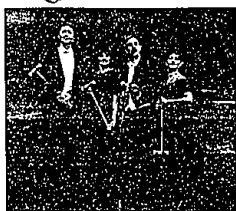


FRIDAY



The Farmington Area Philharmonic presents an evening of Rodgers & Hammerstein - "From Oklahoma to the South Pacific" featuring the vocal quartet "S*A*T*B" 8 p.m. in the Wallace Smith Theatre, Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge Campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, Call (810) 471-7667, or (810) 474-6400.

SATURDAY



James Bond's Aston Martin DB5, the gadget-loaded spy car that starred in the 1964 film "Goldfinger," shown here with its original "Agent 007" driver, Sean Connery, is on display at Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, (313) 271-1620.

SUNDAY



Robert Grossman (left to right) and John Siebert star in Meadow Brook Theatre's production of "The Woman in Black," a spine-tingling ghost story at the theater on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester. Call Ticketmaster (810) 645-6666 or (810) 377-3300.



Hot Tip: "Smokey Joe's Cafe" — the songs of Leiber and Stoller, now playing at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit, celebrates the music of this song-writing team who wrote the hits of the 1950s and 1960s. These are the songs sung by Elvis, Peggy Lee, The Coasters, The Drifters, and other stars who had gold and platinum records during that time. Call (313) 872-1000 for more information, or Ticketmaster to charge tickets.

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

KEELY WYGONIK, EDITOR • 313-953-2105

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World Champions: Ted Wakar of Canton and Jim Bur Jr., formerly of Livonia won the two-man 20 hour team competition last year in Plymouth with this Art Deco carving entitled "Dance of the Butterfly Queen."

Icy festivals shivery delights

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
SPECIAL WRITER

Ice carving is quickly becoming a favorite family spectator sport. Plymouth, Frankenmuth and Birmingham all have competitions and exhibitions planned for January and February.

Last year more than 637,000 visitors flocked to the Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular. At least that many are expected to flood downtown Plymouth Jan. 15-20.

Truly an international competition, the Plymouth Ice Spectacular features carvers from the U.S., Japan, Norway, and Canada. Organizer Michael Watts has ordered more than 300,000 pounds of ice in anticipation of their arrival.

"To commemorate the 15th anniversary we'll have a larger than life-size carousel created out of ice on the fountain in Kellogg Park. In addition, there will be a Fantasy land entitled "A Walk with the Animals" in The Gathering, scenes from Space Jam, Winnie the Pooh, and the Hunchback of Notre Dame because we think it's important to carve sculptures for the kids," said Michael Watts.

"Plus the American Culinary Federation will award an ice carving medal for the first time."

A panel of judges from America and Japan will gather to award more than \$10,000 in cash prizes based on the American Culinary Federation's system of designating up to a combined total of 40 points based on artistic achievement, strength of design, craftsmanship, originality, and creativity. Last year, subjects ranged from the Realism of two stallions fighting to Abstract compositions comprised of various shapes and forms.

Port sport, part art, ice carving began as a culinary tradition. In fact many of the carvers are professional chefs. Ted Wakar, executive chef in the penthouse at Ford World Headquarters in Dearborn, won last year's team competition in Plymouth and world championship in Japan. He is not entering competitions this year, but will coordinate the judging. After years of competing, the 34-year old Canton resident hopes to bring a fresh outlook to the scoring process.

"Ice sculpting isn't just a centerpiece but there's an artistry to it. While I like open, airy pieces that have movement and a grace about them, the artist needs a little bit of freedom to create on his own," said Ted Wakar, who is currently seeking sponsorship to participate in ice carving demonstrations at the 1998

winter Olympic Games in Nagano, Japan. Although this is only the second time ice carving has been featured at the Olympics, carvers hope it will eventually be designated an official sport.

Snowfest

If ice carving aficionados miss Wakar's carousel featuring an ostrich, giraffe, lion, pig and kitten in Plymouth, they will still be able to view his artistry in Frankenmuth. Wakar will carve a 26 foot high Statue of Liberty for Zehnder's Snowfest '97 Jan. 28 to Feb. 3.

He will not be competing in Frankenmuth because Wakar will be in Japan taking part in ice carving preliminaries to the 1998 Winter Olympic Games.

