

DRAMA ★ AND ★ ARTS

Art Center Calendar

(All times listed are daylight.)

Tuesday, May 15

1 to 3 p.m.—Oil painting, beginning and intermediate students, Vivienne Fendrich, instructor.
7:30 to 9:30 p.m.—Water color and oil painting, Ray Levra, instructor.

Wednesday, May 16

2:45 to 5 p.m.—Two children's art classes, one hour each, ages 6 and 7, Linda Umphers, instructor.

Thursday, May 17

3:45 to 5:15 p.m.—Children's art class, ages 9, 10, 11, Ann Johnson, instructor.
7:30 to 9:30 p.m.—Workshop for members, drawing with model, no instructor.

Friday, May 18

7:30 to 9:30 p.m.—Collograph print workshop, Ursula Howe, instructor.

Saturday, May 19

9 to 10:30 a.m.—Children's art class, ages 8 and 9, Valerie Kiste, instructor.

10:30 to 12 noon—Children's art class, ages 10 and 11, Valerie Kiste, instructor.

Classes are held at the Art Center Bldg., 531 W. 13th Ave. Anyone desiring further information may call DI 4-7222, DI 3-5502 or PA 6-7731.

Reviewer Old Hand At Acting, Reporting

By DON BISHOP

Of the Register-Guard

There'll be a new byline atop the Register-Guard theatrical reviews starting this week—that of Kenneth Payne.

As the newspaper's drama reviewer, Payne replaces Pepper Berkeley, who will devote more time to religious news and other duties.

When Payne, 44, journalism and English teacher at North Eugene High School, sits down to evaluate the University Theatre's production of "Showboat," it won't be his first crack at reviewing. Likewise, it won't be his first venture into either the field of dramatics or the field of journalism.

From a first-grade role (that he'd like to forget) as Little Boy Blue in a production of the same name, Payne has appeared in and/or directed dozens of plays—high school, college and professional. And he has a journalism career that spans the editorship of two small-town weeklies and reporting jobs on two other papers.

Most of his drama experience came after high school in Terre Haute, Ind., when he joined a professional stock company called the Elton Players. For two years Payne traveled with the group—largely in juvenile roles, occasionally as Romeo or some other Shakespearean character.

"We'd be learning one show, rehearsing another, and performing a third one—all at the same time," Payne recalled during an interview. "The quality suffered."

After two years with the company, Payne went through Indiana State Teachers College, acquired a wife ("I was editor of the college paper," said his wife. "I gave him a good review when he played Hamlet, and that did it"), and went into World War II.

After an army career that included the Battle of the Bulge, he tried his hand at public relations, then became editor of, and bought a third interest in, the Brown County Democrat (circ. 1,000) in Nashville (pop. 325), Ind. He didn't like the experience, and moved first to Seymour (Ind.) Tribune, and then the Lafayette (Ind.) Journal-Courier as a reporter and Sunday supplement editor. Along the line he did some drama reviewing.

The Paynes came to Oregon in 1954—he became editor of the Sweet Home News Era, then high school drama and journalism teacher in Sweet Home. This was followed by a year's assistantship at the University of Oregon, and finally the North Eugene job.

Payne—who'll review university, amateur and professional productions—but not local high school performances—sees the reviewer's job as similar to that of any newspaper reporter.

"I think that one of the functions of a reviewer is to transmit to the reader the intention of what is being reviewed, and how successfully it was done," he says. "You're kind of a watchdog—not a press agent whose function is to build interest."

Payne, however, believes the type of group performing a play should be given consideration in reviewing. "I don't think the reviewer should be apologetic, but naturally you can't expect from an amateur group what you can expect from a professional group."

"I would not like to see 'Little Boy Blue' reviewed by (New York drama critic) Walter Kerr, for example."

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Lavish Production by UT

'Showboat' Opens Friday

There's a showboat a'building up on the University of Oregon campus—it'll be open for business next Friday night.

The University Theatre is closing out its 1961-62 season with a lavish production of that venerable show business institution, "Showboat." The production will run Friday and Saturday, and then the following Tuesday through Saturday (May 22-26).

Tickets—\$2 apiece for this production—for the seven performances go on sale Monday at the UT box office. Reservations may be made by calling the box office (DI 2-1411, ext. 441) between noon standard, 1 p.m. daylight, and 4 standard, 5 p.m. daylight, daily.

Best make your reservations early—theater officials are expecting a sellout. Business Manager Winona Cheatham said advance sales to season ticket holders are running heavy, and musicals usually have larger sales than "straight" plays.

Featuring music by Jerome Kern, lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, and story by Edna Ferber, "Showboat" has been one of the big success stories of the entertainment world. It's been a Broadway hit, done by amateur and professional companies across the country, and made into two movies.

