

LOSS OF ROSES:

Masque Production Is Excellent Theatre

By SUE SHAGHNESSY

"Is being yourself just born? Isn't being yourself ever being nice too?" William Inge wrote a "kaleidoscope" of characters and the above lines appear early in Act I. The statement sums up the dilemma of Inge's characters. The Masque Theatre in downtown Detroit is currently offering the Detroit premiere of "Loss."

"Loss is not a nice play. It is not for those who want the musical fantasy type of theater. It is, however, a powerful and realistic play. The Masque production is good theater."

Dennis Padella who appears as Kenny catches the feeling and depth of a 21 year old boy trying to fill a man's shoes in all the wrong ways. His mother, Helen, portrayed by Livonia resident Norma Calkins is convincing 90 percent of the time. The lead, Lila Green, played by Jeanne Kurl, surrounds the difficulty of her role and comes through with some exceptional moments.

The best supporting actor was Gene Skuratowicz as Jolly, the not too-bright cohorts of Kenny. Howard McFarland ably fills the shoes of the "heavy" Ricky.

For all of Inge's talk about "reality" and "childlike illusions" the play is filled with all kinds of illusions about people's feelings and reactions. However, this is not the fault of the production but of the

3 Livonians To Tour Mexico

Three Franklin High School students are members of Musical Youth International, a new musical organization featuring combined vocal and instrumental ensembles of outstanding high school musicians. Those Livonia residents participating are: Tim Topolewski of 9241 Lather; James Fisher of 5849 Parkdale; and Douglas Roose of 33240 Ann Arbor Trail.

The group, which began weekly rehearsals for its 1965 season late in February, will make a month's tour of Mexico this summer. They will leave Metropolitan Airport on July 5. Rotary-sponsored visits in Hermosillo, Culiacan, Guadalupe and Mexico City are being scheduled. The students will live in private homes en route and give varied concerts in schools, churches, recreation centers and concert halls. Lester McCoy is musical director of the group. Charles Kirsh of Central High School, Battle Creek, is band director.



ACADEMY AWARD star Miriam Hopkins portrays the role of the lady of a house that could hardly be called home, in the film "Fanny Hill: Memoirs of A Woman of Pleasure." It begins today, 7:30 p.m. at the Real Theatre, Plymouth Road corner Farmington.

Of the almost 250,000 crippled persons served by Easter Seal societies across the nation some 62,000 suffer from orthopedic and neuromuscular conditions.

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Wally Roberts GOING UP 'CURTAIN'

George Bernard Shaw, the grand old curmudgeon of the theater, was "Died" back before the turn of the century. His play "The Shrew" is being staged at the moment.

Last week a courageous group of university thespians on the Eastern Michigan campus, re-created the "Died" play most successfully. The colonial life of 1771 with its sweet and sour political aspects actively dominated the stage of the Quirk theater.

Director George Bird did double duty by designing five different sets for the play. The sets for "Devil's Disciple" were designed by the experienced theater goer, but will not overwhelm the individual undergoing his first exposure to the "theater."

As long as this kind of theatrical group is functioning, show business in Inge's words "isn't dead."

Dennis Lake as Christy gave a warm, humorous, engaging performance. His facial reactions plus pantomime bits of business made the play in Act I a rousing start. The audience looked forward to Dennis and his every appearance.

Eastern's production of "Devil's Disciple" truly shot sparks in the brilliant Act III council chamber scene when General Burgoyne arrives. Marjoram Glessinger, a Quirk theater veteran, presented a perfectly polished portrayal of Gentleman Johnnie. Marjoram was the 4th of the head or a slight inflection added new comic dimension to a most difficult role. Shaw saw Burgoyne as a witty, high comedian. Mr. Glessinger agreed with G.B. Shaw in his perceptive handling of the role.

Act III, scene two, was the high point of this production. General Burgoyne was first the Revolutionary War, but in "The Devil's Disciple," thanks to Marjoram Glessinger's versatile acting, the character was a true victory. Robert MacGougal as the Sergeant added and abetted the evening's hilarity. We need to mention of this superb direct artist. Not once during the evening did he lose his Cockney accent or his sense of speed so that he was misunderstood. Too bad the next show at Eastern isn't "My Fair Lady" instead of "Devil's Disciple." I would really love to see Bob do Eliza Doolittle's father, Alfi.

