

the HERALD Entertainment

Exit The Body has 'stimulating' story

GLT play begins Friday

By MELANIE NIXON
Herald Special
Okay, all you Jeopardy sharks, here's one for you...
Category: Stimulating Entertainment.

Answer: Exceptionally funny comedy caper, ripe with juicy, gratifying visual, oral and psychological stimuli, inducing involuntary outbursts of hysterical laughter.

Question: ?
If you answered, "What is, Exit the Body?", you're absolutely right! (And fast, too. We didn't even get to hum the Jeopardy theme tune).

Georgetown Little Theatre is delighted to present you with this delicious romp as their last show of the season, and if the stage performance is anything akin to rehearsal, you're in for quite a treat!

Vera MacDonald, veteran of theatrics, plays mystery writer, Crane Hammond, who has rented a New England house for a month's holiday. Her quest for relaxation, however, takes a dive into spiralling confusion as strange bodies appear and then disappear, and other nonplussing circumstances combine to drive her into a disconcerting dither.

Vera plays her "dithers" with absolute comic brilliance. She drops her lines with just the tempo and intonation to leave you screaming, and produces some sterling reactions throughout her lengthy part.
This is not surprising when one considers the extent of Vera's experience. Born in London, England, Vera has been deeply involved in theatre since the age of four. Her scope of involvement includes the Bramalea Little Theatre, Guelph Little Theatre, Globe Productions, Brampton Musical Society, the Geneva English Drama Society, American Little Theatre Geneva and Geneva Amateur Operatic Society (Switzerland), and Georgetown Little Theatre.

a rather 'simple' maid, Jenny, who has been hired to attend to Crane Hammond's domestic needs. Cathy has previously acted in New Brunswick, and in GLT's Pack of Lies. This Georgetown District High School student shows good potential for comedy, and you'll enjoy her gig-gly portrayal of Jenny.

Another up-and-coming GDHS student is Charlie Gibbs, who plays young crook, Randolph. Charlie's having fun with his role, and he's really very amusing. His experience, to date, has been mainly with the high school, but we're sure this will change as he gets wider recognition for his talent. Yes, indeed, Charlie is more than just cute dimples!

Steve Prevost and Adele Armstrong play husband and wife, Lyle and Lillian Seymour. Seems like Lillian's always got a playful surprise up her sleeve for friend, Crane Hammond, and poor Lyle gets sucked into her present escapade to add to the confusion.

Steve has never acted before, but states, "I'm a ham at heart." Adele has been involved extensively in theatre, both in acting roles and in the costume department. Just a sprinkling of her achievements include successful roles in The Tomorrow Box, Confusions and Your Flake Or Mine. Both Steve and Adele perform admirably in their roles for Exit the Body, and we can't wait to see how Steve's going to manage stopping that rush of stampeding people without keeling over in the process!

Larry Scott (spouse of Shirley) tackles his small role as Crane's husband with charm. Richard Hammond arrives at the house unexpectedly, back early from a conference in Chicago, only to be squashed in a door, hit on the head, and locked in a closet. Now that's a welcome! We know Larry does some serious homework in researching his role, but really... He didn't have to



All together now

Members of the Globe Theatre have been tuning up their vocal chords in preparation for the Arts Alive '88 presentation of The Entertainers, on Friday, May 6 at the John Elliott Theatre. The Globe singers will present a rendition of Broadway tunes they have performed in

Burgoyne MC for 'entertainers'

By MELANIE NIXON
Herald Special
"The Entertainers", which Arts Alive '88 will be presenting at the John Elliott Theatre on May 6, will have, as its Master of Ceremonies, Georgetown's own Michael Burgoyne (whom you might remember, performed the same duty for last year's talent showcase).

Michael is not at all new to MC responsibilities, having accepted this role for Halton Hills at the CNE's "Heritage Days Festival" in 1984 and 1985, and at the Wintario draw in the CNE Bandshell. As a member of the Rotary Club, he has also emceed at the Rotary Club's annual Senior Citizens Dinner.

