

Mambo Kings moves to a steady, downbeat rhythm

By Gerri Pare
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK (CNS) — Two Cuban brothers — who have vastly differing temperaments — head for New York in 1952, intent on becoming *The Mambo Kings* (Warner Bros.).

Cesar (Armand Assante), the exuberant extrovert, sees America as the land of incredible opportunity and on his very first night in New York does an impromptu salsa number on stage at the swanky Palladium.

Younger Nestor (Antonio Banderas) is the more talented brother though not nearly as ambitious. His heart is still in Cuba with Maria, who mysteriously married another man, prompting Nestor to compose wrenching ballads about their failed love.

Meanwhile Cesar struggles for band bookings without surrendering to the control of powerful manager Perez



Armand Assante (left) portrays Cesar Castillo and actor Antonio Banderas plays Nestor Castillo in *The Mambo Kings*.

(Roscoe Lee Browne), as Nestor tries to put his obsession with Maria behind him by marrying the gentle Delores (Maruschka Detmers).

Just as legitimate success beckons for the brothers after an appearance with Desi Arnaz (played by his son, Desi Arnaz Jr.) on *I Love Lucy*, Nestor decides to strike out on his own — a rejection that would devastate Cesar.

Skirting the edges of soapy melodrama, co-producer/first-time director Arne Glimcher offers an opulent-looking period movie.

Based on Oscar Hijuelos' Pulitzer Prize-winning book, *The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love*, the movie is less plot-driven than saturated in the emotions of its vibrant characters.

Assante and Banderas play off each other effectively, one grabbing life with both hands as the other withers within. Detmers handles her role with understated elegance as the wife who

is unable to compete with a romantic memory.

Arnaz looks uncomfortable playing his father, but the sequence where he appears with the brothers, artfully cut with footage of his mother on *I Love Lucy*, works well to advance the story.

The movie's Latin beat emerges vigorously as does the machismo mentality that drives the two brothers in different directions. Just as intriguing is the subtle presentation of Cesar's and Delores' unspoken love.

The ending is a classic cliché, but overall the smoldering story of *The Mambo Kings* moves along with a sure, steady, distinctly downbeat rhythm.

Because of momentary violence, brief bedroom shots with flashes of nudity and an instance of rough language, the U.S. Catholic Conference classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

Dining Around the Diocese

AVON INN
55 East Main Street
Avon, NY 14414
(minutes off 390, exit 10)
716-226-8181

As spring approaches the Avon Inn welcomes all to join us and to experience the warmth and charm brought forth in this 170 year old Historic Country Inn. Now listed in both the State and National Register of Historic Places, the Inn continues to serve travelers and the local communities with an atmosphere reminiscent of days gone by.

On Easter Sunday, April 19th, we'll be serving a traditional buffet from 10:30-4pm. \$10.95/adults; \$5.95/children under 10. Reservations required.

Join us for lunch, Tuesday through Friday, as you enjoy delicious entrees and our all-you-can-eat salad bar. Dinners are served Tuesday-Sunday with a Fish Fry on Friday nights.

We are now serving dinners on Sundays from 1:00pm to 8:00pm with early bird specials before 3:30. Early bird specials are also available Tues-Thurs for seatings before 6:00pm.

Try our \$75 GET-AWAY PACKAGE. It includes a room for two, a bottle of champagne, \$25 dinner certificate, and a continental breakfast. Please call for reservations.

The Avon Inn is the perfect place for wedding receptions, showers, banquets and business meetings for up to 200 guests.

Make plans to experience the timeless elegance of the historic Avon Inn today.

BIG APPLE CAFE
682 Park Avenue
271-1039

A European cafe atmosphere greets you at the Big Apple Cafe, a comfortable fun place to dine. Located in the chic Park Avenue area, the Big Apple offers foods that are prepared fresh daily. Open menu all day. On Fridays, enjoy one of the delicious Seafood Specials. On Sundays, stop by after mass for a sumptuous brunch, from omelettes to french toast. Hours: 11a.m. to 11p.m. weekdays, Friday and Saturday from 11a.m. to midnight, Sunday 11a.m. to 9p.m.