Many new faces in this production in 1965. Joyce Cullen, George McCloud, Jerry Lee, James Barnes, H. Greydon Hyde (sounds terribly British, doesn't he?), Janet Perkins, Marie Miller, and Ted Mills all deserve good conduct medals for service over and above the call to duty in the anticlimactic fight for freedom. Future plays should provide them with more opportunities to show further evidence of their latent talents.

Technically, the production was professional in every respect. Max DeVolder's lighting patterns set the mood exceptionally well. Lois Vastel's costume crew had their hands full with the many colorful costumes. Each of the 16 artists is not only a master instrumentalist but also a musician in the purest sense—one who not only performs but is well acquainted with the full orchestral score and the composer's demands.

Two cast members had cracked knees and legs, but they had their parts ably in spite of their physical handicaps. Bill Moore hopped scyly about the stage with the aid of a walking stick. It is to his credit that at times we almost forgot about his infirm condition as he became emotionally involved in his role.

Before we lower the curtain for this week, I must correct an omission from last week's column. I will recall that I mentioned the Plymouth AAUW's production of "Cinderella" and how lovely the sets were. Well, seems I neglected to mention a hard-working couple that spent many a weekend pounding — Mr. and Mrs. John Anderson. Joan Anderson also tried out her acting wings by taking on two roles in this current production. "Cinderella" not only played in Ann Arbor last weekend, but the AAUW group was asked to travel to Ponton for a command performance. Since its popularity deserves an extra accolade.

THE BILLBOARD
Plymouth Theatre: "PARADISE AND PALACE" will be running up on March 11 for a four week run. The play is written by Frank Loesser during the times, but the play will be on the stage for survival.

Marjoram Theatre: "LOSS OF ROSES" will be running up on March 11 for a four week run. The play is written by George Bernard Shaw. Will be running until March 11.

Hibernia Classic Theatre: "TAMING OF THE SHREW" will be running up on March 11 for a four week run. The play is written by William Shakespeare. Will be running until March 11.

Tour in Song and Dance Slated for Area March 14

Madonna College is sponsoring a "Tour of the World in Song and Dance" on March 14, at 8 p.m. in the Livonia Auditorium of Schoolcraft and Newburg roads.

The group presenting the affair is The American Polish Youth Theatre, comprised mainly of college students under the direction of Jean J. Jalimaynski, a former ballet dancer of Anna Pavlova's Ballet Russe and of the Metropolitan Opera. Julian Haborak is the musical accompanist.

Members of the dance ensemble include: Betty Paruch, daughter of Mrs. Wanda Paruch of 8089 McDougall; Christine Jankowski, a junior at Month College; Maria Lewandowski, a secretary at the National

student at Wayne University; Bank of Detroit and a part-time Ursula Koslowak, a Freshman at Month College; Bernard Franck, owner of Colifours by Mr. Frank Beauty Salon; John Estela, Freshman at Wayne University; Daniel Kozak, Freshman at Highland Park College; Richard Kubinski, graduate of the University of Detroit, now post-graduate at Wayne University; and Diane Bural, student at Cass Technical High School.

The program lists songs and dances such as, Goralisk of Poland, Hungarian Czardas, Spanish Flamingo, Russian Kozak and many more.

GREED
The lure of easy money tends to become an anesthetic that puts many a conscience to sleep.

Observer AMUSEMENTS
MOVIES—DRAMA—RESTAURANTS
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Former Thurston Teacher Appears In College Play
Inna Rae Stanton, former Thurston High School teacher, recently appeared as Kersti in the University of Minnesota's production of August Strindberg's "The Crown Bride."

Strindberg's play, which was written in 1902, had been produced only once before in the United States. The play is "the story of Christianity as it is through pagan elements." It is set in 17th century Sweden.

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The lure of easy money tends to become an anesthetic that puts many a conscience to sleep.

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