

Taster's Choice

Chapel Hill Cinema

"A Separate Peace." The central relationship in this prep-school story is beautifully observed and deeply moving, but the film as a whole is spoiled by a contrived script, cloddish direction and inadequate acting. Carolina Theatre. 1:20, 3:15, 5:10, 7:05, 9.

"Swedish Fly Girls." R-rated skin flick. Varsity Theatre. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9.

"The Mechanic." Charles Bronson's starrer on the heels of "Valachi." Plaza 1, 3, 5, 7, 9.

"The Valachi Papers." Truly terrible gangster film with ridiculous lines, sloppy direction and unbelievably bad acting. Sample line: "I can't bring back the dead, only kill the living." Plaza II. 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10.

Theatre

"Cactus Flower." Village Dinner Theatre. Raleigh. Curtain at 8:30 p.m. Call 569-8348 for reservations.

"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof." Written by Tennessee Williams. Directed by Robert Brink. Duke Players. Tonight at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday at 8:15 p.m. Call 684-3181 for reservations.

"Happy Birthday, Wanda June." Written by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. Directed by William Hardy. Allied Arts Center. Durham. Dec. 7-9. Nightly at 8 p.m.

"Home Free." Written by Lanford Wilson. Directed by Glenn Yates. Laboratory Theatre. Tonight & Friday at 8 p.m. Matinee Friday at 4 p.m. Free tickets in Lab Office, Graham Memorial. Performance in 06 Graham Memorial.

"8 O'Clock Rock." A look at the poetry of rock music. Sponsored by the Carolina Readers. 103 Bingham. 8 p.m. tonight. Free.

Tryouts

"A Divine Misunderstanding." Laboratory Theatre. Written by Carol Banks. Directed by Chris Adler. Thursday in 205 Graham Memorial. 7:30 p.m.

Concerts

James Taylor. Friday, Dec. 8 at 9 p.m. Carmichael Auditorium. Tickets sell for \$4 and may be purchased at the Carolina Union Information Desk.

UNC Women's Glee Club. Tonight. Hill Hall. 8 p.m.

Wynn's annual 'humbug' Sunday

Prof. Earl Wynn delivers his annual reading of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" at 4 p.m. Sunday in the Great Hall of the Carolina Union.

Wynn will tape his reading at WRAL-TV in Raleigh. The production will be broadcast by Channel 5 as a special holiday presentation.

Founder and chairman of the RTVMP Department from 1947-1962, Wynn

University Mixed Chorus. Sunday, Dec. 10. Hill Hall. 8 p.m.

North Carolina Dance Theatre. Friday, Dec. 8. 8:30 p.m. Page Auditorium.

Opeyo Dancers. "Through the Years: 1920's until Today." Directed by Herman Mixon. 8 p.m. Friday. Memorial Hall.

Chapel Hill Camerata. Works by Bach, Mendelssohn, Barber, Desualdo, Gabrieli. Christ Episcopal Church. Raleigh. 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission free.

Television

Film: "The African Queen." John Huston directs Katharine Hepburn and Humphrey Bogart. 9 p.m. Channels 2 & 11.

International Performance. Robert Merrill hosts the romantic ballet "La Sylphide." 9 p.m. Channel 4.

Behind Prison Walls. Truman Capote interviews prisoners and guards. This is the first public showing of a documentary withheld for two years.

Radio

WPTF-FM. "Festival of Music." 94.7 on the dial. 8:07-10 p.m. Busoni: Concerto for Piano, Orchestra and Male Chorus. Schubert: Italian Overture in D, Symphony No. 8 in B Minor (Unfinished).

WPTF-AM. Radio Classics. 570 on the dial. 8:10-8:40 p.m. Gangbusters.

WCAR. Presenting Sean Scott Sizemore. Nightly midnight to three. Hard rock for the insomniacs.

Art

Ackland Art Center. Art by Hans Richter. Open Tuesday through Saturday (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.). Sunday (2-6 p.m.). Closed Mondays.

North Carolina Museum of Art. 107 E. Morgan St. Raleigh. Open Tuesday through Saturday (10 a.m. to 5 p.m.) and Sunday (2-6 p.m.). Closed Mondays.

Art Gallery of Chapel Hill. 106 Henderson St. Art by Daniel Mistrik.

Other

"A Christmas Carol." A holiday reading by Prof. Earl Wynn of the RTVMP Department. Sunday at 4 p.m. in Great Hall.

currently teaches acting and motion picture production and direction in the UNC Department of Radio, Television and Motion Pictures. He is a veteran actor of the state's three outdoor dramas, "The Lost Colony" in Manteo, "Unto These Hills" in Cherokee and "Horn in the West" in Boone.

