

THEATER

All plays have been reviewed by Examiner theater critic Scott Rosenberg, except where noted. "✓" indicates a production of special merit.

Approaching Zanzibar

By Tina Howe. This jerry-rigged road comedy about a family's cross-country trip to visit a dying relative...

The Architecture of Catastrophic Change

By George Coates Performance Works. Coates' fitfully inspired, largely frustrating response to the Loma Prieta earthquake...

Bar None

By Rich Baker and Terry Ward. "Bar None" takes its concept a little further than some audience-participation murder-mystery shows...

Beach Blanket Babylon Goes Around the World

By Steve Silver. A floor show of the mind — a song-and-camp revue that keeps evolving into new versions and gleefully cannibalizing TV, rock 'n' roll, Broadway and all the other carcasses of pop culture...

Closer Than Ever

By Richard Maltby Jr. and David Shire. This musical revue about aging baby boomers is given a smooth, flowing West Coast debut...

Don't Make Me Say Things That Will Hurt You

By Doug Holcavac. Called "10 private moments in the life of a queen in hiding," Holcavac's new one-man show seems at first like a low-key private drag revue...

Food and Shelter

By Jane Anderson. Following a homeless family from a dark-comic lark in Disneyland to a real-life nightmare on the streets...

It Had to Be You

By Renee Taylor and Joseph Bologna. Sharp direction by Paul Blake and deftly comic performances by TV stars Jean Smart and Richard Gilliland aren't enough...

Les Misérables

By Claude-Michel Schönberg, Alain Boublil and Herbert Kretzmer. To enjoy its scope, you have to shut your ears to its bombast...

Also running

Angry Housewives: By A.M. Collins and Chad Henry. Wednesday through Friday at 8 p.m.; Saturday, 6:30 and 9 p.m. Through Jan. 26.

Bert Sees the Light: By R.A. White. Opens Wednesday at 8 p.m. Then Thursday through Sunday, 8 p.m. Through Jan. 27.

Beyond a Reasonable Doubt: By Jeffrey Archer. Opens Friday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. Through Feb. 9.

Clearcutting the Gulf — The Musical: By Dave Lippman. Opens Friday at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. Through Jan. 26.

