



"LORD JIM" starring Peter O'Toole, James Mason, Curt Jurgens, Eli Wallach, Jack Hawkins, Paul Lukas, and Akim Tamiroff opens this week at the new Cinema 1 in the Livonia Mall and at the Terrace Theatre on Plymouth Rd. in Livonia. The film can also be seen at the State Theatre in Wayne, the Algiers Drive In and the Penn.

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# "Oh Dad..." Is Poor Play

By SUE SHAUGHNESSY  
"I don't understand," says the Commodore. "Don't worry, you will," answers Madame Rosepetite.  
The exchange is from a scene of Arthur Kopit's play, "Oh, Dad, Poor Dad, Mama's Hung You in the Closet and I'm Feelin' So Sad," which kicked off this year's theatrical season at the University of Detroit last weekend.

Madame Rosepetite is filled with fond hopes of the audience understanding the play. Maybe I'm dense, but I didn't. In the same scene Commodore Rosepetite tells Madame Rosepetite, "That doesn't make sense," to which she replies, "It makes perfect sense to me." Quite frankly I'm happy that the play makes sense to someone. It simply left me cold. The play doesn't even make the grade of stupidity—it's neuter.

The play, billed as U of D's "first experimental" into the darkly colorful world of Absurd Theater, deals with the domineering mother that seems to be so common in American society.

It's theatre of the absurd, but not the way out insanity of some dramatic works. It is an almost revolutionary choice for U of D. In the past U of D's choices have been the fairly standard tried and true classics.

Such a departure in scheduling is a welcome change, but moderation in all things, please. One actress has said that people either loved women so much when he created the role that he thought nothing impossible or he hated them. I think he despises women.

There is no one—repeat no one—in existence such as Madame Rosepetite. Kopit paints a starchy evil character—all black with no white matter. People aren't all black or all white. They are a mixture of good and bad.

Alice Broder, who appears as the Madame, struggles valiantly with the part. Unfortunately her performance is spotty. She has her moments, but overall she is not up to par.

Miss Broder is a polished and talented actress and her current portrayal is a disappointment. I don't know if this is due to the difficulties inherent in the role or what, but I do know that she was disappointing.

Christopher Burya who appears as the timid, dominated son, Jonathan, turned in the best performance of the four main characters.

Chris Fox, a freshman at Madonna College, appears as Rosalie. She has her moments too. I don't know of anyone else who could compete so successfully with a very raucous sounding horn.

Lee Slatinski completes the



CHRIS FOX, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fox of 15435 Levitt, Livonia, portrays Rosalie in the University of Detroit's production of "Oh Dad, Poor Dad, Mama's Hung You in the Closet and I'm Feelin' So Sad" playing weekends through Oct. 24.

## Mersey Needs Male Singers

Mersey College of Detroit is sending out a call for male voices to participate in four major choral presentations this coming season, according to Marjorie Fossenkemper, of the music department.

"The Play of Daniel" to be offered Dec. 9, 10, 11 and 12 will be the first presentation. It is a thirteenth-century musical drama, created in a medieval setting, which the New York Pro Musica first presented. They are presently touring the U.S. It demands quality male voices.

A Christmas Concert will also be held in December. The college musical, "The Loves Me" will be presented May 5, 6, 7 and 8, and the season will end with a Choral Concert May 15.

Anyone interested in participating in these events should contact Fossenkemper at 534-6534 or write him at Mersey College of Detroit, 8500 W. Outer Drive.

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**Observer AMUSEMENTS**  
MOVIES • DRAMA • RESTAURANTS  
Page ★ 10-B (6-B) Wednesday, October 13, 1965

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