This Sunday's reading will be Wynn's sixth annual holiday reading of "A Christmas Carol."

Adrian Scott

Opera

It is rare to find an actor who can really sing, and just as rare to find a singer who can really act. Maria Callas, one of the finest dramatic sopranos of all time, is a happy exception; but listening to Joan Sutherland is fine until one opens one's eyes.

Somehow the cast in the UNC Opera Theatre's recent production of two short operettas managed to combine the two functions with rare success. Perhaps this can be attributed to the collaboration of the Music and Drama departments in the project; but in any case, the results were spectacular.

The two operas were Ravel's "The Spanish Hour" and Puccini's "Gianni Schicchi," both minor comic masterpieces. The performance of works of this genre requires not only superior musicianship, but a relaxed and competent stage style to carry the usually flippant plot. Robert Porco, as musical director, and Jon Mezz, as stage director, seemed to have instilled their actor/singers with the right kind of enthusiasm.

"The Spanish Hour" is the story of Torquemada, a somewhat doltish Toledo clockmaker, who was played and sung with fine idiocy by Jim Croom. However, the plot centered on his flirtatious wife Concepcion, played by Stephanie Melvin, who takes advantage of his absence to entertain a number of illicit lovers.

Her number one man is Gonzalve, a foppish, Anthony-Absolute-like "poet," whose ardor for Concepcion is tempered by his love for his own poetry. Ramiro, a muleteer, is an innocent would-be customer, who ends up, after many machinations, with the girl.

The other element in the plot is Don Inigo Gomez, a lawyer who is fascinated by Concepcion. Playing this part, and on the stage for one of the first times in living memory, was Robert Porco himself, a master of the lascivious grin if I ever saw one.

After much carrying up and down of grandfather clocks (in which are hidden Gonzalve and Gomez, of course) Ramiro and Concepcion retire, and Torquemada returns, happy because his shop is so full of "customers," to whom he immediately sells the grandfather clocks.

The opera ends with a rousing quintet,

in which all is worked out to everyone's satisfaction.

Miss Melvin did an exceptionally fine job: a little hammish to be sure, but in fine voice at all times.

Phil Hass as Gonzalve was most amusing, especially when rhapsodizing over his "wooden tomb," the clock. John Wilson, as Ramiro, had trouble at times with his high notes, but carried his role, and a number of grandfather clocks, in exemplary fashion.

"Gianni Schicchi," a production of somewhat greater magnitude, featured a number of stars of the past; Joel Carter as Schicchi; Stafford Wing as Rinuccio; and the ever-entertaining Haskell Fitz-Simons as the elderly Simone.

Fans of Ben Johnson will find themselves on familiar ground with "Schicchi": the hero is a Volpone-like

character with the difference that he is after the legacy-money of someone else instead of dangling his own in front of others.

After the death of their wealthy relative, a group of cousins and other relations are shocked to find that the old man has left all his money and property to the Friars' hospital. They enlist the aid of Schicchi, who impersonates the dying man and calls in a lawyer to make a new will.

After warning the assembled company of the hideous penalties accorded on forgers, Schicchi proceeds to leave a considerable portion of the old man's wealth to himself. The others, terrified of giving their secret away, are obliged to stifle their not unjustified wrath.

Notable in the cast were Melinda Wilkinson as Zita, the old man's senile cousin; Haskell Fitz-Simons as Simone,

her even more senile and deaf brother; and especially Vicki Harrison as Schicchi's daughter and Rinuccio's lover. Miss Wilkinson's charming expression of her love provoked the audience to its only spontaneous burst of applause all evening.

Of course the opera has Gianni himself at its center, and Joel Carter was completely in control. Artful and witty, with telling glances and gestures, his performance was the highlight of the night.

The best thing about the Opera Theatre's presentation was the promise it held for the future: if the Music Department and the Drama Department continue to collaborate on such projects, things will look very good for the performance and presentation of opera on this campus.

Let us fervently hope that this *entente* remains cordiale.

'Quarterly' now on sale

The long awaited fall issue of "The Carolina Quarterly" goes on sale today at a special outdoor table in the vicinity of the Pine Room, at the Bulls Head Bookstore and at various bookstores downtown.

Editor Junius Grimes manages to retain the North Carolina focus of the "Quarterly" while drawing from some of the best and most original writing throughout the country. Able to attract work by nationally established writers, "The Carolina Quarterly" devotes much space to young and often unknown authors experimenting in new veins of fiction and poetry.

Thus the first published story by Thomas McNeal appears beside a translation by the eminent Joyce Carol Oates.