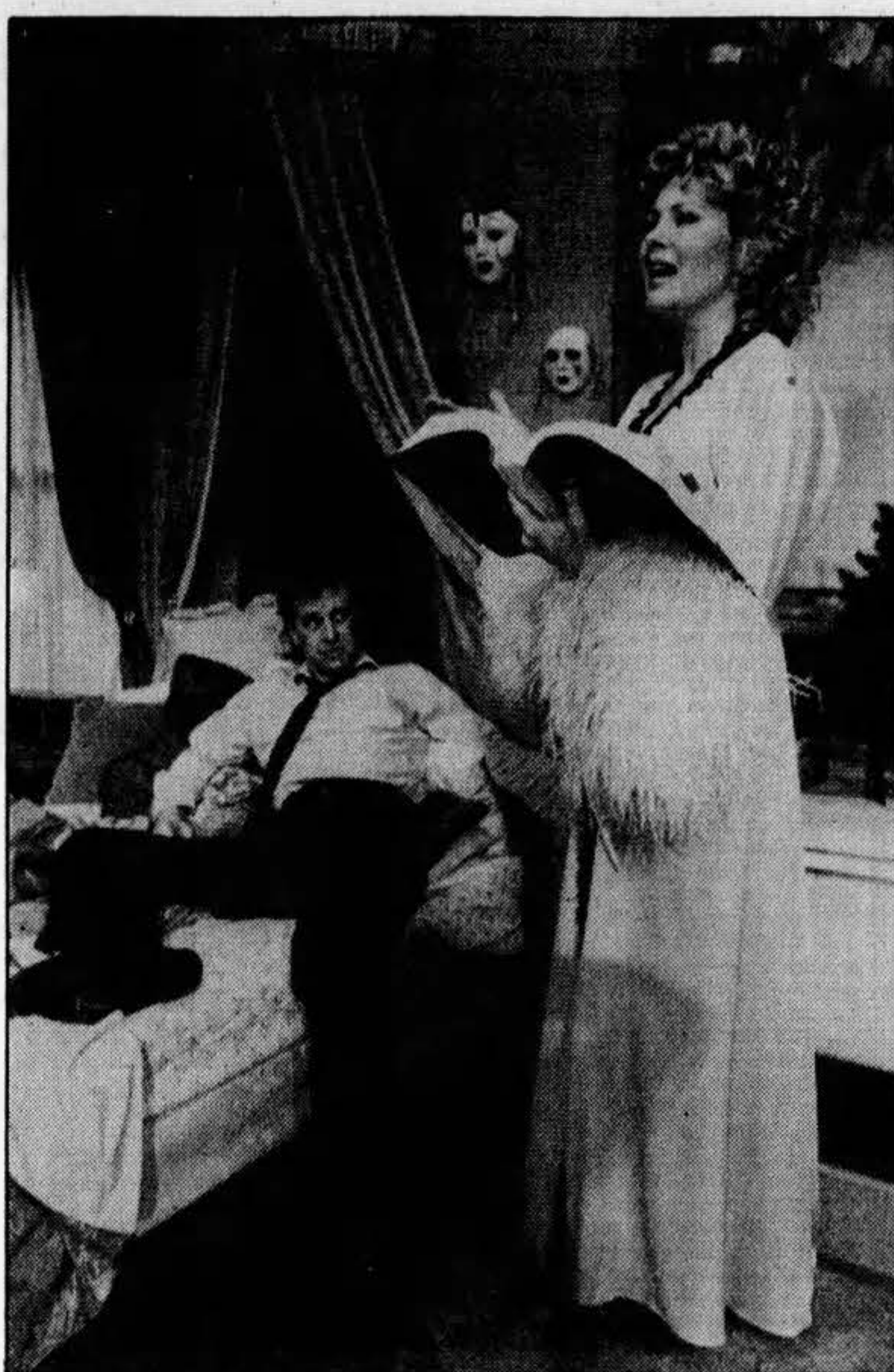
The Doctor in Spite of Himself: By Molière. 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Closes Saturday, 12:30 The Workshop Theatre, South Saratoga.

East: By Steven Berkoff. Opens Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. Then Wednesday through Saturday, 8:30 p.m.; Sunday 2 and 7:30 p.m. (except Sunday, Jan. 13, at 7:30 p.m.).

'Gulf War' videos take to the screen

Artist's Television Access, 992 Valencia St., will present "Take a Stand — Gulf War Video Attack," Jan. 11, 7:30 to 11 p.m.

Admission is \$3. For information, call 824-3890.



Richard Gilliland and Jean Smart star in "It Had to Be You."

Greater Tuna: By Jason Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m.; Saturday at 9 p.m., Sunday at 2 and 7 p.m.

Midnight Marsh: A late-night avant-garde cabaret featuring Ed Cranick, the Enormous Ensemble, featuring Shawna Brown, Barbara Imhoff, Diana Trimble and Susan Volkan.

Natural Man: By Theodore Brown. Thursday through Friday at 8 p.m.; Saturday at 2:30 and 8 p.m.

Nonsense: By Dan Goggin. Opens Thursday at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m. (except Sunday, Jan. 13, at 2 p.m.)

Concord (671-3388).

The Phantom of the Opera: By Ken Hill. Return engagement of the operetta-parody version. Opens Friday at 8 p.m.

Three at the LAB: Three one-act plays. "Stopwatch" by Rand Ravich; "Suitcase" by Kobo Abe; and "But What Have You Done for Me Lately" by Myra Lamb.

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?: By Edward Albee. Opens Wednesday. Then Tuesday through Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 and 7 p.m.

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SAN FRANCISCO NEWSPAPER AGENCY

San Francisco Chronicle San Francisco Examiner

Sources: The Scarborough San Francisco Market Study, 1987; San Francisco Newspaper Agency, 1990.

Advertisement for Beach Blanket Babylon featuring photos of the cast and promotional text for Club Fugazi.

