



Ida dynamic in debut (Photo by Hogg)

See How They Run the Curtain Club's rollicking farce about a day in the life of an English vicarage, and what might be termed its inmates, comes to a merry end this week with four more performances, including this evening's. One of the reasons it's been going at such a happy clip is the performance of Terry Gosling of Richmond Hill, who is making her stage debut as Ida the maid, who is both cockney and cocky. Liberal drama critic Tom Davey termed her stage presence "that of a veteran".

Enthusiasm abounds in fast-paced farce

By Martha Buell

AURORA — Despite the lightness of theme and absence of plot which are so often characteristic of farce, it is probably one of the most difficult forms in theatre. It demands from actors and director alike unlimited energy in the maintenance of pace, and a very special awareness of the difference between character and caricature. Theatre Aurora is to be congratulated on both accounts. Its production of Phillip King's Pool's Paradise (a sequel to See How They Run) is breathtakingly quick in pace, but at the same time shows carefully worked out characterization, making the play credible without detracting from the humor of the incredibly complicated entanglements. If fault is to be found at all, one could only term all performances as perhaps slightly over-enthusiastic, but never over-acted. This can be excused, however, as compensation for a general lack of substance and subtlety in the play itself. In an evening of enjoyable performances there were four which were especially fine. The well-timed entrances of the maid Ida, played by Elizabeth Shaw, kept everyone on stage hopping, and everyone else laughing. Her consistency of accent and quick comebacks made her performance absolutely delightful.

Norma Dover, as ex-actress and vicar's wife Penelope Toop, handled a somewhat more difficult part with a charming ease that gave warmth and humor to her performance. Witty and energetic, the naughty school-girl and repentant lover is a constant source of speculation for the other characters and audience. No one is really sure what she will think of next.

I especially enjoyed two of the smaller roles. Cy Buck as Willie Briggs, a simple and lovable yokel, the object of Ida's affections, demonstrates how eloquent a silent role can be. He says nothing at all during his first entrance, but by the time he speaks we have already formed an idea of his character. I also enjoyed the Bishop of Lax, who, although his accent lapsed occasionally, maintained a suitable degree of pomposity throughout. This sober and pious ecclesiastic, portrayed by Don Wilson, provided a welcome element of sanity to the overwhelming confusion of the latter part of the play.

Other members of the cast who acquitted themselves well were Mike Hepinstall as Reverend Toop, Alan Mitchell as the visiting priest Humphrey, and Jean Shiner as the somewhat voluptuous spinster, Miss Scillon, with lungs of Wagnerian amplitude. I should like to com-

Entertainment

Greece to Italy by flip of marquee

By Norman Matthews

Puzzle: How can a restaurant go from Greece to Italy?

Answer: By changing its name, ownership, staff and menu!

Such is the case of Guardy's Steak and Lobster Place in Thornhill, which was formerly known as Anny's Steak House. Definitely above the quality of the average restaurant, Guardy's is managed by Vito Ardito, whose polished charm and attentive table manner make customers feel special.

The tables were decorated in my old school colors, with gold table cloths and blue cloth napkins. Soft music provided a background to an otherwise quiet establishment.

We enjoyed an aperitif cocktail and then started in on the appetizers. My companion chose the onion soup au gratin, (\$1.25) which was a tangy broth with a rather shallow topping of cheese. I enjoyed the soup du jour (80 cents) of minestrone, finding it to be exceptionally saporous.

Good decision Guardy's offers 18 delicious meals and it was a hard decision to make in selecting our fare for dinner. My companion finally chose the broiled scampi and couldn't have made a better choice. Six prawn tails, nudging each other on a bed of steaming rice and melted butter, garnished with paprika. A side dish of green beans was unusually fresh tasting with just a tint of olive oil flavor.

dining out with norm

My selection was the steak and lobster plate, often referred to as surf and turf, at \$10.95 and it was scrumptious beyond words. The lobster tails were cooked to perfection, not overdone or stringy like many places serve them, and the steak was medium-rare and juicy.

Both meals included hot garlic bread served in a basket, dill pickles and olives, and potatoes of your choice. Imported house wines are available but expensive, with the advantage of being obtainable by the 1/4 litre. As such, my companion enjoyed a carafe of white wine whilst I had red.

Expensive Desserts are rather expensive with a dish of ice cream or sherbert costing 70 cents, a tart at 95 cents, cheese cake at \$1.25, and Tartufo ice cream at \$1.35. We had a creme caramel custard dessert at 95 cents and a creme de menthe liqueur parfait at \$1.75. Our only problem was to find a place to put these treats, having received such generous portions of the main course.

A good meal prepared with a minimum of fuss and served with noticeable preciseness for a total cost of \$31.40 plus \$3.15 tax and a \$3.00 tip.

Daily fare Available on the regular daily menu is spaghetti with meat sauce at \$2.25; cannelloni at \$3.75; trout meuniere

Calendar YSO opens in King

Curtain Club, Richmond Hill — LAST WEEK — "See How They Run"; Oct. 13-16. Call 884-2638

Fairview Library Theatre — Richard Rohmer, Una Abrahamson and Anthony Richmond, Canadian Authors' Month speakers; Oct. 19 at 8 p.m. Admission free.

Pepi Puppet Theatre — Hansel and Gretel; to Oct. 17. Poor Alex Theatre. Call 225-9473.

Art Gallery of Ontario — Jack Bush, Canada's leading color field painter; to Oct. 24. Montreal primitive, Ernest Gendron; to Oct. 17.

Bayview Playhouse Theatre — 1605 Bayview Ave., "Harry's Back in Town," featuring songs of the great Harry Warren; Opens tonight. Call 597-1688.

AURORA — The first concert of the York Symphony Orchestra's new season will be held Oct. 29 at Marylake Shrine in King City.

This year, the symphony is repeating its offer of season's tickets for which the subscriber receives four for less than the price of three singles.

Donnie Reed, a 15-year-old from Sudbury, will be featured in the first concert, performing Paganini's "Violin Concerto".

On Dec. 3, the St. Anne's Music and Drama Society will perform with the orchestra at Trinity United Church, Newmarket.

James Spragg of Aurora, former first trumpeter with the Quebec City Symphony, will play the difficult Haydn "Concerto" in the Feb. 11 concert at St. Mary's Anglican Church, Richmond Hill.

The season's final concert will be held at St. Andrew's College, Aurora, on April 30.

Pianist Chia Yue Chou will perform. He was also the guest soloist two years ago.

Adult subscriptions at \$10 and senior citizen or student subscriptions at \$7 are available from York Symphony, Box 355, Richmond Hill, L4C 4Y6. Single tickets are \$3.50 each.

The YSO has started rehearsals in the Richmond Hill United Church, Sunday evenings from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

Any interested players, particularly strings, are invited to attend.

For more information, call YSO president Gail Harrison at 727-3490.



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Mulcahy resigns

BARRIE — Sean Mulcahy, artistic director of Gryphon Theatre Company, has resigned, it was announced this week.

In its announcement, the company said that "Extended discussion of the 1977 season resulted in mutual agreement between Mr. Mulcahy and the board of directors to terminate the association."

An announcement as to whom will succeed Mulcahy, who was with the theatre for three years, is to be made as soon as the appointment is confirmed.

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