

# Arts & Entertainment

## Courtroom thriller fizzles

At the heart of Sidney Lumet's new courtroom thriller, *Night Falls on Manhattan*, there's a gripping story dying to be told; that of an ambitious lawyer having to come to terms with a criminal justice system that is severely flawed. On the surface, however, the film is meandering, overacted and just plain boring.

Andy Garcia plays Sean Casey, a hotshot rookie lawyer who becomes a star overnight after winning a high profile case against a notorious drug dealing cop killer.

The case, although an easy one to win, ends up becoming a stepping stone to bigger and better things, especially when district



### Screen Scene

Stuart Green

attorney "Morgy" Morgenstern (Ron Leibman) suffers a massive heart attack on the eve of his reelection campaign kickoff.

Casey is ultimately selected to replace Morgy, much to the chagrin of assistant DA Elihu Harrison (Colm Feore), who ends up running against him.

The further Casey's career advances, the more conflicted he becomes, especially when criminal lawyer Sam Vigoda (Richard

Dreyfuss in a small role) reveals that his father (Ian Holm) may be involved with a group of crooked cops who were being paid off by the same dealer, who may have intended to assassinate him during a raid on his apartment.

On top of this, he's become romantically involved with one of Vigoda's assistants (Lena Olin), against whom he may have to try cases.

*Night Falls on Manhattan* sets itself up early as a fascinating character portrait, but fails to live up to that promise.

While Lumet, usually a master of these kind of high voltage courtroom dramas, creates a terrific mood from the opening credits through the first 20 minutes, it never really picks up.

Many of the plot developments rely on unbelievable coincidences, and the relationships between Sean and his father and his love interest are transparent, contrived and grossly over dramatized.

Given Lumet's less-than-impressive track record of late (*Q & A* and *The Morning After*, for example), there are probably a lot of people who were hoping this would be a return to form for the Oscar winning director.

It isn't. *Night Falls on Manhattan* is a disappointment on all counts.



Andy Garcia, right, stars in the courtroom drama *Night Falls on Manhattan*, with Ian Holm, left.

## Cachet Choral Group choir includes classic show-stoppers and solo works in its concert

KATE GILDERDALE  
Correspondent

Well-loved music of stage, screen and choir loft will be featured in the Cachet Choral Group's concert, which takes place tomorrow at 8 p.m. at the Stouffville United Church.

The concert is sponsored by the Music Town, Ontario committee for the Clock Tower Theatre project. The repertoire will include classic show stoppers and inspirational numbers, as well as some fine solo works.

The 40-member choir features a strong local con-

tingent, including Dave Duggan, Ann Gage, Keith Steckley, Geoff Bartle and Joan and Ian Kerr.

Acclaimed musician Sarah Coysh will provide flute accompaniment for 'Song for the Mira.'

Ted Marshall, a newcomer to this year's experience, the popular Uxbridge version of *Music Mania*, is among the featured soloists.

Everyone who attends has the opportunity to win a door prize—a basket of car care products donated by Duncan Giles of Giles Chevrolet Oldsmobile.

Tickets are just \$7 and are available at the door, or can be purchased in advance by calling Doris Harvey at 642-0275.

## Harpist combines music with stories

KATE GILDERDALE  
Correspondent

Angelica Ottewill brings the magic of the Celtic harp to Whitchurch-Stouffville Library Saturday at 2 p.m., in a performance for children entitled *Storytelling With Harp*.

A classically-trained singer and harpist, Ottewill has become a familiar figure in Celtic and folk harp circles in the Toronto area.

"My interest in story telling grew out of a desire to bring Celtic music to children," she noted. "In my program, *The Magic of the Harp*, I combine the threads of folk tales, poems and traditional music into a colorful story tapestry."

On her second visit to the library—she played for the opening of Sheila Maloney's recent exhibition 'An Irish Canadian Family's Story'—she will provide a delightful introduction to the world of leprechauns, fairies, mermaids and other magical creatures for her young audience.

Ottewill's performance schedule has included appearances at the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Cana-



HARPIST: Angelica Ottewill will perform for children in Stouffville on Saturday.

dian Folk Harp Festival, the 1994 Summer Buskers' Festival at the St. Lawrence Market, the 1996 Collingwood Folk Festival and a spot on CTV's morning show, *Canada AM*.

"I will also be performing my stories with harp accompaniment at the Toronto General Hospital and Bloorview Children's Hospital in North York," she added.

Admission to *Storytelling with Harp* is one dollar at the door.



The 40-member Cachet Choral Group choir performs tomorrow night.

## Celebrity jam session's featured at Fullerton's

### HERITAGE ARMS

Friday, May 23 - Jimmy Frazer, the One Man Boogie Band; Friday, May 23 - Comedywood. Five stand up comedians on stage. Crosby, Stills, Neil Young etc.; Thursday, May 29 - Steve Worrall Band; Saturday, May 31 - Forbidden Fruit. Acid Jazz Band; Saturday, May 31 - Comedywood. 144 Main St. Markham, 294-1300.

### FULLERTON'S

Monday and Wednesday 20¢ cocktail wings. Tonight: all the hits with Pierre and Tony. Friday, May 23: Lobster night, entertainment by Grant Fullerton. Saturday, May 24: Jerome Godboo Band. Sunday, May 25: 6-10 p.m. Grant Fullerton & Jamnation celebrity jam session. Wednesday, talent night hosted by Neil Cruikshank. 26211 Main St., Stouffville, 642-5360.

### CACHET CHORAL GROUP

"The Music Town, Ontario" committee of Whitchurch-Stouffville is hosting a concert by the Cachet Choral Group, Friday, May 23 at 8 p.m. in Stouffville United Church. Admission is \$7. Proceeds to the Clock Tower Theatre project.

### UXBRIDGE YOUTH CHOIR "ALADDIN"

May 23 at 7:30 p.m. and May 24 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. At Uxbridge Music Hall. Adults \$10, children \$5. Tickets available at Presents Presents and Blue Heron Books.

### NEW MUSEUM EXHIBIT

Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum's 1997 exhibit, "19th Century Nightlife" is open to the public. See how families and friends

spent their quality time in an era before electricity, central heating, etc. For details call 727-8954.

### UNIONVILLE ARMS PUB

May 25: Elvis - North American Elvis impersonator Champion. May 31: The Mike Stoyan Band. All shows start 9 p.m. Karaoke every Thursday. 189 Main St. 470-8831.

### HOBBY HORSE ARMS

Friday, May 30 - 7:30 p.m. Scotch Nosing. Feature: Macallan. May 25 Uxbridge, call 852-6126.

### SDSS "IMAGES '97" EXHIBITION

The Latham Gallery, Stouffville Library, hosts SDSS's Images '97 art exhibition. Variety of media from sculpture to comput-

## spotlight

er art, created by artists in Grades 11, 12 and OAC. Exhibition runs to June 1.

### STORYTELLING WITH HARP

Tales of enchantment for children told by Angelica Ottewill accompanied on her Celtic harp, Saturday, May 24, 2 p.m. Stouffville Public Library. Admission \$1.

To promote your event in Spotlight, fax the details to (905) 294-1538, mail to 9 Heritage Rd., Markham, L3P 1M3, or e-mail to econsun@1star.ca.