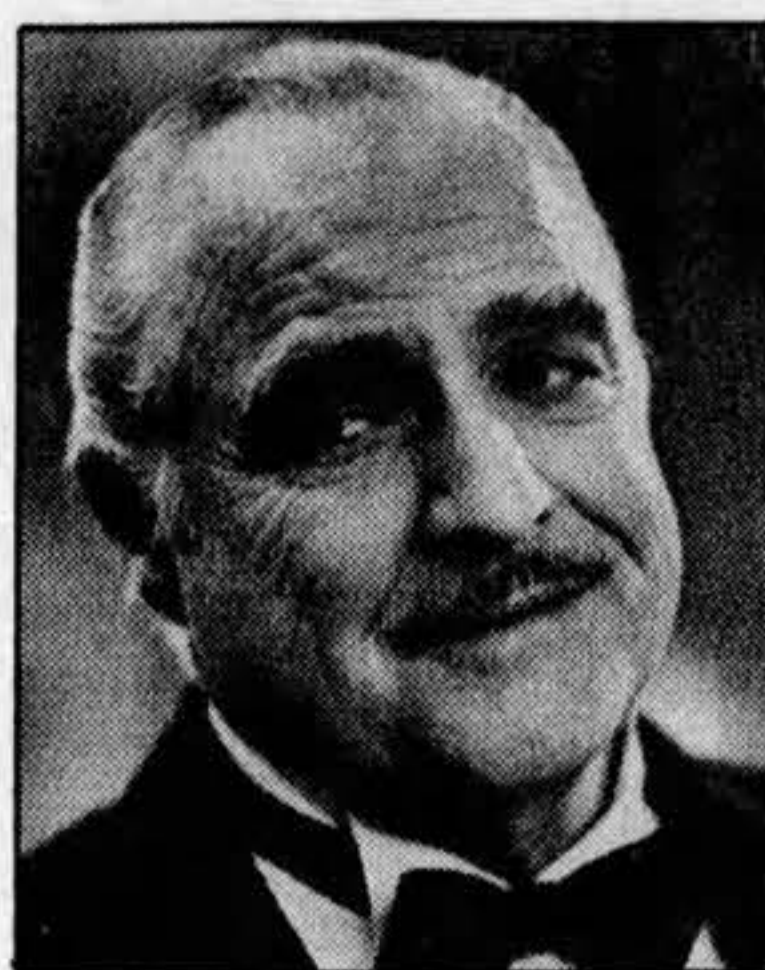
VIDEO

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Chicago Tribune

HERE IS a partial schedule of upcoming movies on video. Release dates and suggested retail prices for VHS cassettes are subject to change.

- JANUARY
9: "Delta Force II: Operation Stranglehold" — Media, \$89.95
9: "Circuitry Man" — RCA/Columbia, \$89.95
9: "Guns" — RCA/Columbia, \$79.95
9: "The Lemon Sisters" — HBO, \$92.99
9: "Night Life" — RCA/Columbia, \$79.95
10: "Repossessed" — LIVE, \$89.95
10: "Whispers" — LIVE, \$89.95
16: "At Swords Point" — Turner, \$19.98
16: "Bachelor Apartment" — Turner, \$19.98
16: "Beauty for the Asking" — Turner, \$19.98
16: "Berlin Express" — Turner, \$19.98
16: "Born to Be Bad" — Turner, \$19.98
16: "Heat Wave" — Turner, \$79.98
16: "The Lost Capone" — Turner, \$79.98
16: "Orpheus Descending" — Turner, \$79.98
16: "Slater Kenny" — Turner, \$19.98
16: "Tom, Dick and Harry" — Turner, \$19.98
16: "Way Back Home" — Turner, \$19.98
16: "What Price Hollywood?" — Turner, \$19.98
16: "Without Reservations" — Turner, \$19.98
16: "A Woman's Secret" — Turner, \$19.98
17: "Mo' Better Blues" — MCA/Universal, \$89.98
17: "Young Guns II" — CBS/Fox, \$92.98
23: "Criminal Justice" — Warner, \$89.99
23: "The Freshman" — RCA/Columbia, \$89.95
23: "Hardware" — Warner, \$92.99
23: "Little Vegas" — RCA/Columbia, \$89.95
23: "Masters of Menace" — RCA/Columbia, \$89.95
23: "Virgin High" — RCA/Columbia, \$79.95
24: "Moon 44" — LIVE, \$89.95
24: "Voodoo Dawn" — Academy, \$79.95
30: "Bad Girls From Mars" — Vidmark, \$89.95