Zehnder's Snowfest '97 expects to attract more than 200,000 visitors to the sixth annual event which includes snow and ice sculpting competitions and exhibits, dog sled races, a 16-foot high, 200-foot long snow slide, a warming tent with live entertainment, puppet theater, and two nights of fireworks.

Winners of the Great Lakes Professional Ice Carvers Sculpting Classic will go on to compete in the

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Commemorative Poster: In honor of the 15th anniversary of the oldest and largest ice carving festival in North America, a limited edition poster has been designed by Rob Smiley, an instructor at Schoolcraft College in Livonia. Proceeds will go to the nonprofit Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular Foundation which sponsors the event.

ICE CARVING FESTIVALS

■ Plymouth Ice Spectacular

What: More than 600,000 visitors are expected to attend the 15th annual Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular featuring competitions for professional, amateur and student ice carvers. Recognized as the oldest and largest ice carving festival in North America, the Plymouth Ice Spectacular will include a Fantasy land entitled "A Walk with the Animals," life-size ice sculpture carousel in Kellogg Park, a 24-hour laser light show, and gingerbread house display. Proceeds from the sale of a limited edition poster will go to the Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular Foundation. For information call (313) 459-6969.

When: Jan. 15-20.

Where: Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.

■ Zehnder's Snowfest '97 in Frankenmuth

What: For a sixth year, Zehnder's of Frankenmuth hosts snow and ice sculpting competitions and exhibitions, dog sled races, a 16-foot high, 200-foot long snow slide, a warming tent with live entertainment, puppet theater, and fireworks. For more information, call 1-800-863-7999.

When: Jan. 28 to Feb. 3.

Where: 90 miles north of Detroit on South Main Street in Frankenmuth.

■ Birmingham Winterfest

What: Sponsored by the Principal Shopping District, Winterfest is an exhibition of sculptures carved from ice including a magical castle and Disney characters. For more information, call (810) 433-3550. When: Feb. 6-9. Carving action begins 10 a.m. daily. Where: Shain Park, north of Merrill, east of Bates in downtown Birmingham.

THEATER

Plummer is perfect fit as John Barrymore

"Barrymore"

What: Christopher Plummer in William Luce's one-person play about famed actor John Barrymore. Where: Detroit's Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts. When: 8 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, Jan. 14-18 and 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 18-19. Tickets: \$26.50-\$41.50. Call Music Hall box office (313) 963-2368 or Ticketmaster Charge-by-Phone (810) 645-6666.

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

He was strikingly handsome, debonair, charming and lauded as one of the finest classical actors of his generation.

He was John Barrymore, the Great Profile. But those words could also be used to describe another actor, an actor of a later generation who still electrifies audiences with his performances on stage, screen and television and has often been compared to the flamboyant Barrymore.

Now Christopher Plummer is using those Barrymore qualities to portray the actor during his last sad days in William Luce's "Barrymore" opening Jan. 14 at the Music Hall as part of a pre-Broadway tour that began this fall at the Stratford Festival.

"I've sort of known about and admired the great Barrymore family, and I know Diane, Jack's daughter," Plummer said in a telephone interview.

The Canadian actor said critics early on had made the comparison between the two actors. He said he was flattered.

"I never imitated him. But he's been in my memory bank, alive there," Plummer said. "I was very fond of Diane, and she told extraordinary stories about her father. I felt I knew him though we'd never met."

Playwrights would often send Plummer plays about Barrymore, but they never measured up.

"They were never good enough. They didn't complete his cycle of personality," Plummer said. "They missed his self-deprecating humor, they always portrayed him as a classic tragic actor. They ignored his seedy side, his vulgarity and wit."

Barrymore was the product of a long family theatrical legacy that included his older brother and sister, Lionel and Ethel. He won critical praise for his Broadway stage performances in "Richard III" and "Hamlet" in the early 1920s. He began his film career with his acclaimed performance in "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" in 1920. He appeared in several classic Hollywood movies including "Twentieth Century," "Grand Hotel," and "Dinner at Eight."

In his later years, Barrymore developed a drinking prob-



Starring role: Christopher Plummer in William Luce's one-person play about famed actor John Barrymore at Detroit's Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts.

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