

At the Movies

Warner Bros.' great musical film biography, "Rhapsody In Blue," which has played Sunday and Monday at the Cass theater in Plattsmouth, is based on the life story of the late George Gershwin. Taking its title from the famed composer's best known work, the film boasts an all-star cast headed by Robert Alda, a newcomer, in the role of Gershwin, Joan Leslie, Alexis Smith, Charles Coburn and many top celebrities of stage and screen.

Twenty-nine of Gershwin's compositions, including all of his more serious work, and the most popular of his song hits, provided the picture's musical framework. Eighteen of the compositions receive featured treatment. The remaining eleven are more briefly sketched in time lapse and transition scenes. The compositions used were selected from one hundred and sixty Gershwin works available, and represent the cream of a talent which many critics acknowledge as full-blown genius.

Ira Gershwin, brother of, and lyricist for the late composer, aided materially in bringing the story to the screen. Portrayed in the picture by the New York stage

actor Herbert Rudley, Ira visited the studio sets frequently and saw many of the poignant and dramatic moments of his own life re-enacted, including the death of his father (played on the screen by Morris Carnovsky).

George Gershwin died a bachelor, but "Rhapsody In Blue" presents two feminine stars, Joan Leslie and Alexis Smith, in fictional characters as the women in his life. He does not marry either, the story adhering to the fact in having him die a bachelor. But it does suggest that he loved the girl played by Miss Leslie and would have married her except for his untimely death. As a musical comedy star of several Gershwin - composed shows, she sings and dances in four of the production number specialties.

Paul Whiteman, close friend and associate of Gershwin, relieved the most dramatic moment of his career during the re-enactment of the Aeolian Hall debut presentation of "Rhapsody In Blue."

Oscar Levant, probably the greatest living piano interpreter of Gershwin music, interrupted a concert tour to do his life portrayal in his friend's story. Levant is heard, and seen, playing the "Concerto In F" and "Rhapsody In Blue." Like Whiteman, he carries an important speaking role, too.

ABE MARTIN



Some folks weigh their words, but most of us jest guess 'em off. If there's anything in a feller a second wife'll develop it.

WANT ADS

Notices

I WISH TO THANK MY friends for their many cards, letters and personal calls while I was confined at the time of my accident. A. W. Huebner.

WE WISH TO EXPRESS OUR heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation for the many expressions of kindness and sympathy shown our dear one departed during her long illness. The cards, letters, flowers and many other evidences of love and friendship were greatly appreciated. William Baird, Mrs. H. F. Cecil and family.

THANK YOU, DEAR FRIENDS for your messages of sympathy extended to us at the time of our recent bereavement. We found solace and blessing in them. Mrs. A. O. Ault and family.

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