Marlon Brando in "The Freshman," due this month

- 30: "The Church" — Southgate, \$89.98
30: "Hunchback" — Vidmark, \$89.95
30: "Lockdown" — Vidmark, \$89.95
30: "Project: Alien" — Vidmark, \$89.95
31: "The China Lake Murders" — MCA/Universal, \$79.95
31: "Die Hard 2" — CBS/Fox, \$94.98
31: "Le Mans" — CBS/Fox, \$39.98
31: "Love" — Connoisseur, \$59.95
31: "Roads to the South" — Connoisseur, \$59.95
31: "Navy SEALs" — Orion, \$94.98
31: "Problem Child" — MCA/Universal, \$89.95
31: "The Racers" — CBS/Fox, \$39.98
31: "Shock 'em Dead" — Academy, \$89.95
FEBRUARY
6: "Cinema Paradiso" — Warner, \$92.99
6: "I Come in Peace" — Media, \$89.95
7: "Chicago Joe and the Showgirl" — LIVE, \$89.95
7: "Days of Thunder" — Paramount, \$79.95
7: "Last Call" — Prism
7: "Love and Hate" — Prism
7: "Puppet Master II" — Paramount
11: "Mr. Frost" — SVS, \$89.95
13: "The Court-Martial of Jackie Robinson" — Turner, \$79.98
13: "Flatliners" — RCA/Columbia
13: "Gay Purr-ee" — Warner, \$59.95
13: "The Hideaways" — Warner, \$59.95
13: "The House of Usher" — RCA/Columbia, \$79.95
13: "Rush Week" — RCA/Columbia, \$79.95
13: "Twice Upon a Time" — Warner, \$59.95
13: "The Witches" — Warner, \$92.95
14: "Darkman" — MCA/Universal, \$79.95
14: "The Take" — MCA/Universal, \$79.95
20: "A Big Hand for the Little Lady" — Warner, \$59.95
20: "4 for Texas" — Warner, \$59.95
20: "Pocket Money" — Warner, \$59.95
20: "Quick Change" — Warner, \$92.95
21: "Air America" — LIVE, \$92.95
21: "Endless Descent" — LIVE, \$89.95

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# THEATER

## Other Bay Area Stage

### SAN FRANCISCO

**A.C.T. PLAYS IN PROGRESS** — "Rushmore," Anna Cascio's feminist comedy, directed by Christina Yao: Wednesday through Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m., next Sunday at 3 p.m., then January 29-31 at 8 p.m. A.C.T. Playroom, 450 Geary Street. 749-2ACT

**BAY AREA THEATRE SPORTS** — Improvisational theater/comedy in the form of an athletic competition, performed by local actors and comedians: Mondays at 8 p.m. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th Street. 824-8220

**BEDINI THEATRE PROJECT** — "Hot L Baltimore," by Lansford Wilson, directed by Larry Bedini. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., through February 16. Miz Brown's Restaurant Theatre, 2565 Mission Street. 921-2769

**CLIMATE THEATRE** — Two comic monologues by Josh Kornbluth return to the stage, both directed by David Ford: "Josh Kornbluth's Daily World" plays Wednesdays and Sundays at 8 p.m., through February 24. "Haiku Tunnel" plays Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., through February 23. 252 Ninth Street. 626-9196

**COWELL THEATER** — "The Mummery," a multi-media liturgical drama by Da Kalka, with music by John MacKay, presented by Free Daist Sacred Theatre Guild: Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. through February 3. Fort Mason Center. 552-3656

**EIGHTEEN HUNDRED SQUARE FEET** — "Gals," monologues by Meredith Rolley and Susan Van Allen: Friday and Saturday. 773-8706

**FELLOWSHIP THEATRE GUILD** — "Sex, Drugs and Apple Pie," a solo performance piece by Dorothy Anton, directed by JD Trow: opens Friday, plays Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., through March 6. 2141 Larkin Street. 346-1990

**FLASH FAMILY** — Improvisational theater, based on audience suggestions: Saturday at 8:30 p.m. Marina Music Hall, Building D, Fort Mason. 885-5678

