

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

A CONSCIENTIOUS CALENDAR OF EVENTS OF INTEREST

THE THEATRE

PLAYS AND MUSICALS

AMEN CORNER—A storefront church in Harlem, presided over by a woman pastor as sorely tried as Job. The pastor is played by Rhetta Hughes, who sings well and suffers nobly. (Reviewed in our issue of 11/28/83.) (Nederlander, 208 W. 41st St. 921-8000. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8. Matinees Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2, and Sundays at 3.)

AMERICAN BUFFALO—A superb production of David Mamet's classic comedy about three inept practitioners of petty crime in the lower depths of Chicago. With Al Pacino and J. J. Johnston. Directed by Arvin Brown. (11/7/83) (Booth, 222 W. 45th St. 239-6200. Nightly, except Sundays, at 8. Matinees Saturdays at 2. Closes Saturday, Dec. 17.)

AND A NIGHTINGALE SANG...—A charming little play, unabashed in its sentimentality, about an English family gallantly surviving the rigors of the Second World War. The author is C. P. Taylor. (Mitzi E. Newhouse Theatre, Lincoln Center. 799-9100. Nightly, except Sundays, at 8. Matinees Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2.)

BABY—A musical with lyrics and direction by Richard Maltby, Jr., and music by David Shire. Sybille Pearson provided the book. Previews through Saturday, Dec. 3. Opens officially on Sunday, Dec. 4. (Ethel Barrymore, 243 W. 47th St. 239-6200. Nightly, except Sundays, at 8; opening-night curtain at 6:30. Matinees Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2.)

BABY WITH THE BATHWATER—Christopher Durang is, line by line, one of the funniest satirists around. The target, this time, is parents. They are played by Christine Estabrook and W. H. Macy; Keith Reddin is their put-upon offspring; and Kate McGregor-Stewart and Leslie Geraci appear in multiple roles. All of them perform to perfection under the clever direction of Jerry Zaks. (11/21/83) (Playwrights Horizons, 416 W. 42nd St. 279-4200. Tuesdays through Fridays at 8; Saturdays at 7 and 10; and Sundays at 7. Matinees Sundays at 3.)

BECKETT PLAYS—Three brief plays by Samuel Beckett. The haunting "Catastrophe," in which David Warilow gives a silent, eloquent performance, first appeared in this magazine. Alan Schneider is the impeccable director. Alvin Epstein exchanges roles with Mr. Warilow in alternate weeks. (6/27/83) (Harold Clurman, 412 W. 42nd St. 594-2370. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8, and Sundays at 7. Matinees Saturdays at 2:30 and Sundays at 3.)

BHUTAN—A comedy by Jane Stanton Hitchcock. (South Street Theatre, 424 W. 42nd St. 279-4200. Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8, and Sundays at 7. Matinees Saturdays at 2, and Sundays at 3.)

BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS—A remembrance of things past, by Neil Simon. The hero is a sex-obsessed fifteen-year-old. (4/11/83) (Neil Simon, 250 W. 52nd St. 757-8646. Nightly, except Sundays, at 8. Matinees Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2.)

LA CAGE AUX FOLLES—A dazzling production of a musical that has little wit and a lot of phony sentimentality about the tenderhearted family life of homosexuals. The music, by Jerry Herman, is Broadway-romantic. The two superb stars are George Hearn and Gene Barry. (9/5/83) (Palace, Broadway at 47th St. 757-2626. Nightly, except Sundays, at 8. Matinees Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2.)

CIRCLE REPERTORY COMPANY—A dismal revival of Chekhov's *THE SEA GULL*, under Elinor Renfield's direction, but with an enchanting setting by John Lee Beatty. A number of able actors are on hand. (Reviewed in this issue.) (American Place, 111 W. 46th St. 730-9393. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8. Matinees

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2, and Sundays at 3.) ... **FOOL FOR LOVE**: Sam Shepard's play is as near a miracle as makes no matter—mysterious, funny, and beautiful. It is about two battling, loving lovers in a motel room at the edge of the Mojave Desert and about many other matters as well. Will Patton and Kathy Whitton Baker have the leading roles. Mr. Shepard directed. (6/6/83) (Douglas Fairbanks, 432 W. 42nd St. 279-4200. Tuesdays through Fridays at 8; Saturdays at 7 and 10; and Sundays at 7. Matinees Sundays at 3.)

