

Controversial Film Premieres in Area, Benefit Is Set for Night Before

When Edward Albee's play "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" opened on Broadway the controversy started. It has been raging ever since and has burst into flames again with the impending premiere of the Warner Bros. production of the drama.

The film premieres in Detroit Wednesday, June 20 at the LaParisien Theatre. A special pre-premiere showing of the picture is scheduled for Tuesday, June 28, The Livonia Lodge of B'nai B'rith is sponsoring the evening with the proceeds going to the national charities of the Jewish organization.

Tickets for the pre-premiere are:

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Summer Pool Hours Announced for Park

This week marks the beginning of daily swimming at Lower Huron Metropolitan Park near Bellevue and with new summer hours at the pool.

Swim times this summer are: 8 a.m. to noon, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily through Labor Day. Charges are 10 cents per person for the morning swim period, Monday through Friday, except holidays, and a fee of 25 cents per person for the afternoon and evening periods, Monday through Friday and all swim periods on Saturday, Sunday and holidays. Fees cover the use of the pool, basket clothes checking and showers.

All women and girls must wear swim caps while in the pool due to health, sanitation and pool operation requirements.

For additional information persons may phone the pool office at ONBOW 9-5931.

England campus where a professor, hen-pecked history (Richard Burton) and his shrewish wife (Elizabeth Taylor) take part in a farcical, night-long verbal assassination of each other.



RICHARD BURTON and Elizabeth Taylor appear as Martha and George, the embittered college faculty couple in the Warner Bros. release "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" Like Nichols directed and Ernest Lehman produced the film version of Edward Albee's controversial drama. The film premieres June 20 at the LaParisien Theatre with a special benefit pre-premiere showing June 28.

prohibits him from admitting anyone "under the age of 18 unless accompanied by his parent."

Jack Warner, president of the firm, explains that "The play was undoubtedly a play for adults and we have gone ahead to make 'Virginia Woolf' a film for adults, because it has something important to say to adults."

Contrary to what such a stipulation might lead one to believe it isn't a problem of sex in the film, but of the language.

The American Catholic Church's rating organization, the National Catholic Office for Motion Pictures, has given the film a 4-A rating as being acceptable for mature adults.

In a statement on the rating the Office said:

"This film is a substantially faithful rendition of the well-known contemporary and controversial play by Edward Albee. In depicting the anguish and bitterness experienced by a married couple as they confront the illusions which have poisoned their life together, Ernest Lehman's production of 'Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?' demonstrates the need to face the challenge of reality—in order to achieve self-knowledge, to build a capacity for love..."

"Adults also must be advised that the theme of 'Virginia Woolf' may prove offensive and its language offensive to the casual film goer."

The film is directed by Mike Nichols.

Quo Vadis Opens As Luxury Theatre

Another top luxury theatre, made its bow to Metropolitan Detroit this week.

Costing in excess of \$750,000, the Quo Vadis, Michigan's elegant new theatre and newest addition to Detroit and environs' first run film fare, located at West Warren and Wayne Rds. directly opposite Hudson's Westland, in the new City of Westland, is destined to make motion picture history. On screen is "Glass Bottom Boat", starring Doris Day, Rod Taylor and Arthur Godfrey, in color, in its exclusive first Detroit showing.

The Quo Vadis is owned and will be actively operated by the Shafer Theatre Family, under the personal direction of Martin and Charles Shafer. The Shafer Family also own and operate the LaParisien in Garden City, the State Theatre in Wayne and the Alpers and Wayne Drive Ins. The Algiers Drive In is immediately adjacent to the Quo Vadis, making this site the only one in Michigan with both an indoor and outdoor theatre side by side.

The Quo Vadis building fronts 158 feet of gold anodized aluminum over 3,000 feet of imported Italian glass mosaic in three shades of blue highlighted by gold mirrors from Brussels, Belgium. In the gold crown are more than 100 individual windows with amber glass measuring nine feet in height and four feet wide nestling into the gold anodized aluminum like jewels in a crown. This is the area that will shortly house one

of America's finest elite restaurants with a 350 capacity.

The theatre auditorium, including lobby, lounge and rest rooms, occupies 20,000 square feet. The auditorium walls are covered with purple Velvex with panels 12 feet in height. Both side walls are 30 feet high and illuminated from floor to ceiling by special fluorescent lighting on granite dimmers. The grand drape fronting the stage is in hot pink satin washed by 3,000 watts of floodlight from the ceiling. Seats are in purple 100 percent wool backed with rigidized chrome with matching standards. Carpeting is a combination of hot pink and purple interwoven with Roman chariots throughout the theatre. The floor under the seating area is colored concrete.

In the foyer area are numerous alcoves with Roman gladiators in gold and silver leaf. In general throughout the lobby area are numerous life-size, hand-carved statues, imported from Italy and depicting the four seasons.

The marquee, which is remote from the theatre, is 32 feet high and 48 feet long, and sits in a parking area with a fifteen foot high arch and is twenty-nine feet wide under which automobiles can pass. The marquee is constructed of gold anodized aluminum with blue porcelain trim over a white porcelain arch. The "Quo Vadis" letters on top of the marquee are four feet high illuminating

by more than 500 clear scintillating lamps. The vast marquee of the theatre proper provides protection in inclement weather for more than 700 persons at one time and is lighted by over 15,000 watts of electricity.

Over the seating area in the Lounge is a completely

glassed-in ramp passageway leading to a future second floor restaurant which also will be served by an elevator and glassed-in stairway. The stairway leading to the restaurant will be immediately adjoining the lobby area with the elevator also in close proximity.

Surprise Birthday Party was a Smash

Oscars for outstanding performances may still be given out by Patty Pendergrass to neighbors and friends who helped plan, as Patty puts it, "It Was A Smash" Surprise Birthday party.

Patty's husband Jack, decided that no woman should be without ever having a birthday party of her very own so this was the time to do it. He enlisted the help of Dot Reed and Kathleen Burnie who helped organize the shindig.

Seventy-six guests attended and brought white elephant gifts such as a subscription to Medicare which Pat wasn't able to use for some years to come—a gold-plated, monogrammed golf ball cleaner large enough to hold a basketball—a charm bracelet with a different type of pill for charms such as peppermint, tranquilizers and other types of rejuvenating pills.

Jack and Pat were invited for cocktails at a friend's home. Everything was like an ordinary Saturday evening with the neighbors in

their bermuda gardening, watering the lawn, yelling at the kids, etc. The minute Jack and Pat's car hit the road, there was a mad scramble for the showers.

After cocktails, they were to go to Dot and Jack's home where they had to drive through three 10-foot banners that were posted across the full width of the street.

Driving through these paper posters, Pat said she felt like President Johnson must feel driving in a convertible with cameras grinding and lights popping and flashing all over the place.

The four-foot birthday card centerpiece of the evening was designed and created by Paul Thompson and Mary Chickvira with a gold edging of dried macaroni sprayed gold with a likeness of Pat painted on the face of the card and photos of her from long, long ago.

Pat and guests of her-out-of-town guests, Mr. and Mrs. William Lombard from Toronto and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Roberts from Wheaton, Ill.,

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