**INTERSECTION** — "Bert Sees the Light," a sardonic account of Brecht's Hollywood stay during his Nazi-era exile, conceived and directed by R.A. White: Thursdays through Sundays at 8 p.m., through January 28. 446 Valencia Street. 626-3311

**JOSIE'S CABARET** — "I Think It's Gonna Work Out Fine: A Rock 'n' Roll Fable," a salute to rhythm and blues artists written and performed by Rhodessa Jones and Idris Ackamoor, in collaboration with Ed Bullins, directed by Brian Freeman: Thursdays through Sundays at 8 p.m., through next Sunday. "Rosemary Bock Sings Kurt Weill," a cabaret evening: Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 8 p.m., through January 30. B.G.M.U. Workshop, a performance group of black gay men, presents a work in progress using dance, music and spoken word: Friday at 10 p.m. 3583 16th Street. 861-7933

**THE LAB** — ZP Productions presents three one-acts: "Stopwatch," by Rand Ravich, "Suitcase," by Kobo Abe, and "But What Have You Done for Me Lately?" by Myrna Lamb: Ends today at 2 p.m. 1805 Divisadero Street. 346-4063

**THE MARSH** — Dave Lippman's "Clear Cutting the Gulf...the musical," a solo performance piece: Today and Thursday through next Sunday at 8 p.m. Monday Night Marsh features new or experimental works by Josh Kornbluth, Canyon Sam, Leah Sirkin, Charlie Varon: tomorrow at 8:30 p.m. Midnight Marsh features works by Ed Crasnick, Enormous Ensemble, Philip Horvitz, Stephen Holman and Liz Ozol: Saturday at 10:30 p.m. Cafe Beano, 878 Valencia Street. 641-0235

**METROPOLIS** — Improvisational comedy revue: Saturdays at 8:30 p.m., open-ended run. Simple Pleasures Cafe, 3434 Balboa Street. 563-2496

**NATIONAL THEATRE OF THE DERANGED** — Improvisational comedy from audience suggestions, featuring Jim Cranna and Chris Pray: Mondays at 8 p.m., open-ended run. The Improv, 401 Mason Street. 441-7787

**ON BROADWAY THEATRE** — Moliere's "The Physician in Spite of Himself," presented by Pulcinella Players and directed by Paula Cohen: previews today, opens Thursday, plays Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 7 p.m., through February 10. 435 Broadway. 362-2565

**PHOENIX THEATRE** — "Orpheus Descending," the Tennessee Williams drama about a young drifter, a rebellious girl and a shopkeeper's wife; directed by Julie Dimas: opens Wednesday, plays through March 3. 621-4423

**S.F. PLAYWRIGHTS' CENTER** — Staged reading of a new play by Joe Besecker: Friday at 7:30 p.m. Blue Bear Theatre, Building D, Fort Mason. 763-2727

**SOMAR** — Diggin Hole Productions and Moon of the Loon present "The Hangman Works," six one-act plays; two per night presented in rotation: Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., through February 2. 934 Brannan Street. 386-6615

**STAGE DOOR THEATER** — A.R.S. Brevis series of short story readings: Joy Carlin reads Ethan Canin's "Angel of Mercy, Angel of Wrath," Barry Krafts reads Raymond Carver's "Neighbors," Nancy Carlin reads Elizabeth Tallent's "Two Ghosts of Us." Tomorrow at 6:30 p.m. 420 Mason Street. 749-2ACT

**THEATRE RHINOCEROS** — Poets Presents Poets: four evenings of women poets conclude with a program of women's sacred texts at 8:30 p.m. today. "Inner Spirit: Outer Visions," experimental works by Debra K. Floyd, L.A. Hyder, Stephanie A. Johnson and others: Thursdays through Sundays at 8:30 p.m., through February 2. 2926 16th Street. 861-5079

**THEATRE THEATRE** — "Danube" and "Successful Life of Three," two one-act plays by Maria Irene Fornes, directed by Paul Moreno: Thursdays through Sundays at 8:30 p.m., through next Sunday. Potrero Hill Theater, 953 DeHaro Street. 474-9436

**YOUNG PERFORMERS THEATRE** — Storytelling Festival; Bay Area professional tale-tellers with stories from around the world: Saturdays and Sundays at 1 p.m., through February 3. Building C, Fort Mason. 346-5550

