

Theatre

Hot Box dancers heat up stage



Globe Productions upcoming musical extravaganza, 'Guys and Dolls' has some red-hot performers to parade before the audience, not the least of which are the 'Hot Box' dancers. Pictured above, Karen Simpson, featured as one of the 'Hot Box' dancers and Craig Marshall, who plays the roll of a low-life crapshooter 'Big Julie', warm-up the rehearsal stage. (Herald photo)

The Hot Box dancers are buzzing with excitement: "There's gonna be a weddin'!" They can't believe that after a 14 year engagement Miss Adelaide and her crapshooter beau, Nathan Detroit, are finally going to tie the knot... or are they?

The answer to this and other pressing questions can be found in this month's Globe Productions show "Guys and Dolls". Show dates at the John Elliott Theatre are Nov. 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 29, 30 and Dec. 1 at 8 p.m., and Nov. 18 and 25 at 2 p.m. Tickets are available for \$11 each at Royal LePage Real Estate at 170 Guelph St., or call 877-4323 for more information.

Most examples of "musical comedy," even the best of them, tend to be short on comedy, no matter how long they may be on music. Guys and Dolls is an exceptional musical comedy - it is genuinely and continuously funny.

Two of the best comedy songs in the show go to Miss Adelaide, played by Nanci McNeil. "Adelaides Lament" is a comic masterpiece in which Miss Adelaide describes the psychosomatic ailments she suffers due to her 14 year engagement to Nathan Detroit, played by Pat McManus. Adelaide also sings the song which was the only number from the show to appear on the hit parade in the 1950's - "A Bushel and a Peck". It is one of the two songs performed as part of Adelaide's night club act at the Hot Box.

There are six talented chorus members who play the Hot Box Dancers in these numbers. They are Diane Atkinson, Mary Bilik, Shannon Marshall, Karen Simpson, Allyson Tracey, and Candy Yeandle. Some of the dancers have learned while performing in various high school shows and other theatrical productions. All six have performed in previous Globe shows including "Brigadoon," "Stay Tuned," and "Kiss Me Kate."

Nathan Detroit's problems with Miss Adelaide are temporarily pushed to the side as he and his cohorts try desperately to find a place for their illegal crap game. Their search becomes even more frantic when they learn that several big time gamblers from out of town have arrived for the game. Craig Marshall as the formidable "Big Julie" and his side-kick "Harry the Horse" played by Barry Pletch are two of these "well-heeled shooters." Keith Mills, Phil Brennan and Gord McCleod respectively playing "Benny Southstreet", "Rusty Charlie" and "Nicely-Nicely Johnson" make a lively trio of singing the praises of betting on the horses. One of the show-stoppers in Guys and Dolls is "Sit Down Your Rockin' the Boat", comically sung by "Nicely-Nicely Johnson" and the chorus. So as "Big Julie" says, "Buy a ticket - you'll love Guys and Dolls". And when "Big Julie" talks, you listen, if you know what's good for you!



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Arts and Ideas

Joanne Fitzgerald, "captivating" illustrator

A year ago the book "Plain Noodles" was published and became a favorite with many children who found it under the tree on Christmas morning. The waggish story of a boatload of babies was written by Betty Waterton. The captivating illustrations were the creations of Georgetown artist and illustrator, Joanne Fitzgerald.

Now another book illustrated by Joanne is in the bookstores, just in time for another Christmas. The book is titled "Emily's House". It consists of a poem by Niko Scharer that should be irresistible to all children. A grade two girl found the book in my livingroom, perused it at once, and told her mother that was the book she was going to order from Santa.

I bet every child will pick up the poem in no time flat. "Emily lived in a little brick house/with a creaking old door and a little brown mouse." It's the kind of thing that enters the mind and stays there.

The illustrations for "Emily's House" by Georgetown's Joanne Fitzgerald, are a wonder and a delight.

This artist draws as if with a feather and there is apparently nothing she can't do.

As in "Plain Noodles" she creates a whole small, believable universe for the book. A landscape, a house, the rooms of the house, the furnitures for the rooms, seven wonderfully rendered animals, and Emily, a cuddly little girl, who finds out that noise can get progressively worse, to the point where it becomes unbearable.

Joanne Fitzgerald is scheduled for a talk and reading at the Georgetown Library on November 8, (tomorrow), at 7 p.m.

I am sure every child who goes to the library for her performance will become her fan.

She looks like "Snow White", with her dark hair and sweet smile. Joanne will also be at Ox-



John Sommer
IDEAS AND THE ARTS

bow Books on Main Street in Georgetown for a book signing session on November 17 from 2-4 p.m.

An exhibition combining the works of four different people, opened last Sunday at the Gallery of the Halton Hills Cultural Centre.

There are paintings in different media by Ruth Gibson and Olga McCaw, as well as color photographs by Tom Gibson and Robert McCaw. The exhibition continues to Nov 24

I like most of Ruth Gibson's watercolor paintings. The best ones are unlabored and fresh, giving the immediate sensation of something seen in bright sunlight. Olga McCaw's watercolors have a stiff, innocent charm.

The two photographers are obviously competent with the camera. This type of photography makes the most of the rich colors to be found in the Canadian landscape.

I quarrel with the size of some of these photographs and with their ponderous framing. There are art works that need to be big and there are other art works that need to be medium-sized or small. Photography, in my opinion, in particular nature photography should never go beyond medium size.

What convinced me of that was an exhibition by the outstanding Canadian photographer, Roloff Beny, at the Art Gallery of On-

tario in Toronto many years ago.

Most of my readers will know Roloff Beny's work from his famous books, namely "A Time of Gods", "Pleasure of Ruins", "For Everything there is a Season", and "In Italy".

These books explode with sparkling photographs that give the viewer a heightened impression of the beauty of the real world. In his exhibition, at the Art Gallery of Ontario, Roloff Beny showed his photographs greatly enlarged, with the result that their impact, their vitality, was diminished and thinned out.

They had become the most banal of department store decorations.

Photography is not painting. The art of photography belongs to the graphic arts. The more condensed the photograph is, the more it will act like a bullet that pierces the viewer's consciousness.

Mackay Houstoun came to town a good year ago from Elora.

He belongs to the generation that followed the celebrated painters of the Group of Seven.

He is now, at a ripe and mellow age, celebrated himself for paintings that pay homage to life and abundance.

From November 13 to November 24, the Roberts Gallery at 641 Yonge Street in Toronto is having an exhibition of his new paintings, most of them painted in Georgetown.

Thursday, (tomorrow), 7:00 p.m. everyone is invited to meet local artist Joanne Fitzgerald. She is the illustrator of many children's books including Plain Noodles and the newly released, Emily's House. Come out to the Georgetown Branch Library and be entertained by Joanne's reading of these wonderful stories. The Bookmark Contest Winners will also be on hand to receive their awards. Join in the fun! For more information call - Georgetown Branch Library, 873-2681.

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