In addition, several of its songs have become "standards" in the popular music field, among them the majestic "Old Man River," "Make Believe,"

"Bill," and "Can't Help Lovin' That Man."

The play is set on a Mississippi River boat in the 1880s, then moves to the early 1900s, and ends in the 1920s. This involves three sets of costumes for main cast, chorus and dancers.

The plot revolves—in somewhat melodramatic fashion—around several love stories. The principal one involves Magnolia, daughter of the showboat's owner, and Gaylord Ravenal, a gambler.

Director Horace Robinson doesn't have a cast of thousands for this one, but he's got several dozen in the production. Performers in the leads include:

• Vern Lestrud, playing Capt. Andy, the showboat's owner, is a graduate assistant in the U of O speech department and was last seen as the mayor in UT's "The Lady's Not for Burning."

• Gerda Brown, playing the captain's wife, has appeared in so many local theater productions that even the word "veteran" doesn't quite seem to fit. Her most recent performance was as the sister in the Very Little Theatre production of "Dark at the Top of the Stairs."

• Mikell Thurston, sophomore from Klamath Falls and soprano soloist with the University of Oregon Singers, will play Julie.

• Linda Blodgett, playing Elie, is a sophomore from Eu-

gene, and was last seen as Irma in "Picnic."

• Terry Thomas, another Eugene resident and a freshman at the university, will play Frank.

• The role of Magnolia will be alternately played by Kathryn Bohrer, junior from Lake Oswego, and Martha Hill, a junior from Sherwood.

• Likewise, the role of Gaylord will be alternately played by Robert Campbell, a junior from Bandon, and Bruce McKeel, sophomore from Portland.

The show's music direction—including direction of the 10-12 piece orchestra—is under Everett Anderson, professor of music at the university. Set designer is Bill Forrester, and Forrest Newlin is the costume designer. Jean Weakland, physical education instructor, is dance director.

Show time each night is 7 p.m. standard, 8 p.m. daylight.

VLT Comedy Features Five New Faces

Five new faces will be in the cast a week from Wednesday when the curtain opens on the Very Little Theatre Production of "Send Me No Flowers."

Only one of the five lacks previous stage experience, however.

Ed Cameron, who will take the part of Vito in the comedy, works for the General Extension Division of the Oregon State System of Higher Education. He's a native of Portland, and has done work with several groups in Richland, Wash., including a light opera company and the Richland Players.

Karen Hayes, another cast member works for McKesson & Robbins, Inc. She's had experience in high school productions.

Art Pullen, playing the part of a passerby, is employed by U.S. National Bank. He boasts previous experience with the Grants Pass Barnstormers.

Still another cast member, Sue Miller, is the daughter of a VLT board member, Fran Miller. A freshman at the University of Oregon, Sue has appeared in the North Eugene High production of "The Gondoliers."

"No Strings"—Richard Kiley, Diahann Carroll; 54th Street; beautiful Richard Rodgers score for most unusually staged musical of American romance in Paris; capacity, plan ahead.

"Purlie Victorious"—Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee; Longacre; comedy treatment of South's desegregation problem from Negro point of view; available.

"Subways Are for Sleeping"—Carol Lawrence, Sydney Chaplin; St. James; musical comedy of life among New York City drifters; available.

"Sunday in New York"—Pat Stanley, Robert Redford, Conrad Janis; Golden; lively, funny sex comedy of girl trying to find the right guy; available.

"Take Her, She's Mine"—Art Carney, Phyllis Thaxter; Biltmore; warmly humorous problems of parents with two daughters ready to leave the family nest; available.

"The Night of the Iguana"—Margaret Leighton, Shelley Winters, Patrick O'Neill; Royale; Tennessee Williams' drama of life among some disturbed Americans in Mexico; available.

"The Sound of Music"—Martha Wright; Lunt-Fontanne; Rodgers-Hammerstein musical of Trapp Family Singers now in third year; available.

Broadway Box Score

NEW YORK (UPI)—Current Broadway attractions, their leading players, theatres and ticket availability:

"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum"—Zero Mostel; Alvin; musical comedy of Roman slave's schemes to get his freedom; available.

"A Gift of Time"—Henry Fonda, Olivia de Havilland; Barrymore; sensitive account of last months of a husband dying of cancer; available.

"A Man for All Seasons"—Paul Scofield; Anta; beautifully written historical drama of clash between Sir Thomas More and Henry VIII; near capacity, plan ahead.

"A Shot in the Dark"—Julie Harris, Walter Matthau; Booth; French comedy of sex and murder; available.

"A Thousand Clowns"—Jason Robards Jr.; O'Neill; wacky television writer shuns conformity, clashes with officials over raising of nephew; available.