### EAST BAY

**ACTORS ENSEMBLE OF BERKELEY** — "Chicago," the musical by Fred Ebb, Bob Fosse and John Kander; directed by George Johnson: Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., through February 23; also Thursday, February 21 at 8 p.m. Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley. 528-5620

**BLACK REPERTORY GROUP** — "Natural Man," a musical retelling of the John Henry legend, by Theodore Browne: through February 2. 3201 Adeline Street, Berkeley. 652-2120

**CALIFORNIA CONSERVATORY THEATRE** — "Star Spangled Girl," the comedy by Neil Simon, directed by Maria Mazer: Thursdays through Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2 and 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m., through February 3. 999 East 14th Street, San Leandro. 632-8850

**CITIARTS/THEATRE CONCORD** — Return engagement of the musical comedy "Nun-sense," by Dan Goggin, directed by Richard Elliott: Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., with some Sunday performances; through February 3. Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Road, Concord. 671-3388

**CITIARTS/THEATRE CONCORD** — "Down an Alley Filled With Cats," Warwick Moss's comedy thriller about a con man and a scholarly bookseller competing for a priceless treasure: Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 (1/20, 2/3 and 2/10) or

7 p.m. (1/27). Willows Theatre, 1975 Diamond Boulevard, Concord. 671-3388

**CONTRA COSTA CIVIC THEATRE** — "Driving Miss Daisy," Alfred Uhry's play, starring Park Parker and Joseph Battle, Jr., directed by Louis Flynn: Fridays and Saturdays at 8:30 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m., through March 2. 951 Pomona Avenue, El Cerrito. 524-9132

**DRAMATEURS** — "Beyond Reasonable Doubt," a "whydunnit" by Jeffrey Archer: through February 9. 3535 School Street, Lafayette. 943-7469

**EGYPT THEATRE** — "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," by Tennessee Williams, directed by Paul Roach: previews Friday, opens Saturday, plays Friays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., through March 2. 4306 Foothill Boulevard, Oakland. 436-4877

**JULIA MORGAN THEATRE** — Life on the Water presents Bill Talen in his new monologue, "Scafflaw," based on his imprisonment for nonpayment of a traffic ticket, and "Political Wife," a one-act satire starring Talen and Anne Darragh; both directed by David Ford and designed by Kate Boyd: ends today at 7 p.m. 2640 College Avenue, Berkeley. 845-8542

