

# 'The Great Sebastians' Opens This Weekend in Farmington Barn

Suspenseful melodrama and comic take-offs of old-fashioned vaudeville is the mixture promised in the Farmington Players' production "The Great Sebastians" which opens Feb. 12. Certain time for the production, which runs for two consecutive weekends at "The Barn," is at 8:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 7:30 p.m. at the Sunday performance. The Farmington Players' Barn is located at 23232

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Presented by the Theatre Guild of Livonia-Redford

**"GIGI"**

The French Comedy

Friday, Feb. 26 - Saturday, Feb. 27

At Redford Union Auditorium, 8:30 P.M.

Kinloch at Curtis (North of Six Mile).

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**"FATHER GOOSE"**

music hall in Prague at the time of the Communist coup in Czechoslovakia. Their only interest in the political events swirling through the city is a concern about how they can get across the border with their money.

Trapped behind the Iron curtain, the Sebastians' thumb their noses at the usurpers and use some trickery to outwit the Security Police.

The play, which starts out as a heavy burlesque of swami fakery, thus ends with the desperate pair fighting for their lives.

**Observer AMUSEMENTS**

MOVIES—DRAMA—RESTAURANTS

Page Wednesday, February 10, 1965

**"GIGI" Comes To Stage Via Livonia-Redford Guild**

The original non-musical version of Colette's comedy "GIGI" comes to the Redford Union High School for a two night stand Feb. 26 and 27.

This story of a little girl and how she grew to fall in love will be presented by the Theatre Guild of Livonia-Redford.

Sponsored by the Adult Education Department of the Livonia School System, the Theatre Guild production will be directed by Mrs. Betsy Savage.

Mrs. Savage, who has directed shows for the Theatre Circle in Geneva, Switzerland, the Ridgedale Players, Center Theatre and the Jewish Community Center, will be assisted by Mary Stolberg, who has appeared in Theatre Guild and Redford Suburban League Productions, has been cast as Victor, the butler.

Andre, the operatic but non too alert mother of GIGI, will be portrayed by Ann Amermann, Jean Harrington, who was seen in "Bye Bye Birdie," "The Curious Savage" and "Destiny Rider Again" will appear as Sidonie, the maid.

Other members of the cast include Nancy Gump as GIGI, Earl Harrison as Gaston, Louise Martin as Inez, and Fay Brown as Aunt Alicia.

**The Plymouth Theatre Guild**

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Doors Open Saturday 9:30 a.m.



THE GREAT SEBASTIANS open a short term booking at the Farmington Players Barn this weekend. The vaudeville team, portrayed by Dorothy Miller and Joseph R. Papp, will appear for two consecutive weekends. Sponsored by the Farmington Players, the melodrama opens Friday, Feb. 12 at 8:30 p.m.

**WSU 'Shrew' Is Enjoyable Evening**

By SUE SHAUGHNESSY

Motorcycles, modern dress, wigs, costumes, and sprightly acting all combine to produce an enjoyable evening of theatre in the Wayne State Classic Theatre's production of "The Taming of the Shrew."

Two things detract from the production, however. The first is length. Two and a half hours is too long for a production of the Shrew. Granted that some of the Bard's work takes that long to do effectively, but this robust comedy is not one of them.

The other is associated with one of the greatest strengths of the production. Director Leonard Leone has effectively staged the "play within a play." This is done by the mixture of modern dress and costumes, and even in the slight updating of the terms during the prologue concerning the "humor" of the lord and Christopher Sly.

The only problem is that it is not carried through at the end of the production. Granted Shakespeare either did not write a formal ending or the text has been lost, but many endings have been added throughout the years.

Sly must be brought back to the harsh realities of his life to truly present a "play within a play." Unfortunately patrons of the Classic Theatre are not provided with this finishing touch.

The leads, Philip Wilkmeier and Marjorie Jean Lore, turn in entirely credible and satisfying performances. Excellent supporting roles are provided by Marshall E. Borden, Philip John Spensley and Fred Cahall.

John Criner, Philip Davidson and Norma Simpson should also be commended for their efforts.

As in all of Shakespeare every role is important to the story line and pacing. The entire cast worked professionally and well together.

This plus the minimum of scenery and the use of the aisles and ramps—thus promoting a kind of "theatre in the round" atmosphere combine to make the evening more than worthwhile. This production should be on the list of "things to see" not only for theatre lovers, but students of Shakespeare as well.

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Others in the cast include: Mildred Sullivan, Saied Ozkan, John Howard, Joanne Ekan and Kenneth Ekstrom.

Tickets may be obtained by calling either 474-8118 or 474-8201. The box office at the Barn is open daily from 7 to 9 p.m. That phone number is 474-8118.

A special performance is scheduled for Feb. 27 with the proceeds going to the service fund of the Farmington-Livonia Women of Wayside Alumnae. Tickets for this special performance may be obtained by calling Margaret Miller at GR 4-8355.

The show will be Feb. 8 through 13 in the Northland Shopping Center Dome. Hours are during the shopping hours at the Center.

Artists from Southeastern Michigan will exhibit their work. Admission to the show is free.

**Judges Named for Art Show**

Judges for the Threes Cities Annual Juried Art Show have been announced.

All paints, ceramics, sculpture, graphics and weaving will be judged by Cyril Miles, Director of Art Education at Highland Park, and John Loree, Assistant Professor at Eastern Michigan University.

**ELECTION QUIZ**

Who has the experience of being Congressman Billie S. Foran's Campaign Manager?

Answer: Back Page

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