Thursday, July 16 at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church.

2225 E. 14 Mile Road Birmingham. Open to the public. No charge. For information, call 649-1381.

CHILDREN'S CONCERT
The Jewish Community Center will present a musical concert for children, "The Peanut Butter and Jam-Boree," 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 7 at the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield. For information, call 661-1000.

Jazzy benefit to help Wayne State

Some of Detroit's best-known performers will take part in "Hot Jazz and a Cool Breeze," a fundraising musical event 5:30-9:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 30, at Captain's Restaurant & Bar on the Detroit River, a quarter mile east of the Renaissance Center.

The benefit will help Wayne State University's College of Fine Performing and Communication

Arts raise money for a program that identifies and cultivates underprivileged students in the Detroit Public Schools who have strong artistic and creative skills.

The \$25 benefit tickets include \$10 contribution, hors d'oeuvres, parking, mini-auction and door prizes. All tickets will be held at the door. For information, call 577-5448.

Carillonners to present concerts

Hear the bells, and relax at the Summer Carillon Recital Series at Christ Church Cranbrook and at the Ann Arbor Summer Festival.

Now in its 64th season, the Cranbrook series offers an opportunity for casual listening to recitals performed by carillonners from across North America and Europe. Recitals may include special arrangements of folk, popular, and patriotic tunes, music from Broadway and Hollywood.

The series begins 1 p.m. Satur-

day, July 4 with a special Independence Day program featuring the Detroit Brass Society and Philip Burgess, Carillonner and Associate organist at Christ Church Cranbrook.

Dan Cook, University carillonner and assistant professor at Brigham Young University, Salt Lake City, Utah, and former Christ Church Cranbrook Carillonner performs, 4 p.m. Sunday, July 5. Concerts 1 p.m. every Sunday

through Sept. 6.

The series is free and open to the public. The carillon is best heard from outside the church about 200 feet from the tower. To the west of the tower, a spacious lawn offers a cool, shaded, and quiet listening area for the traditional summer recital. Listeners bring lawn chairs and blankets for use on the grounds, listen from their cars, or stroll the grounds. Tower tours follow the recitals on July 4, July 26 and Sept. 6.

Spring-Out to the Holiday Inn

Schools out, so Spring-Out to the hills. FARMINGTON HILLS for fun filled excitement in the holiday inn. Enjoy family packages Sunday through Saturday!

Spring-Out!
\$49.00
per room

- One deluxe guest room for up to 4 people!
- Magician Saturday night!
- In-room movies and Free Showtime!
- Matt Brady's opening soon!
- Complete Holiday Inn Facility:
- Indoor Pool, Whirl pool, Sauna, Billiards, Shuffleboard, Putting Greens, Ping Pong, Video Games, Exercise Equipment
- Additional nights only \$39.00!

Spring-Out Plus!
\$69.00
per room

Spring-Out Plus
Shirt for Mom, Kite for Dad
Free In-Room Movie,
1 certificate for a Large Pizza
all in a Useful Canvas Bag!

at Holiday Inn
38123 W. Van Meter Rd.
Farmington Hills, MI 48335

For Reservations Call
(313) 477-4000

Reservations required and coupon must be presented when checking in. Offer good through 7/31/92. Not valid with any other coupon or promotion. Subject to availability. Does not apply to groups.

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

On the Town

Come & Try Our New Executive Chef Remy Berdy's Fine Cuisine

Kingsley Inn
642-0100

Buddy's PIZZA

SOFTBALL TEAMS WELCOME

Managers: Ask about Your Discount Card!
LUNCH SPECIALS DAILY

LIVONIA
37625 Plymouth Rd.
Tel: 481-2000 ext. 202
261-3550

Other Buddy's Locations:
JACKSONVILLE
855-4800
ROYAL OAK
549-8000

Bring this ad in for...
\$2 off
Any Large Pizza
or Large Antipasto or
Large Greek Salad

MITCH HOUSEY'S

Open 11 A.M.
Businessmen's Lunches
DINNERS from \$7.95

FASHION SHOW
Every Thursday
12 Noon to 2:00 P.M.

WORLD'S FINEST
PRIME RIB
with beer is
\$9.95

COCKTAIL HOUR
4-7 P.M. Daily
EVERY Cocktail Hour
WED. 4 P.M. Closing

NOW APPEARING...
THE SHOWCASEMEN
NEW TROUBLE HARBOR
Small to Large
RESERVE NOW FOR CHRISTMAS PARTIES

28500 Schoolcraft
(Opposite Lakeside Dr.)
LIVONIA • 425-5520
DAILY SHOW SAT. 11:00 A.M.
425-5520

Looking for someone special?

A bowling partner, a travel companion or someone to share your life?

Every Monday and Thursday your Observer & Eccentric Newspapers will publish a PERSONAL SCENE directory—listings of people who are looking for people.

PERSONAL SCENE has five classifications—men seeking women, women seeking men; people who want to share sports interests, seniors who need companionship and people who need someone with whom to travel.

PERSONAL SCENE also takes advantage of our electronic age. When you've composed your five-line listing, which will run for eight issues, call 591-0900 and our ad takers will be happy to help you record your message so that it can be heard by people who are interested in what you've said in your ad. You will never receive unwanted calls at your home; all responses will be recorded and left in your electronic PERSONAL SCENE message center. Note: It will cost \$1.49 per minute to check the responses to your listing.

Readers who wish to respond to a listing in our PERSONAL SCENE directory, may use a touch-tone telephone to call 1-900-454-8088 and the special number which will appear in each ad. The cost to do this is also \$1.49 per minute.

To place your own PERSONAL SCENE ad, call 591-0900/FAX 953-2232 or Mail us this coupon:

The following is kept confidential. We cannot publish your ad without it. Please print clearly.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ DAYS _____ EVES _____

Return this form to the address below and we will call you regarding your electronic message.

Observer & Eccentric Newspapers/Classified
PERSONAL Scene
36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150

You must be 18 years of age or older to use Personal Scene. Personal Scene recommends: Men seeking women 620 Sports interests 629 Travel companions 624 Women seeking men 621 Seniors 623

The publisher assumes no liability for the content or reply to any PERSONAL SCENE ad. The advertiser assumes complete liability for the content of and answers to any advertisement or message placed in this publication. The advertiser agrees to indemnify and hold the publisher harmless from all costs, damages and expenses resulting from or caused by the publication or non-publication of any reply to such advertisement. By using PERSONAL SCENE, the advertiser agrees not to sue the publisher for lost time or damages in any way resulting from the publication or non-publication of any reply to such advertisement.