BIG TREE INN
46 Main Street
Geneseo, New York 14454
243-2330

Enjoy traditional American cuisine as you relax next to the warm fire of this authentic colonial inn. Banquet facilities are available, so the inn is perfect for birthday, anniversary, and rehearsal dinners. Join the Big Tree Inn for a delicious Easter Sunday Buffet Brunch, or Easter Dinner. David Wayne, Innkeeper; Denis Sylvestre, Chef. Reservations recommended. Hours: Lunch M-Sat, 11:30-2pm; Dinners M-Sat from 5pm; Sunday Buffet brunch, 10am-2pm.



BOSDYK'S
Restaurant & Lounge
430 Spencerport Rd.
(corner of Longpond)
716-247-7690

Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner, we offer a relaxing, comfortable atmosphere and reasonable prices. Whether you choose from our complete menu, or from one of our daily lunch or dinner specials, we're sure to please your palate. Serving Fish Frys 7 days-a-week, we hope you'll stop out during the lenten season. Our party room is available for gatherings of up to 60 people. We hope to see you here!

CANNON'S
1551 Mt. Hope Ave.
(1 minute north of W. Henrietta Rd. exit off Rte. 390)
(716) 461-1026

A Rochester favorite for 24 years, featuring a diverse menu including seafood, steaks, chops, veal, and Italian dishes. Dinners served Sunday, 4:30pm - 11:00pm; Monday - Thursday, 4:30 - midnight; Friday and Saturday, 4:30pm - 1:00am. Bar opens daily at 4:00pm.

CINELLI'S
Country House Restaurant
6007 Lake Rd. (Rt. 18)
Sodus, New York 14551
(315) 483-9154

One of Wayne County's finest restaurants and Party Houses, Cinelli's Country House Restaurant is a really special place! Fine service, great view, wonderful food, and a marvelous menu are just the beginning.

A big, beautiful California-coast-style solar-lit dining room with real wood arches and glass commands an unparalleled panorama of blossoming orchards, farms, old woods, and Lake Ontario.

In addition to our extensive lunch and dinner menus, you may also choose from between 10 and 12 daily specials. Sunday Specials from our country oven include: Roast Leg of Montana Lamb, Fresh Roast Pork and Fresh Roast Turkey served with country dressing and pan gravies.

For your reception, banquet or dinner for two to be truly special, choose a really special place. There's no better choice than Cinelli's!

Open year-round, serving lunches Tues.-Fri. from 11:30a.m.; dinners Tues.-Sat. from 5p.m.; Sunday 12:30-8p.m. Closed Mondays. Reservations are recommended. "A big city menu at country prices."

CONESUS INN
2170 East Lake Road
(East side of Beautiful Conesus Lake)
(716) 346-6100

Reopening Friday April 3rd for another season of splendid dining, now is the perfect time to take a leisurely drive to the Conesus Inn. Located on Conesus Lake, the Conesus Inn serves dinners Tuesday through Saturday from 5pm and Sundays beginning at 4pm. As always you'll find the same spectacular Prime Rib, Alaskan King Crab Legs and Australian Lob-

ster Tail that you've come to expect and enjoy from the Conesus Inn. The beautiful surroundings and atmosphere of the Conesus Inn make it an ideal spot for dinner. Whether it's an intimate evening for two or a large gathering of friends...the Conesus Inn has a perfect evening of dining waiting for you.

Make your reservations early for Easter Sunday. Serving dinner 1-9pm.

While you're there, remember to choose a fine wine from their extensive wine list. Visit the Conesus Inn soon... "For The Prime Of Your Life". Just ten minutes from exit 9 off 390. Call today for reservations.

DAVID'S TABLE
5988 Rt. 96 & 332
(near Finger Lakes Race Track)
924-2050

Conveniently located between Victor and Canandaigua, David's Table offers fine steak and seafood dishes as well as a Friday Fish Fry from \$6.95. Try the sensational Sunday Buffet Brunch. Also available for catering, private parties, showers, and small wedding receptions. Join David's Table for a scrumptious Easter Sunday Buffet Brunch or Easter Dinner. Hours: Tues.-Sat. 5-9:30pm; Sun 12-9pm; Sun. Brunch, 10:30am-2pm; Lunch Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2pm.

