



Theater News

Hallelujah, Baby!

by EUPHONIA WYATT

Hallelujah, Baby!—Georgina's career is from 1900 to the present time but as she is Leslie Uggams, she remains the same throughout the passing years. This she explains as she steps before the opening curtain, twirling a parasol, and as Miss Uggams has that rare combination of self reliance and simplicity as well as good looks, her show gets off to a good start.

It's the odyssey of a young actress determined to succeed with the handicap of racism against her. The first scene shows her, mop in hand, in the kitchen with her mother who is cooking for the whites. Georgina has other ideas but in the twenties "Back to the kitchen" becomes a refrain.

The depression of the thirties casts darkening shadows but in the forties and fifties everything is brighter and when it comes to the sixties, Georgina achieves her goal—star in the night clubs and an entry into cafe society. After the long struggles, it seems a pathetic anticlimax that Georgina does pull her mother up after her and is full of spunk when Momma is taken for her maid.

Marian Anderson has doubly enriched our culture by holding

on to her own. Perhaps Miss Uggams would resent my saying that her charm seemed just as valid with the mop as with the parasol. Even if she has inherited two cultures, the beauty of the Negro background must not be forgotten. *Porgy and Bess* will remain our great native opera when Hallelujah, Baby! will be dust.

The story by Arthur Laurents is as trite as the characters. It's all very professional but unemotional. So is the music by Jules Steyn and the sets by the Eckharts. Comden and Green have done better with the lyrics.

Robert Hooks is Georgina's boy friend, a Pullman porter who becomes a liberal leader. Allen Case is the liberal friend. Tip and Tap live in the twenties and Lillian Hayman as Momma is prodigious and convincing and great all the way through. Anyway it's a nice well behaved show with a new star named Uggams.

CITY CENTRE REVIVALS—Again Jean Dalrymple produced another favorite for the audience who cherish her and after the Sound of Music will come Wonderful Town which should be a wonderful delight. City Centre musicals are the best bargain on Broadway.

Galileo

GALILEO—For the first time this season Lincoln Centre's Repertory Theatre is filled and the box office has a line of visitors for Brecht's drama, translated by Charles Laughton, of Galileo Galilei, the 16th-17th century scientist who declared that the earth was not the center of the universe.

This may not seem such a stupendous bit of news today but it was to a public who doubted the faith on the Bible in which Jesus commanded the Sun to stand still. This is the third time that I have seen Brecht's Galileo—once with Laughton—and I have never found it as interesting as Lamp at Midnight by Barry Stavis produced here in 1948 by New Stages. Stavis' play has action where Brecht has words.

Galileo was a Florentine of good family who taught Mathematics at Padua. When his telescope revealed to him Jupiter's moons and this movement he affirmed the statement of Copernicus that the earth revolves about the sun. Pope Clement VII had encouraged Copernicus but Pope Urban VII, although a scientist himself, was fearful that the Copernican theory might weaken faith and encourage heresy so he bade Cardinal Bellarmine warn Galileo to limit his theory to an hypothesis (unproved supposition).

Sixteen years later the Pope permitted the Inquisition to force Galileo to sign a recantation which, as Stavis shows in his play, three Cardinals refused to endorse as did Urban himself who had decided that no papal ban must be placed on the Copernican solar system.

An adventurous weakening of scholastic philosophy for Aquinas had said that faith must be based on reason and that to really know anything was to know the causes. Actually Galileo never understood the causes on which his hypothesis rested.

This was left to Newton while Galileo's most valuable contribution to modern science is his Treatises on Motion—velocity and the parabolas of projectiles—which was written when he was a papal pensioner and is smuggled out of Rome in Brecht's play.

The current success of Galileo seems due to the English actor, Anthony Quayle, who is able to project the genius of a great man and give depth to Brecht's words. John Hirsch, the Canadian director, has also added dramatically contrasted backgrounds and interesting detail as well as enlivened acting by the company as a whole.

For those Catholics who blush at the Inquisition—and who it does not—let them remember that Galileo recently received a papal tribute and that he died like his three devout daughters in the arms of the Church.

ILYA, DARLING—Lord Byron, who died of a fever in Greece during her struggle for freedom, was saddened by the lack of heroic material among the Grecian patriots. In his Isles of Greece, are the lines, "For what is left of poet here? For Greece, a blush, for Greece, a tear."