"All American"—Ray Bolger, Eileen Herlie; Winter Garden; musical of refugee professor who discovers football, romance and high-pressure promotion; available.

"Camelot"—Patricia Breidin, William Squire, Robert Goulet; Majestic; Lerner-Loewe musical extravaganza on King Arthur theme; available.

"Carnival"—Susan Watson, Jerry Orbach; Imperial; romantic musical about girl waltz who joins French circus; available.

"Come Blow Your Horn"—Hal March, Lou Jacobi; Atkinson; family comedy of pre-marital flings of two sons; available.

"Gideon"—Douglas Campbell; Plymouth; Paddy Chayefsky's biblical drama about farmer-general who saved Israelites from Midianites; available.

"How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying"—Robert Morse, Rudy Vallee; 46th Street; Loesser-Burrows musical kidding big business and success syndrome; smash hit, plan ahead.

"I Can Get It for You Wholesale"—Lillian Roth; Shubert; ruthless young opportunist gets comeuppance in garment district in Harold Rome-Jerome Weidman musical; available.

"Mary, Mary"—Barbara Bel Geddes, Barry Nelson; Hayes; comedy of divorced couple's experiences before getting back together; available.

"Milk and Honey"—Robert Weede, Mimi Benzell, Molly Picon; Martin Beck; musical romance of American tourist pair in Israel; available.

"My Fair Lady"—Michael Evans, Margot Moser; Broadway; Lerner-Loewe musical of Shaw's "Pygmalion" in seventh year; available.

"No Strings"—Richard Kiley, Diahann Carroll; 54th Street; beautiful Richard Rodgers score for most unusually staged musical of American romance in Paris; capacity, plan ahead.

"Purlie Victorious"—Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee; Longacre; comedy treatment of South's desegregation problem from Negro point of view; available.

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"The Sound of Music"—Martha Wright; Lunt-Fontanne; Rodgers-Hammerstein musical of Trapp Family Singers now in third year; available.

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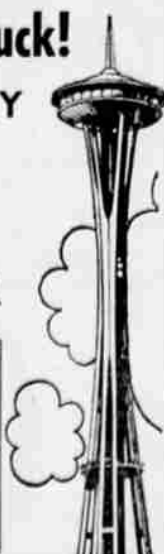
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On Exhibit

The following art showings are on exhibit this week in the Eugene area. Times listed are daylight.

Museum of Art, University of Oregon: "Recent Acquisitions: Gifts and Purchases—1960-62" will continue to June 17. Photography shown by UO students through June 1. Oils, watercolors and drawings by Jay V. Soeder, assistant professor of art at U of O. Museum open 2 to 6 p.m. daily except Monday.

European prints and Northwest prints and paintings at 12th Avenue Gallery, 361 E. 12th Ave., through May. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 3 to 6 p.m. and Thursday and Friday, 7 to 9 p.m. or by appointment by calling the gallery director, Thyra Anderson, DI 3-8144.

Eugene Art Center members exhibit for rental-sales at Eugene Welfare League Thrift and Gift Shop, 2839 Willamette St.

Oil paintings by Vivienne Simmons Fendrich at Brenner's 151 W. 8th Ave.

Oil paintings by the late Cyrus J. Fulton, Eugene artist who was well known for his interpretation of Oregon scenes, will be displayed in Petite Gallery of Bon Marche Russells.

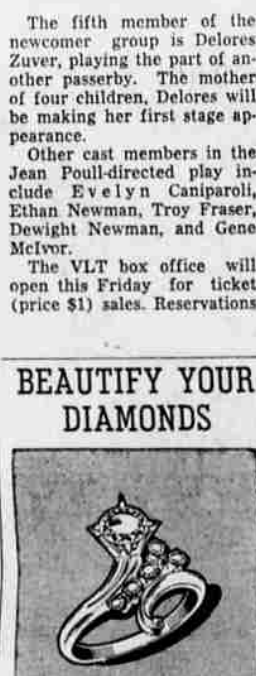
Oil paintings by James Le San of Eugene on exhibit at Baxter and Henning through May 31.

Paintings by Della Todd of Eugene exhibited at Donovan's 806 Charnellton St.

Lawrence Hall (Art Bldg.) on UO campus, display of work by art education majors. Study of Maya Ceremonies by George Andrews, UO associate professor of architecture, on display in Corridor of Lawrence Hall.

Erb Memorial Art Gallery, UO campus—Second Pacific Northwest Art Annual—Watercolors, drawings and tempera. Through May 26.

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Open House Sunday, May 13th...

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For Further Information Write Chester and Jessie Goudé,
Post Office Box 156, Mapleton, or Telephone 268-4331.