

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

A CONSCIENTIOUS CALENDAR OF EVENTS OF INTEREST

THE THEATRE

PLAYS AND MUSICALS

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AFRICANUS INSTRUCTUS—A musical with a score by Stanley Silverman and a book by Richard Foreman, who is also the director. Presented by the Music-Theatre Group of the Lenox Arts Center. (St. Clement's, 423 W. 46th St. 265-4375. Tuesdays through Fridays at 8, and Saturdays at 7 and 9:30. Matinéés Wednesdays at 2. Closes Saturday, Feb. 15.)

BENEFACTORS—A well-written, well-plotted comedy, often humorous and no less often sad. The irresistibly attractive cast consists of Glenn Close, Sam Waterston, Simon Jones, and Mary Beth Hurt. (Reviewed in our issue of 1/6/86.) (Brooks Atkinson, 256 W. 47th St. 719-4099. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8. Matinéés Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2, and 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. Matinéés Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2, and Sundays at 3.)

BLOOD KNOT—Two brothers, one black and one who could pass for white, struggle in vain to emerge from the cultural hell to which they are condemned in South Africa. The author, Athol Fugard, plays one brother, Zakes Mokae plays the other. Their performances are very fine and not to be missed. (12/23/85) (Golden, 252 W. 45th St. 239-6200. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8. Matinéés Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2, and Sundays at 3.)

THE CARETAKER—The Steppenwolf Theatre Company of Chicago's production of the Harold Pinter play, with Jeff Perry, Gary Sinise, and Alan Wilder. Directed by John Malkovich. Previews Wednesday, Jan. 29. Opens officially on Thursday, Jan. 30. (Circle in the Square, 50th St. west of Broadway. 239-6200. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8; opening-night curtain at 6:30. Matinéés Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2, and Sundays at 3.)

CIRCLE REPERTORY COMPANY—Nancy Donohue's romantic comedy **THE BEACH HOUSE**, which is sometimes amusing, sometimes just silly, seems to belong more to the late thirties than to the present. Its flaws are more than redeemed by the beguiling performance of Swoosie Kurtz as Her, by the splendid performance of George Grizzard as Him, and by the touching performance of Robert Lennard as his fifteen-year-old son. Melvin Bernhardt was the deft director. (12/30/85) (Circle Repertory Company Theatre, 99 Seventh Ave. S., at Sheridan Sq. 924-7100. Wednesday through Saturday at 8, and Sunday at 7:30. Matinéés Saturday at 2 and Sunday at 3. Closes Sunday, Feb. 2.) . . . ¶ The opening performances of a twelve-week (through Sunday, April 20) engagement of three plays in rotating repertory. The first play is a revival of Lanford Wilson's 1975 drama **THE MOUND BUILDERS**. Opens Thursday, Jan. 30, at 8. . . . A modern-dress version of Albert Camus's **CALIGULA**, adapted from a translation by Stuart Gilbert, is the second production. Opens Sunday, Feb. 2, at 7:30. (Triplex, 199 Chambers St. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8, and Sundays at 7:30. Matinéés Saturdays at 2 and Sundays at 3. For information about further play scheduling, call 618-1980.)

CORPSE!—Being a notably law-abiding people, the British relish murder mysteries, especially those with a prevalence of corpses. Keith Baxter and Milo O'Shea are the stars of this classic example of the genre. (1/20/86) (Helen

Hayes, 240 W. 44th St. 944-9450. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8. Matinéés Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2, and Sundays at 3.)

CURSE OF THE STARVING CLASS—A revival of Sam Shepard's brilliant, humorous, passionate play. (9/2/85) (890 Theatre, Broadway at 19th St. 533-8834. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8, and Sundays at 7:30. Matinéés Saturdays at 2:30 and Sundays at 3.)

DAMES AT SEA—A revival of a musical by Jim Wise (score) and George Haimsohn and Robin Miller (book and lyrics). (Lambs, 130 W. 44th St. 997-1780. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8. Matinéés Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2, and Sundays at 3.)

DECEMBER SEVENTH—A play by George Rattner, presented by Henry Street Settlement's New Federal Theatre. (Theatre Guinevere, 15 W. 28th St. 679-9071. Wednesday through Saturday at 8. Matinéés Saturday and Sunday at 3. Closes Sunday, Feb. 2.)

DRINKING IN AMERICA—Eric Bogosian in a series of intense, funny, and occasionally painful dramatic monologues, written by Bogosian. (Reviewed in this issue.) (American Place,

111 W. 46th St. 247-0393. Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8. Matinéés Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2, and Sundays at 3.)

EQUITY LIBRARY THEATRE—A revival of the 1979 musical **THEY'RE PLAYING OUR SONG** (book by Neil Simon, music by Marvin Hamlisch, and lyrics by Carole Bayer Sager) is the fourth in this season's series of eight productions. (103rd St. and Riverside Dr. Nightly at 8. Matinéés Saturday and Sunday at 2:30. Closes Sunday, Feb. 2. For information about tickets, for which contributions are requested, call 663-2028.)