In addition to his flair and enthusiasm as Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Burgoyne's talents abound in the theatre.

Currently, he and his wife, Maureen, are appearing in "Not Now, Darling" for Gemini Dinner Theatre Productions in Aurora, which opened on March 4 for an in-

definite run and is continuing to play to packed houses. Because this run has been extended, the Burgoynes are grateful to Gemini for releasing them temporarily from their commitment so as to enable Mike to MC "The Entertainers" for Arts Alive '88. It also enables Mike to produce (and MC) the Rotary Club's fundraising event, the hit musical, "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown".

Mike's extensive theatrical experience dates back to 1966 in England, but he will doubtless be best known in Halton Hills for his work as assistant artistic director for Globe Productions' "Anything Goes", and as artistic director for "Mame" and "Oklahoma!"

On the professional stage, Mike's roles have included Algernon in "The Importance of Being Earnest", Jack Tanner in "Man and Superman", the twin brothers Hugo and Frederick in "Ring Round the Moon", Koko in "The Mikado" and the title role in "Epitaph for George

Dillon".
Other shows which Mike has directed, produced, stage managed or acted in are Don't Start Without Me, Not Now, Darling, The Fantastics, Camelot, The Merry Widow, Quiet Wedding, Patience, Me and My Girl, You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, La Boheme, Harlequinade, Blue Goose, and several others. His next venture will be directing Noel Coward's Private Lives for Milton Players this fall.

A man with so much talent, wit, charm and theatrical skill is sure to provide a lively and memorable Master of Ceremonies for "The Entertainers".

Tickets for this exciting event are \$7.50 each, and can be obtained in person at Royal LePage Real Estate Ltd.

For further information regarding Arts Alive '88, please call 877-5185, ext. 260, 268 or 877-7915.

Students in tune for Calgary

By BELINDA SNELL
Herald Special
Georgetown District High School's Stage Band and Jazz Choir will be performing in this year's MusicFest '88 in Calgary May 18-23.

High school music teachers Anita Blake and Katie Ortolon, organizers of the event, have been busy getting ready for this festival since the first day of school.

The 35 students participating in this year's MusicFest will participate in a series of performances, clinics and workshops and are guaranteed to be busy throughout the entire trip.

Mrs. Blake, who has been teaching music at the high school for three years now, is responsible for the success of the Stage Band while Mrs. Ortolon manages the Jazz Choir.

In February of this year, the Stage Band put on an impressive performance at Mohawk College in Hamilton and succeeded in walking off stage with a Silver Standard. Likewise, the Jazz Choir also received a Silver Standard as well as an invitation to compete in MusicFest '88 when they performed at Mohawk in February and then in March at the provincial finals (Ontario Vocal Festival) in Oshawa.

It was at these finals that Georgetown District High School student Adam Broughton was presented with the "Rising Star Award" which goes to the individual with the most outstanding performance. Not only did Broughton play drums for the Jazz Choir, but he also dazzled his audience, and the judges by performing two vocal solos during his appearance.

The trip to Calgary is going to cost an estimated \$24,000 overall. Students, however, are expected to pay only half of this fee providing they hold a number of fund raisers in order to receive the remaining amount of money.

Included in the fund raisers will be a cheese sale, several public performances and a balloon race. Christiane's boutique, located in downtown Georgetown, helped support this trip to Calgary by holding a fashion show at the high school on Wednesday and donating all the proceeds toward MusicFest '88, which she feels is a worthwhile cause. The Jazz Choir opened up the show with three numbers, while the Stage Band closed the evening with three more numbers.

The two music teachers will be accompanied on their trip to Calgary by high school teacher Mr. Broughton and his wife in order to ensure that the students adhere to the set of rules and regulations that they have been given.