The same thought so troubled a young Clives, teacher from Connecticut, Homer Threace, that he journeyed all the way to Athens to discover the reason. In the port of Piraeus he met Ilya and she proves an answer as inscrutable as magical. It is said that in a cafe on Manhattan's West Side, there are Greeks who dance the barzouki in a long line with their arms on each others' shoulders. If someone is suddenly inspired to dance a solo, it is etiquette neither to notice or applaud him.

Homer's applause call forth a challenge from the dancer to which he responds so manfully

Elected To Tenn. Meet

John Redman of 124 Stoneleigh Court, Brighton, was elected as New York State's student senator to the National Forensic League's Student Congress in Nashville, Tenn. from June 19-22.

He will join his fellow students, Joseph Combs, Kevin Hennessy and William Strohmeyer who earlier won the right to represent New York State in the National high school tournament in debate and oratory.

John, 17, a senior, has varied interests. He has maintained a better than 90 average through four years and currently ranks in the top fifth of his graduating class.

Winner of a state Regents scholarship and a member of the National Honor Society, he plans to attend the Foreign Service school of Georgetown University in Washington as a history major.

In addition to forensic activities, he has tried his hand at dramatics, cross country, bowling team, writer for the school newspaper, the LANCE and the Yearbook, The Accolade, and has studied languages in France during summer school. In oratory he has turned in the most consistent record in McQuaid's history, winning third place in the State and regional championships, and high awards at various tournaments.

Nalle is the first organist ever invited by the American Guild of Organists to perform at a theater pipe organ concert at an AGO convention. This concert, at the 1966 convention in Atlanta, Georgia, was described in The American Organist, "A show stopper...dazzling keyboard and pedal technique."

A graduate of Juilliard School of Music in New York, Nalle has played for television shows such as Studio One, The Hallmark Hour, Suspense, The Ed Sullivan Show and others, in addition to his concert and recording career.

Dinner was held at the Wishing Well and a reception at the Keith Miller Post, VFW Home, 733 Maple St.

Out of town guest was Mrs. Bernard Gross of Los Angeles, Calif.

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Art Exhibit At Nazareth

The Nazareth College Senior Art Exhibit is scheduled for the weeks of May 14 to 28. Ten Art majors are showing their work in many media on the third floor of Smyth Hall, the administration building on the East Avenue campus.

Featured this year are displays of ceramics, jewelry and photography.

Seniors who are exhibiting are: Susan Blumendale, Pittsfield, Mass.; Margaret Bonfiglio, 3563 Culver Rd., Mary Jane Carroll, 282 Rawlinson Rd.; Carol Deambra, Oswego, N.Y.; Donna Dyminski, Webster; Michela Griffio, 90 Wisner Rd.; Shirley Hawkins, 48 Queens St.; Elaine Hogan, Troy; Judith Russer, 2294 Manitou Rd. and Margo Wheeler, East Bloomfield.

Two of the exhibitors are planning to do graduate work next year—Judy Russer in ceramics at Alfred University and Michela Griffio in photography at the University of Michigan. The others will be teaching in the public schools in the Rochester area and in various parts of New York State.

The public is invited to attend.

Association For Retarded Slates Nun

Geneva—Sister M. Michael, S.S.A., principal of St. Joseph's School for Exceptional Children, Dunkirk, N.Y., will address the annual buffet supper of the Ontario County Chapter, Association for Retarded Children. The supper will be held on Tuesday, May 16 at Mario's Restaurant, Hamilton Street, Geneva.

Sister M. Michael has a B.S. in Education from Mt. St. Joseph's College, Buffalo, and a M.S. in Special Education from the University of Buffalo. She has done graduate work at the University of Toronto and Wayne University, Detroit.

The administrator has had 25 years experience with the deaf including the mentally retarded deaf. She has worked for the past 6 years with the mentally retarded and brain damaged children as principal of St. Joseph's School.

The public is invited. For supper reservations, call Mrs. Janet Kenny, 789-3787.

Notre Dame High Hosts New York City Ballet

Notre Dame High School hosted members of the New York City Ballet May 3 in the third of a series in the Lincoln Center Student Program for the current school year.

