

Opera Comique interlocks life and events

By JOHN SOMMER

"Opera Comique", a comedy by Nagle Jackson, is the latest offering of the Georgetown Little Theatre Company.

It had three performances last week at the John Elliott Theatre here in town (one of them a benefit performance in aid of the Georgetown Parent-Child Centre), and it will have four more performances this week, starting tonight. "Opera Comique" has been very nicely directed by Jacky Willows, in a good and functional set designed by Ron Hunt, with actors who are beautifully costumed by Vesta Jorgensen, Mildred Blackett and Fran Anthony (who is also the producer of the play).

There are several veteran actors in the play, doing their usual reliable work (Frank McKie, Joyce Holland, Nanci McNeil, Ron Hunt, Ron Hill, and Keith Mills), and some I had never seen before (Ro Palumbo-Coates, Tanya Dale-Johnson, Gary Brand, and Scott Peterson).

Tanya Dale-Johnson gives an outstanding performance as Viviane, a beautiful young woman desiring to brake the conventional mould into which she has been cast by her upbringing.

Ro Palumbo-Coates is making of Odile, the usher, a comical masterpiece. Gary Brand, as George Bizet's loyal composer-friend Ernest Guiraud, is the most convincing of all the men. He looks as if he had stepped out of a photograph by Nadar. And Scott Peterson, as the extremely randy military cadet Hector Vigneron, gives the impression of playing himself.

The play takes place in the lobby of the Opera Comique in Paris. From the lobby three doors are leading to three private boxes. The date is March 3, 1875, the day George Bizet's opera "Carmen" was performed for the first time.

The composer and a devoted friend are occupying one of the boxes. Around them, life and events interlock.

On the surface, "Opera Comique" is a lighthearted entertainment - a farce almost. But there is more to it than meets the eye. A sizable part of the play's energy is directed against the general public that demands bromides from the arts instead of challenges. But the satire is sugarcoated and we swallow it happily.



Ideas and The Arts
by John Sommer

For instance: Odile steps up to the edge of the stage at times, to talk to the audience and to make sage comments about "Carmen", about her life, and about life in general. Odile is the prim voice of the people. She utters with total conviction the most surreal sentences and we realize, with a laugh, that her hilarious pronouncements are pretty close to similar pronouncements we overhear in the real world every day.

Take this, as an example: "If Marie Antoinette enjoyed eating cake, wasn't it kind of her to want to see us eating it? The fact that there wasn't any is certainly not her problem, but ours."

Special meeting

Communicators and the arts community take centre stage at the February 5th meeting of the Halton/Peel Communications Association (HPCA).

Writers, designers, photographers and other freelancers in the field of communications' needs of arts groups, and how you can effectively market your talents to today's craftspeople.

The meeting begins at 7:15 p.m. sharp, and will be held at the Peel Art Gallery in Brampton (9 Wellington Street, East). Guests and new members are always welcome!

For more information on the HPCA contact Nancy Wood (416) 271-8574, or Lorraine Willson (Georgetown/Milton/Acton) (416) 877-6140.

Credit Valley Artisans woodcarving course

The Credit Valley Artisans are offering a 10 week Beginners Woodcarving Course on Tuesday evenings starting February 4th. Bolton resident Paul Allard will be the instructor. Paul is a journeyman cabinet maker and accomplished woodcarver. He has studied woodcarving with the masters since 1983 and is a member of the Ontario Woodcarving Association and the National Woodcarving Association.

The techniques of relief carving and carving-in-the-round will be taught. The student will also learn how to properly select, sharpen and maintain carving tools and the importance of wood selection. All students will carve

the first project together-an Old World Saint Nicholas carved-in-the-round. The second project will be the student's choice. Although this course is designed for beginners, it is also suitable for those with some carving experience wishing to expand their knowledge of this craft. The course will be held at Cedarvale Cottage in Cedarvale Park, Georgetown.

For further information, contact Frank Anthony, Registrar, at 877-5856 between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Deadline for registration in this course is Monday, January 27, 1992.

Palette and Pencil Club present annual show

By UNA O'CALLAGHAN
Herald Special

February 5th will see the opening of the Palette and Pencil Club's annual show at the Cultural Centre Art Gallery, Church Street, Georgetown. The public is cordially invited to view the all-new artworks in oil, acrylic, watercolor and black-and-white, meet the artists, and share refreshments, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The show will continue during library hours until March 1st.

The Club was started in 1966 by the well-known artist Frank Black, who died at an advanced age only two years ago. Mr. Black was associated with the famed Group of Seven, and was generous in sharing his expertise with members of the club he founded. His works are treasured by discerning collectors, and some adorn the walls of the library.

Currently the Palette and Pencil Club has 17 members. You may have seen some of them sketching or taking photographs around town to provide material

from which to work in their shared studio at the Cottage, in Cedarvale Park. Possibly you have come across a group further afield, say on the river bank at St. Jacobs, or camped near a picturesque barn on some side-road, painting "en plein air" their impressions of our beautiful countryside.

During the year several members have been commissioned to paint portraits of both houses and people, and other works to complement patrons' living or work spaces. Some have had works accepted into juried art shows in the Toronto area.

They are a busy bunch of people, and always happy to meet newcomers interested in joining their ranks.

Members meet the second Tuesday evening of each month, at 7:30 p.m. in the Cedarvale Park Cottage, and there paint together each Tuesday, taking along lunch and helping each other with informal instruction and critiques. They look forward to meeting old and new friends on February 5th.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
WARD 2/HIGHWAY 25/ERIN/HALTON HILLS
TOWN LINE

Council for the Town of Halton Hills will conduct a Public Meeting to examine and discuss a proposed amendment to Zoning By-Law 74-51 to rezone a property for stormwater management purposes.

The subject property is located at the southeast corner of Highway No. 25 and the Erin/Halton Hills Town Line, with the property being described as Part of Lot 32, Concession 3, Town of Halton Hills (Esqueping).

Further information is available in the Planning Department.
ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS ARE WELCOME

Time: 7:10 p.m.
Date: Monday, February 17, 1992
Location: Council Chamber, Halton Hills Civic Centre
1 Halton Hills Drive, Georgetown

File No.: D/14 Debryn Properties
Ad. No. 1499

THE CORPORATION OF THE
Town of Halton Hills
1 Halton Hills Drive — P.O. Box 128
HALTON HILLS (Georgetown), Ontario L7G 5G2
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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING
WARD 4 / GUELPH STREET / DELREX BOULEVARD

Council for the Town of Halton Hills will conduct a Public Meeting to examine and discuss a proposed amendment to the Halton Hills Official Plan and Zoning By-Law 57-91 to redesignate and rezone a portion of a property to allow for a broader range of retail and recreational uses.

The subject property is located on the south side of Guelph Street (Highway No. 7), west of Delrex Boulevard in Georgetown. The property consists of an existing commercial/industrial building within the Knolcrest Centre.

Further information is available in the Planning Department.

Time: 7:00 P.M.
Date: Monday, February 3, 1992
Location: Council Chamber, Halton Hills Civic Centre
1 Halton Hills Drive, Georgetown

File No.: D09/Knolcrest
Ad. No. 1498