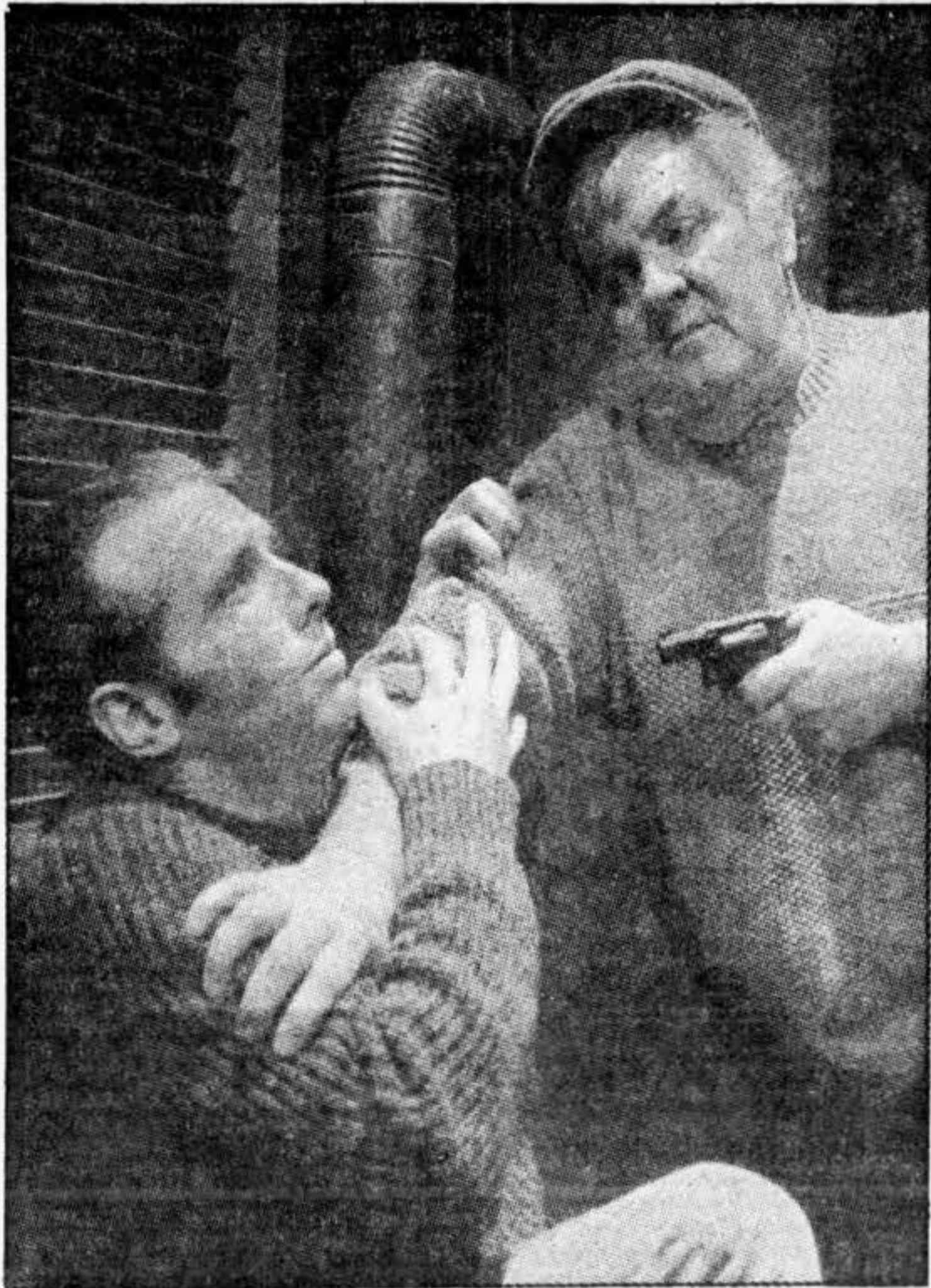
**MORAGA PLAYHOUSE** — "The Patient" and "Rats," two Agatha Christie one-acts, directed by Jerry Johnson and Kathleen McGhee: Friday at 8 p.m., Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m. Los Perales Theatre, Wakefield Drive at Corliss, Moraga. 376-2003

**PINOLE COMMUNITY PLAYERS** — "Little Shop of Horrors," the musical comedy spoof: Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., through February 16. Pinole Memorial Center, 601 Tennant Avenue, Pinole. 724-3669

**THEATER OF THE BLUE ROSE** — "Marriage of True Minds," an original commedia dell'arte piece, directed by John Ribovich: ends today at 3 p.m. 2525 8th Street, Berkeley. 540-5037

### PENINSULA

**BIG LIL'S CABARET** — "The Zada Queen Train Gang Robbery of 1864, or I've Been Working in a Train Gang," original melodrama: Thursdays at 7 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 7 and 10 p.m., through March 4. 157 W. San Fernando Street, San Jose. (408) 295-7469



### Bumblers in a Serious Game

Randall King, left, and Al Blair play two inept Irish Republican Army soldiers in Thomas J. McGorry's "Roses Don't Grow Here No More," opening Thursday at The Stage, 490 South First Street, San Jose

**HILLBARN THEATRE** — "An Enemy of the People," Henrik Ibsen's drama of environmental and political pollution, directed by Steve Dobbins and Bernadette Lopes: opens Thursday, plays Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., through February 9, with some additional Thursday and Sunday performances. 1285 East Hillsdale Boulevard, Foster City. 349-6411

**LOS ALTOS CONSERVATORY THEATRE** — "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," book by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart, music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim: Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. 97 Hillview Avenue, Los Altos. 941-5228

**SAN JOSE STAGE COMPANY** — "Angry Housewives," the rock-and-roll musical parody, by A.M. Collins and Chad Henry: through Saturday at the Eulipia Theater, 380 S. 1st Street, San Jose. (408) 293-2110

