



Ann Myers

"Tea And Sympathy" And "Teahouse Of The August Moon" Lead New Plays On Broadway

By Connie Murray

So you're going to New York over the Christmas holidays? You've probably packed and re-packed mentally a dozen times. You've bought an exquisite gown all of lace and net and rhinestones and a friend has lined you up a date with an 'Arvard man, reputedly a Greek god.

Maybe someone has recommended a small restaurant in Greenwich Village, complete with candlelight and violins and characters you read about in stories. You're all set—but wait a moment—have you considered the "Great White Way" with its multitude of plays? Maybe you are confused by the many suggestions offered by friends and magazines. Well, let's take a look at the newest plays.

Vying for top honors are two new plays featuring Hollywood stars: "Tea and Sympathy" starring Deborah Kerr and "The Teahouse of the August Moon" starring David Wayne.

"Tea and Sympathy," an intensely Salem. A sophomore voice major from Statesville, N. C., she is a transfer from Sullins College.

At Sullins, she was the freshman dorm house president, co-lead in the dramatic production "Sleeping Beauty", co-chairman for Mardi Gras, Secretary of the President's Council, a student council member and soloist with the Sullins College Chorus.

This year she is one of the soloists of the Chorale Ensemble and the Centenary Methodist Church choir.

Now Ann was playing Christmas hymns on the piano in order "to get in the Christmas mood."

I stopped her long enough to ask her what she wanted for Christmas, and in one breath, she answered, "a three-speed, automatic changing, portable radio-record player combination with a coffee-pot-plug-in attachment to be used for my 6:30 a.m. study hour." Got it straight, Santa?

dramatic production, is the story of a seventeen-year-old boy, who, having been deprived of maternal love, seeks the ideal in life. Falsely accused of homosexuality, John Kerr, as Tom, turns to Deborah Kerr, as Laura, his housemaster's wife, who is to offer the students only tea and a little sympathy.

A sentimentalist who follows her heart, Miss Kerr as Laura finds the student a welcome fulfillment for the love she has never been able to give or receive from her husband.

Robert Anderson's play is woven around the conflicts of these three lonely people, their search for love, their inability to prove their innocence as false evidence arises. Each is seeking something to replace what he never had and the play builds to its final, pulsating moments as Laura comes to Tom.

Directed by Elia Kazan, "Tea and Sympathy" is a must for the lovers of romance and drama.

In contrast to this drama is "The Teahouse of the August Moon," a comedy by John Patrick. Heading the cast are David Wayne as Sakini, the interlocuter as well as a performer, Paul Ford as the Colonel, and John Forsythe as the Captain.

The American occupation army's plan to bring democracy to an imaginary village in Okinawa. Using an allotment of money provided by Washington to build a schoolhouse, the villagers fill a life-long desire to have a teahouse.

Complete with Oriental dances and a "cliche-spouting officer," "The Teahouse of the August Moon" shows how the East and West complement each other: the "get up and go" of the Americans tempered with the patience and gracious acceptance of the Orientals is the moral of this fable.

This play is guaranteed to fill the audience with good humor.

Two relatively new musicals are "Can-Can" and "Me and Juliet." The former is a glimpse of 19th century Montmartre, based on the book by Abe Burrows. The outstanding features are the dashing choreography of Michael Kidd and the brilliant sets of Jo Mielziner. However, the audience will probably remember longest the lilting melodies of Cole Porter.

"Me and Juliet," a play within a play, stars the inimitable Isabel Bigley and Joan McCracken. The dances by Robert Alton are set to the music of that great team, Oscar Hammerstein II and Richard Rodgers. As in the previously mentioned three plays, the set was designed by the untiring Jo Mielziner.

"Sabrina Fair," soon to be a movie starring Audrey Hepburn, is the delightful love story of a millionaire and a chauffeur's daughter. Margaret Sullivan and Joseph Cotten star in this play by Samuel Taylor.

Last Friday a new musical opened on Broadway. As yet, no reviews have come in on "Kismet," but many will identify it with the new hit song, "Stranger in Paradise," a big number from the show.

Long-runs on Broadway are "The King and I" in which the strong-willed English teacher takes over the royal Siamese court and King Yul Brunner; "South Pacific;" "Wonderful Town" starring Rosalind Russell in a revival of "My Sister Eileen;" and "Seven Year Itch."

With these few plays, Broadway's brilliance of red and white lights beckon to all theater-goers. So with your plane ticket in one hand and your theater tickets in the other, you are all set for a gay white Christmas on the "Great White Way!"

Salem's "Spirit Of Christmas" Believes There Is A Santa

By Freda Siler

Ann Myers was perched on the piano bench singing, "Santa Claus is Coming to Town." Stopping on a high C, she turned around and smiled at me, "He may not slide down the chimney, but there is a Santa Claus." And there was a conviction in her voice that dared anyone to disagree.

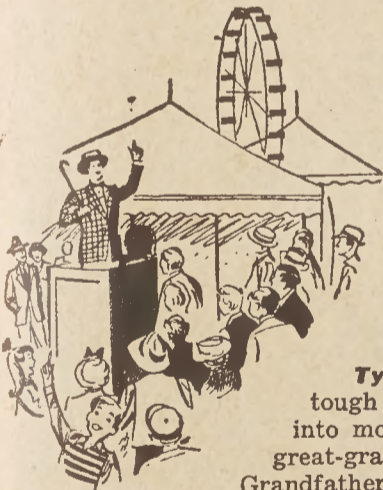
She turned back around, and started on the second chorus, talking excitedly all the while about how she liked Christmas and Santa Claus, while the piano chords resounded over the living room of Society.

Because of this holiday spirit and enthusiastic manner, Ann is a natural choice for the December Girl of the Month. This enthusiasm is also reflected in her love of music.

While she was playing, she began to talk about her favorite music. "You know, I like anything from Bach to Beethoven to popular music. I even like hillbilly songs if they're good." Ann would like to sing professionally and "be good at it." She hopes to go to New York to study music and also work while she is there.

Besides her music, Ann likes football games, working and being in plays—she even likes the smell of grease paint — levis and boys' sweaters and friendly people. (Speaking of friendly people, our December Girl of the Month fits this category. Walking across back campus, you can often hear Ann yelling hello from her front window on second floor Society.)

This semester is Ann's first at



How the stars got started...

Tyrone Power says: "I had it tough bucking 'tradition' to get into movies. First, a famous great-grandfather actor, same name. Grandfather and Dad, too — both big in the theatre. I was barker at a Fair before anyone gave me a chance. Then, bit player, understudy, hard work and eventually I made it!"



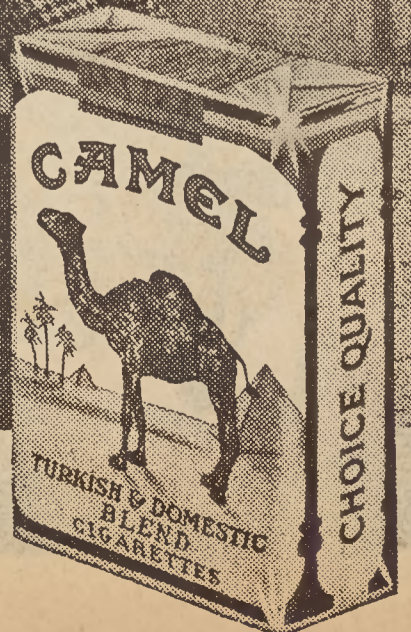
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