Vera MacDonald gets a helping hand with her part in the GLT comedy-mystery Exit the Body. The hand, by the way, belongs to cast member Larry Scott who plays the part of Richard Hammond. Vera is Crane Hammond in the story. (Herald photo)

go all the way to that mathematics conference in Chicago just for Exit the Body!

Greg Marsh, who previously played King Philip in "Lion in Winter", takes on the role of amnesic, Philip Smith. Greg manages to milk your sympathy for poor, befuddled Philip, only to surprise you in the last moments of the final act.

Produced by David Clifton and directed by Ron Hunt (whose instinctive comedy timing is awesome), Exit the Body is guaranteed to become one of your favorite GLT productions. It will be presented at the John Elliott Theatre on April 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, and 30 (April 21 is a benefit performance), and tickets may be obtained in person at Royal LePage Real Estate Ltd. during office hours.

If you enjoy a good laugh, you'll appreciate Exit the Body!

Lion Aloysius at Rotary show

With less than a month to go before the fund-raising "Rotary Presents..." show at the John Elliott Theatre, (May 13 and 14) the organizers have landed a 'bonus' for the Saturday afternoon matinee performance.

All along, Rotary has announced that this show is suitable for audiences of all ages, and as if to prove this point, Rotary announced this week that as an added feature they will bring to the local stage, none other than Aloysius the Lion.

Aloysius has been performing for the delight of children and adults alike for over 20 years. In 1965, having made show business his career choice, he put out a call for a partner. After auditioning several times,

Jo Hubbard was chosen as Aloysius' stooge.

He claims that he has to rehearse her for several hours before every performance, because she can never remember her lines. However, since good stooges are hard to find, he tolerates her, and even allowed her to tag along when he was asked to appear on the "Mr. Woodin Show" and "Bozo the Clown" show on CBET-TV in Windsor, Ontario. He is thrilled to be appearing at the John Elliott Theatre in Georgetown.

Of course, Aloysius' stooge has a few credits of her own which are worth mentioning here. In fact, Jo Hubbard has been active in many aspects of theatre for over 20 years. She has performed in, directed and

choreographed dinner theatre productions in Toronto, Windsor and Detroit, the most recent being her direction of "Not Now, Darling", currently playing at the Hotel Aurora.

She won an award for Best Actress as Madame Rosepettle in "Oh, Dad, Poor Dad...", and was nominated Best Supporting Actress for Mammy Yokum in "Li'l Abner". Vera has also directed plays, including GLT's "How the Other Half Loves" in 1986.

Vera says she "loves the excitement of achievement", and this is evident not only in her past successes, but also in the energy she pumps into her role as Crane Hammond. Her performance won't disappoint you!

Shirley Scott plays Crane Hammond's secretary, Kate, who has accompanied her on this topsy-turvy pursuit of leisure. Shirley isn't new to the theatre, either, and she finds performing before an audience "fun, challenging and a change."

Shirley dresses her character with a humorous acidity, not unlike that of Eve Arden, and she delivers her supporting role with graceful strength (especially when she lets go her 'scream!').

Frank McKie is also a veteran of the stage (who labels himself "egotistical"), and he is a total knockout as local New England "constabulary", Vernon Cookley. Frank has performed in such plays as Mousetrap, Lovers Leap and Catch Me If You Can, and one glimpse of his rendition of Verne Cookley will be enough to convince anyone that comedy is Frank's forte! This character will have you in fits, particularly when he does his "Pontiac" impression.

Frank's deadpan expressions and the adorable simpleton's aura which he gives Vernon Cookley, will appeal to the funny-bone in virtually everyone.

Another face to watch for is Pat Ball's, who plays real estate agent, Helen O'Toole. This is Pat's first performance for GLT, and she says she "loves it!", which is evident in the spark with which she executes her part.

Like Frank, Pat's facial expressions are priceless, as are her comic moves. It goes without saying - Pat is funny. (We are curious to know if Pat makes her Georgetown District High School students laugh as much as she makes her audience?)

Cathy Harris is back for another performance with GLT, this time as

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