**SAN JOSE STAGE COMPANY** — "Roses Don't Grow Here No More," Thomas J. McGorry's dark comedy about an inept Irish Republican Army unit on an assignment that brings them to a terrifying reality: opens Thursday, plays Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m., through February 17. The Stage, 490 South First Street, San Jose. (408) 283-7142

**THEATREWORKS** — "De Donde?" Mary Gallagher's drama about Central American refugees, directed by David Gassner: Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 7 p.m., through February 2. Cubberley Stage II Theatre, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. 329-2623

**THEATREWORKS** — Staged reading of "Headset," a new play by Bill Streib: today at 7 p.m. Cubberley Stage II Theatre, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. 323-8311

### BEYOND THE BAY

**AUBURN** — "Tony Finally Marries Gina," an audience participation murder mystery: through February 11. Lou La Bonte's Dinner Theatre, 13460 Lincoln Way. (916) 885-7755

**CARMEL** — Staff Players present "Beyond the Fringe," the comic revue by Alan Bennett, Peter Cook, Jonathan Miller and Dudley Moore: through February 9. Indoor Forest Theatre, Santa Rita and Mountain View. (408) 624-1531

**FAIR OAKS** — "Who Killed Dusty Jones?," an audience participation murder mystery comedy, written and directed by David B. Atkinson: through February 16. Michelmore's Restaurant, 6719 Madison Avenue. (916) 966-0914

**FERNDALE** — "The Nerd," a comedy by Larry Shue, directed by Clinton Rebbik: opens Thursday, plays through February 16. (707) 725-2378

**FRESNO** — Good Company Players presents "Promises, Promises": through next Sunday. Roger Rocka's Music Hall, 1226 N. Wishon. (209) 266-9494

**HOOPA** — Michael Reardon presents "The Gospel of Matthew," using the Jerusalem Bible text, directed by Patrick Lane: today at 7 p.m. Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Mission, Pine Creek Road. 992-3975 or (916) 625-4415

**MONTARA** — This Side of the Hill Players present "Murder at the Howard Johnson's," by Ron Clark and Sam Bobrick: through February 2. Montara Gardens Theatre.

**SACRAMENTO** — Sacramento Theatre Company presents August Wilson's "Joe Turner's Come and Gone": through February 10. 1419 H Street. (916) 443-6722

**SACRAMENTO** — "Heroes," a musical by Jacqueline Schultz and William Hedge: opening run aboard the Riverboat Delta King, on the waterfront at 1000 Front Street. (916) 444-5464

**SACRAMENTO** — "Tony Finally Marries Gina," an audience participation murder mystery: Sunday cruise performances. River City Queen Riverboat, Riverbank Marina, 1401 Garden Highway. (916) 921-1111

**SANTA CRUZ** — Tzaddi Theatre presents "Danny and the Deep Blue Sea," by John Patrick Shanley: through next Sunday. Art Center Theatre, 1001 Center Street. (408) 866-6743

**SANTA MARIA/SOLVANG** — PCPA Theaterfest presents "The Diviners," a drama by Jim Leonard, Jr.: previews Wednesday, opens Thursday, plays through February 10. Marian Theatre, Allan Hancock College, Santa Maria. (800) 922-8313

**SANTA ROSA** — Actors' Theatre presents "An Act of the Imagination," a whodunit by Bernard Slade: through February 2. Luther Burbank center for the Arts, 50 Mark West Springs Road. (707) 523-4185

**SANTA ROSA** — The Fourth Wall Stage Company presents "Sea Marks," Gardner McKay's bittersweet romance: through February 2. Lincoln Arts Center, 709 Davis Street. (707) 544-4236

**SANTA ROSA** — Santa Rosa Players present Agatha Christie's murder mystery "Ten Little Indians": through February 2. Lincoln Arts Theatre, 709 Davis Street. (707) 523-4284 or (707) 544-STAR

**UKIAH** — Ukiah Players Theatre presents "A Walk in the Woods," by Lee Blessing, a drama about two arms negotiators making peace on personal terms: through next Sunday. Ukiah Playhouse, 1041 Low Gap Road. (707) 462-9226

HELD OVER  
UNTIL MARCH 31!

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