Among the contributors to this edition of the "Quarterly"

are William H. Martin, bank vice-president who has "learned more from time spent on our courthouse square than from his formal education" and David Weissman, who was "born and raised in New York City, educated in Oregon, and deposited in Iowa."

Frances Bridgers is managing editor and Rosanne Coggeshall serves as poetry editor of this season's "Quarterly." Assisting Miss Coggeshall in selecting the volume's poetry are Rachael Wiener, Tory Burkhart, Miriam Murchie and Tom Leach.

Bruce Firestone heads the fiction department. Judith Stanton, Elizabeth Ananis, Sarah English, Charanne Kurylo and Leonard Rogoff comprise the editorial board assisting Firestone.

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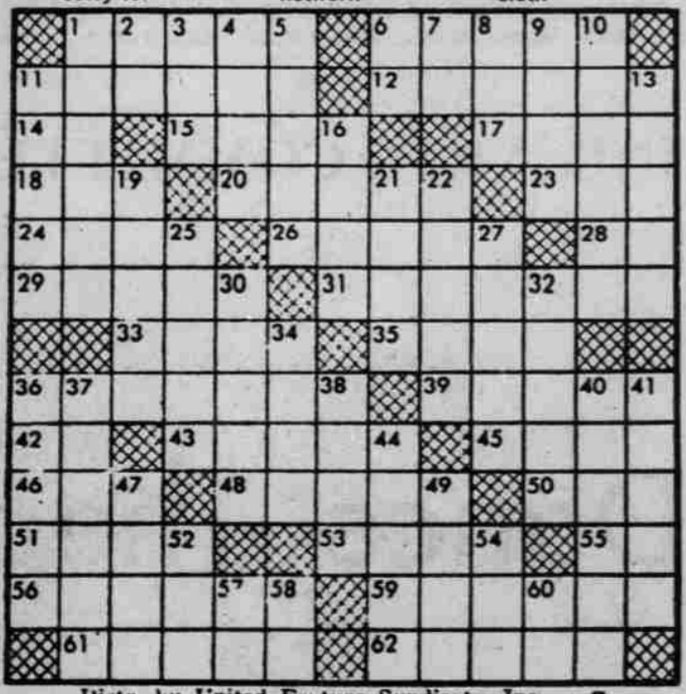
Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS
- 1 Bishop's hat
- 6 Leather thong
- 11 Country of Central America
- 12 Egg dish
- 14 Conjunction
- 15 Tiny amounts
- 17 Withered
- 18 Music: as written
- 20 Repulse
- 23 Man's nickname
- 24 Tissue
- 26 Soft drinks
- 28 College degree (abbr.)
- 29 Wipe out
- 31 Smallest
- 33 Measure duration of
- 35 Narrate
- 36 Forecast
- 39 Cleaning substances
- 42 Note of scale
- 43 Chemical compound
- 45 Let it stand
- 46 New Deal agency (abbr.)
- 48 Pertaining to the sun
- 50 Period of time
- 51 Swerve
- 53 Falsehoods
- 55 Chaldean city
- 56 Adorn
- 59 Cuts of meat
- 61 Heavy drinker
- 62 Weird

Answer to Yesterday's Puzzle

A	D	A	M	E	A	T	P	A	C	E		
T	O	N	E	E	L	I	S	H	O	T		
E	N	D	T	A	P	E	S	B	U	N		
S	A	T	O	N	S	T	I	N	A			
T	E	A	M	S	C	O	S	T	S			
A	I	S	L	E	T	O	P	H	E	W		
L	O	N	E	A	L	L	D	E	L	E		
E	N	E	A	S	P	A	R	I	S	E		
S	I	G	H	A	R	A	R					
P	O	T	A	S	L	A	M	G	O			
A	D	D	M	A	L	A	R	S	O	W		
C	O	N	F	I	G	U	R	A	T	I	O	N
T	R	E	E	A	R	M	E	N	D	S		

- 7 Printer's measure
- 8 Roman bronze
- 9 Winter vehicle
- 10 Courageous persons
- 11 Adhesive substance
- 13 Doctrine
- 16 Blemish
- 19 Winged
- 21 Prepare for print
- 22 Paths
- 25 Stage whisper
- 27 Storage pits
- 30 Sends forth
- 32 Puff up
- 34 Reverberation
- 36 Confirm
- 37 Feet sorry for
- 38 Narrate
- 40 Wig
- 41 Heavenly bodies
- 44 Lift
- 47 Danish island
- 49 Nerve network
- 52 Tear
- 54 Weight of India
- 57 Symbol for cerium
- 58 Period of time (abbr.)
- 60 Three-toed sloth



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