COMPANY—Frederick Neumann in a return engagement of the monologue adapted by him and Honora Fergusson from Samuel Beckett's narrative work. With music by Philip Glass. (Public, 425 Lafayette St. 598-7150. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8. Matinees Sundays at 3. Closes Sunday, Dec. 11.)

DAMNÉE MANON, SACRÉE SANDRA—A drama by the Canadian playwright Michael Tremblay, translated by John Van Burek. Preview Wednesday, Nov. 30. Opens officially on Thursday, Dec. 1. (La Mama Annex, 74A E. 4th St. 475-7710. Wednesdays through Mondays at 8. Matinees Sundays at 3.)

DOONESBURY—A sunny, sometimes silly, but al-

ways beguiling musical about Garry Trudeau's celebrated comic-strip hero and his friends. Music by Elizabeth Swados, lyrics by Mr. Trudeau, and delightful performances by, among others, Ralph Bruneau, Kate Burton, Gary Beach, and Reathel Bean. (Reviewed in this issue.) (Biltmore, 261 W. 47th St. 582-5340. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8. Matinees Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2, and Sundays at 3.)

EQUITY LIBRARY THEATRE—Oliver Hailey's 1973 play *FOR THE USE OF THE HALL* will be the third in this season's series of eight productions. Opens Thursday, Dec. 1, and will run through Sunday, Dec. 18. (Equity Library Theatre, 103rd St. and Riverside Dr. Nightly, except Mondays, at 8. Matinees Saturdays and Sundays at 2:30. For information about tickets, for which contributions are requested, call 663-2028.)

THE GLASS MENAGERIE—Jessica Tandy, Amanda Plummer, John Heard, and Bruce Davison in a revival of the Tennessee Williams play. The direction is by John Dexter. Preview Wednesday evening, Nov. 30. Opens officially on Thursday, Dec. 1. (Eugene O'Neill, 230 W. 49th St. 246-0220. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8; opening-night curtain at 6:30. Matinees Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2.)

HEARTBREAK HOUSE—Rex Harrison, Rosemary Harris, and Amy Irving head the cast, and Anthony Page is the director for this production of Shaw's play. Previews through Tuesday, Dec. 6. Opens officially on Wednesday, Dec. 7. (Circle in the Square, 50th St., west of Broadway. 581-0720. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8; opening-night curtain at

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THE NEW YORKER

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THE NEW YORKER (ISSN 0028-792X), published weekly by The New Yorker Magazine, Inc., 25 W. 43rd St., N.Y., N.Y. 10036; Peter F. Fleischmann, chairman; George J. Green, president; J. Kennard Bosc, vice-president & treasurer; Milton Greenstein, Sam R. Spoto, vice-presidents; Elaine M. Matteo, secretary; Robert F. Young, advertising director. Branch advertising offices: 111 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60601; 155 Montgomery St., San Francisco, Calif. 94104; Suite 2360, 5900 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90036; 1175 Peachtree St. N.E., Atlanta, Ga. 30361; 67½ Chestnut St., Boston, Mass. 02108; 21 Grosvenor St., London, W1X 0ED. Vol. LIX, No. 42, December 5, 1983. Second-class postage paid at New York, N.Y., and at additional mailing offices. Authorized as second-class mail by the Post Office Department, Ottawa, Canada, and for payment of postage in cash. © 1983 by The New Yorker Magazine, Inc., in the United States and Canada. All rights reserved. No part of this periodical may be reproduced without the consent of The New Yorker. Printed in U.S.A. Subscription rates: In U.S. and possessions, one year, \$32.00; two years, \$52.00. In Canada, one year, \$44.00. Other foreign, \$52.00. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The New Yorker, 25 W. 43rd St., New York, N.Y. 10036.



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