The lecture-demonstration, designed to introduce students to the art of ballet, was a prelude to the viewing of an actual performance in a theater, where there would be a company of 40-60 dancers, and orchestra, lights, costumes and scenery.

Using a bare minimum of these components, with five performers and the director-lecturer, the program increased the students' understanding of dance as it is expressed through classical ballet, heightened interest and generally broke through the normal barriers which unfamiliarity builds.

After an explanation of the practice sessions and demonstration of the various exercises which the dancers must go through, the ballet company presented sections of actual performances such as "The Dying Swan" and the Hungarian sword dance.

The fourth in the Lincoln Center series will be a program of chamber music, to be presented this month. Besides the ballet demonstration, Notre Dame has hosted the Lincoln Center Repertory Theater and a program of piano music by Thomas McIntosh, internationally known pianist from the Juilliard School of Music.

Barone, who is an economics major at Fisher, is a graduate of Mt. Morris Central High, where he also served as class president in his junior and senior years.

Artistide G. "Eddie" Mascadri, 16 Ferncliff Dr., was chosen vice-president. A graduate of East High School, he is a mathematics major and a star member of the Fisher soccer team.

Named class treasurer by his classmates was Robert J. Moore, a history major from Clifton, N.J. He is a graduate of Pope Plus XII High School, Passaic, N.J.



Children Present Passover Play

The first and second graders of St. Peter and Paul School, Rochester, presented a Passover play for the children of their school, their parents and the first grade children of St. Michael's School on April 24 and 25.

The first scene portrayed God's preparation of His People in the narration of the first Passover. The children entered Jerusalem for the feast singing a psalm. In the second scene, the institution of the Eucharistic Sacrifice at the Last Supper was enacted.

To show the continuation of this sacrifice in the Church, the third scene presented the Mass, the Paschal Banquet.

Jesus was portrayed by Stephen Grammatica; Peter, John Giambone; John, John Berry; Philip, Robert Belton; Bartholomew, Michael Cometa; Matthew, David Reynolds; Thomas, Thomas Newhart; Judas, Herbert Pilato; Andrew, Arthur Martinez; Simon, Gary East; Judge, Peter Christensen; James the Less, Joseph Mell; and James the Greater, Louis D'Aurizio. Douglas East was Master of the House and the servants were portrayed by Thomas Nicocia and David Gerken.

Carl Cerqua took the part of the priest, assisted by altar-boy, Mark Lamphron. The narrators were Janelle Lewis and Suzanne Manard. The other children of the classes took the role of the Jewish Community.

Blackfriars, Inc. will offer Garcia Lorca's "Blood Wedding" as their final production of the season, at Our Lady of Mercy High School Auditorium on May 19, 20 and 21 at 8:30 p.m.

Lorca, the young Spanish genius, who was slain during the Civil War in Spain has long been a favorite of student audiences the world over. Many critics consider "Blood Wedding" to be his finest effort.

Director Richard Mancini has assembled a cast of twenty-two. The story is constructed around a pair of star-crossed lovers and the disaster they work upon the lives of their families.

Mary Ann Zicari portrays the bride torn between sacred and profane love; Ron-Pedrone is Leonardo, a young married man who cannot restrain his desire for her. Michael O'Neill is the ill-fated groom and his mother already deprived by killing of her husband and first son is Gisela Fritsching.

Leonardo's wife is played by Virginia Harden Pierce and his mother-in-law by Mary McVinnie are unable to restrain him. The bride's father is played by Al Hasenaer and his servant by Florence Praver.

Additional support is given by Richard Kirsch, James Aha, Stan Napierala, Lance Marcone, Donna Mancini, Elaine Molinari, Carol Cloos and Vicki Jo Campanaro. Providing music on the Spanish guitar is James Stroppe. The sets were designed by Carl Zoltz.

Members of the Class of 1968 at St. John Fisher College have elected Thomas A. Barone of Mt. Morris as president of next year's Senior Class at the college.

Barone, who is an economics major at Fisher, is a graduate of Mt. Morris Central High, where he also served as class president in his junior and senior years.

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Closing of the Mission for the men of St. Anthony's parish, Elmira will take place on Sunday.

The Mission in the Italian language will open on Monday evening May 15 at 8 o'clock.

Members of the Congregation of the Passion have been conducting the services.

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