THE HOLLOWAY HOUSE
Rt. 5 & 20, E. Bloomfield
1-657-7120

Opening April 9th, enjoy the colonial surroundings of the historic Holloway House for birthdays, anniversaries or just plain dining out! Built in 1808 as a stagecoach stop, this restaurant (with a ★★ Mobil Guide Rating) offers both a fullcourse and a-la-carte menu including turkey, steak & seafood. Round out your meal with their famous Sally Lunn Bread and homemade dessert. Join The Holloway House for a traditional Easter Dinner. Enjoy the Saturday Prime Rib Special, or try the Early Dinner Specials from 12-3pm Sunday (not on holidays). Owned and operated by the Wayne Family for over 30 years, they welcome you for lunch from 11:30A-3P or dinner from 5:30-8:30P. Sat. til 9P, Sun. 12-7:30P. Closed Mondays.

IRONDEQUOIT TOWN LOUNGE
705 Titus Avenue
(716) 342-3465

WEBSTER TOWN LOUNGE
10 May Street
(716) 872-3710

Serving lunches 11:30-3p.m. daily except Sunday. Featuring an Early Bird Special every night but Friday. Fish Frys every Friday. Our party room can accommodate up to 60 people for your next gathering. Clip out this ad and receive \$5.00 off two dinners (not valid on dinners under \$8.00 or Early Bird Specials), offer good Sunday thru Thursday, during the month of April. Please present ad when ordering.



MR. DOMINIC'S AT THE LAKE
4699 Lake Avenue
(716) 865-4630

If you're planning lunch or dinner out, take a drive to Mr. Dominic's at the Lake. Noted for their fine Italian cuisine, they offer delicious appetizers, wonderful soups, 11 veal dishes, vegetarian, chicken and fish specialties, and homemade pasta. Early bird dinner specials are served Sunday-Friday. Also offered is a 10% senior discount. Delivery is available for your luncheon group of ten or more. Lunch hours from 11a.m.-1p.m., Tuesday-Friday. Dinner hours Monday-Friday 4-9:30p.m., Saturday 5-10p.m., Sunday 3-9p.m.

THE OATKA
17 Main Street
(minutes from Chili or Henrietta on Rt. 383)
Scottsville, NY 14546
(716) 889-8220

Owners Carol and Jerry Court and Executive Chef Thomas Donovan invite you to visit the Historic Oatka for casual family dining in the heart of Genesee Country. Serving travelers since 1824, we know you'll enjoy our country atmosphere, varied menu and friendly service. And we're just around the corner in nearby Scottsville. Daily Dinner Specials start at just \$6.95. For your lenten dining we feature Fresh Haddock every Friday. Call today to make your reservations for Easter. Choose from Lamb, Baked Ham, or other dinner specials.

Live country music and dancing every Saturday night. Lunches served Mon.-Fri., 11:30-2pm. Serving Dinner Mon.-Thurs., 4-9, Fri. 4-10, Sat. 5-10, Sun. 1-7. Reservations are recommended.

Private Banquet room available accommodating up to 100 people for luncheons, business meetings, seminars, and other occasions.

PETALS
at the Marriot Thruway Hotel
5257 W. Henrietta Road
359-1800

Petals offers a rich wood and brass decor, serving traditional American cuisine. Popular for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Lunch, Mon. - Sat., 11:30a.m. - 2p.m. Dinner, Mon. - Sat., 5 - 11p.m. Sunday Breakfast Feast served 11:30a.m. - 2:30p.m.

THE VILLA CARLO
55 Main St., Mt. Morris, NY 14510
1 mile south of Letchworth State Park
(Mt. Morris entrance)
(716) 658-2204

Before or after enjoying a day at Letchworth State Park, come and experience the casual dining pleasure of the Villa Carlo. Enjoy a cup of Cappuccino after a meal featuring all homemade soups, bread, pasta and desserts. Cooked to order for your dining satisfaction by our owner/chef. Full service bar. Reservations are appreciated. Open Tuesday-Thursday, 11:30am-9pm, Friday and Saturday, 11:30am-10pm, and Sundays, 12N-8pm. Closed Mondays.