

# GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

A CONSCIENTIOUS CALENDAR OF EVENTS OF INTEREST

## THE THEATRE

### PLAYS AND MUSICALS

**AREN'T WE ALL?**—A revival of a smart Mayfair comedy of 1923, written by Frederick Lonsdale. Claudette Colbert, Rex Harrison, Lynn Redgrave, Brenda Forbes, and George Rose find no difficulty bringing it back to life. (Reviewed in our issue of 5/13/85.) (Brooks Atkinson, 256 W. 47th St. 719-4099. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8. Matinées Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2, and Sundays at 3.)

**AS IS**—This touching play by William M. Hoffman concerns a personable young homosexual who is afflicted with AIDS, and is also a documentary of sorts about his milieu in this city. The lively impressionistic performance was directed by Marshall W. Mason, and the acting by the large cast, several of whom appear in multiple roles, is just right. With Jonathan Hogan and Jonathan Hadary. (3/25/85) (Lyceum, 149 W. 45th St. 239-6200. Nightly, except Sundays, at 8. Matinées Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2.)

**BE HAPPY FOR ME**—A comedy by Jerry Sterner, with David Groh and Philip Bosco. Preview Wednesday, May 15. Opens officially on Thursday, May 16, at 6:45. (Judith Anderson, 422 W. 42nd St. 279-4200. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8. Matinées Sundays at 3.)

**BIG RIVER**—A musical about Huckleberry Finn and Jim and their adventures on the Mississippi, with a book by William Hauptman and music and lyrics by Roger Miller. The large cast is full of charm and so is the scenery, by Heidi Landesman. (5/13/85) (Eugene O'Neill, 230 W. 49th St. 246-0220. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8. Matinées Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2, and Sundays at 3.)

**BILOXI BLUES**—The second comedy—"Brighton Beach Memoirs" was the first—in which we are invited to follow Neil Simon's years of growing up and becoming a writer. Matthew Broderick as young Simon has a natural charm that keeps us from noticing how stickysaintly-smarmy the character is. (4/8/85) (Neil Simon, 250 W. 52nd St. 757-8646. Nightly, except Sundays, at 8. Matinées Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2.)

**CALIFORNIA DOG FIGHT**—A dud. (5/13/85) (Manhattan Theatre Club at City Center, 131 W. 55th St. 246-8989. Nightly at 8. Matinées Saturday and Sunday at 2:30. Closes Sunday, May 19.)

**THE COURTROOM**—Bill Irwin, the incomparable mime, clown, juggler, dancer, and acrobat, appears in a free-form show of his own devising, with music by Doug Skinner, and a supporting company that couldn't be better. (Reviewed in this issue.) (St. Clement's, 423 W. 46th St. 265-4375. Wednesday and Thursday at 8; Friday at 7 and 9:30; and Saturday at 8. Matinée Saturday at 2. Closes Saturday, May 18.)

**DOUBLES**—A comedy by David Wiltse about some fiercely competitive but not very interesting tennis players in far-off Norwalk, Connecticut. With John Cullum, Ron Leibman, Tony Roberts, and Austin Pendleton. The director is Morton Da Costa. (Reviewed in this issue.) (Ritz, 219 W. 48th St. 582-4022. Nightly, except Sundays, at 8. Matinées Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2.)

**EDEN COURT**—A comedy by Murphy Guyer, with Ellen Barkin, Guy Boyd, Penny Marshall, and Ben Masters. (Promenade, Broadway at 76th St. 580-1313. Tuesdays through Fridays at 8; Saturdays at 7 and 10; and Sundays at 7:30. Matinées Sundays at 3.)

**ENSEMBLE STUDIO THEATRE**—Opening performances of a festival of twelve one-act plays, running through Monday, June 17. "The Road to the Graveyard," by Horton Foote; "Desperadoes," by Keith Reddin; "Aggres-

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sive Behavior," by Stuart Spencer; and "Between Cars," by Alan Zweibel: Wednesday and Thursday, May 15-16, at 7:30, and Saturday, May 18, at 7 and 10 (previews); Monday, May 20, at 7:30 (opening); and Thursday, May 23, at 7:30. . . . "Life Under Water," by Richard Greenberg; "Mariens Kammer," by Roger Hedden; "The Frog Prince," by David Mamet; and "Men Without Dates," by Jane Willis: Friday, May 17, at 7:30; Sunday, May 19, at 3 and 7; Friday, May 24, at 7:30; and Saturday, May 25, at 7 and 10. (549 W. 52nd St. 247-3405.)

**EPISODE 26**—A play by Howard Korder. (Little Theatre at the Lambs, 130 W. 44th St. 997-1780. Thursdays through Saturdays at 8. Matinées Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2, and Sundays at 3.)

**EQUITY LIBRARY THEATRE**—A revival of the 1973 musical *A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC* by Stephen Sondheim (music and lyrics) and Hugh Wheeler (book), suggested by Ingmar Bergman's film

"Smiles of a Summer Night," is the last in this season's series of productions. (103rd St. and Riverside Dr. Nightly, except Mondays, at 8. Matinées Saturdays and Sundays at 2:30. Closes Sunday, June 2. For information about tickets, for which contributions are requested, call 663-2028.)

**THE FOREIGNER**—A very funny play by (and with) Larry Shue, with good performances by every single member of the company, most notably by Kevin Geer as a lovable half-wit. Jerry Zaks was the admirable director. (11/19/84) (Astor Place Theatre, 434 Lafayette St., near Astor Pl. 254-4370. Tuesdays through Fridays at 8; Saturdays at 7 and 10; and Sundays at 7. Matinées Sundays at 3.)

**GRIND**—Ben Vereen, Leilani Jones, Timothy Nolen, and Stubby Kaye in an eloquent and troubling musical about a Chicago burlesque house in 1933. The book is by Fay Kanin, the music is by Larry Grossman, and the lyrics are by Ellen Fitzhugh. Harold Prince directed. (4/22/85) (Mark Hellinger, 237 W. 51st St. 757-7064. Nightly, except Sundays, at 8. Matinées Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2.)

**HANNAH SENESH**—A monologue based on the diaries and poems of the Zionist heroine. Lori Wilner is the monologist. Written and directed by David Schechter, with music by Steven Lutvak, Elizabeth Swados, and Mr.

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