GERTRUDE STEIN AND A COMPANION—A play by Win Wells, about Miss Stein and Alice B. Toklas, with Jan Miner and Marian Seldes. (Lucille Lortel, 121 Christopher St. 924-8782. Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8, and Sundays at 7:30. Matinéés Saturdays at 2 and Sundays at 3.)

THE GOLDEN LAND—An extremely sentimental musical about Jewish immigrants to the United States. The company of three men and three women includes a fine singer named Marc Krause. (12/2/85) (Second Avenue Theatre, 189 Second Ave., at 12th St. 674-1460. Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8. Matinéés Wednesdays and Saturdays at 2:30, and Sundays at 1 and 5.)

EL GRANDE DE COCA-COLA—A revival of the 1973 musical revue, with the original cast—Ron House, Diz White, and Alan Shearman—who are the authors, along with John Neville-An-

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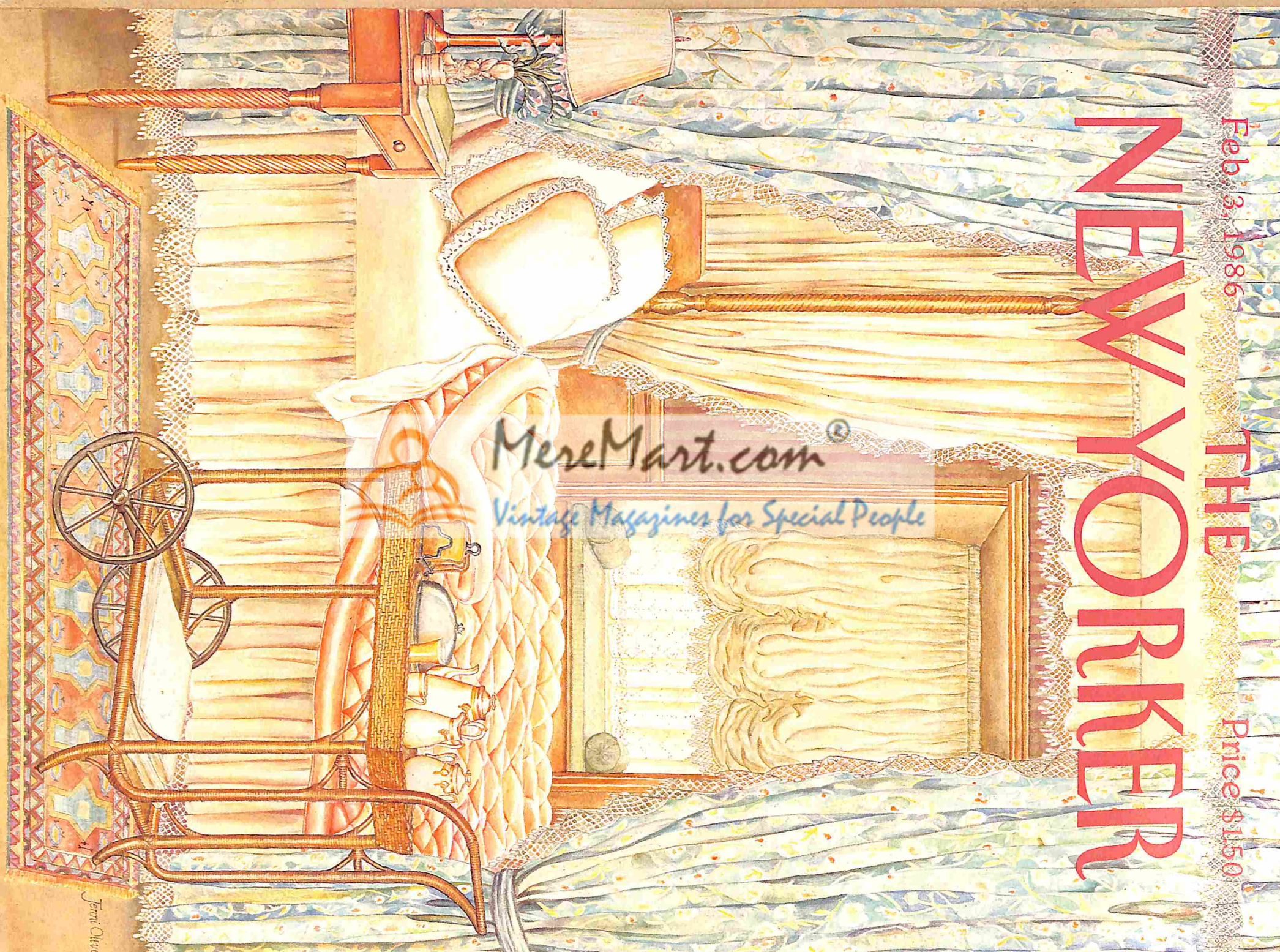
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