

Baby Doe recounts love story of 1800s

By Meg Greene

Take an old story—a young married woman who meets an older married man. They fall in love and decide to marry. In the meantime, the man has just made his fortune in silver mining.

Set the story in the boisterous mining camps of Colorado. Also include a few famous Midwesterners most notably William Jennings Bryan.

The finished product will be something close to this semester's UNL School of Music opera, *The Ballad of Baby Doe*. The story is based on events that took place in the late 1800s in and around Colorado.

Baby Doe did fall in love with Horace Tabor, who was the silver king of Colorado. Tabor's wife Augusta refused to grant a divorce at first, and their story proved to be one of the biggest scandals of the time. But Baby Doe and Tabor finally did marry in Washington D.C. Tabor was a very important figure and a good friend of then President James Garfield.

Because of the scandal, no Washington society woman would attend the wedding. The only women present were foreign dignitaries' wives.

The Tabors returned to Colorado, where for many years they lived in high style. They made their home in Denver, where Tabor later built the Tabor Opera House.

Then came the silver panic. Tabor was wiped out and died not long afterward. All this time, Baby Doe stayed with him. She lived out the rest of her life near the mine and was found frozen to death near it in 1927.

So the story ends, but in 1956 writers Douglas Moore and John LaTouche resurrected the Tabors and the towns they made famous: Central City, Blackhawk, and Denver. They've managed to capture it all in *Baby Doe*.

The opera will be of special interest to Nebraskans because of the characterization of William Jennings Bryan. The sets, Dean Tschetter's final UNL production, will not be elaborate as in previous opera presentations. Instead, there will be a revolving set off one side of the stage and a considerable amount of furniture built by Tschetter.

Costumes, done by Tschetter's wife Jane, will be detailed as in the case of *Baby Doe's* wedding dress.

Music will be provided by a 30-piece orchestra under the direction of Richard Grace, who also directs the production. The UNL Madrigals will make up the chorus, but the opera will have opera workshop students in the principal roles.

Baby Doe will be played by Sara Ganz and Garrie Solomon; Augusta will be played by Lynelle Frankfurter and Terri Miller; John Brandstetter and Kent Hall will play Tabor. Other performers include Vaughn Fritts as William Jennings Bryan and Marilyn Yanick as Mama McCourt.

The show will be Feb. 7, 8, 9 and 11 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 10 at 3 p.m. at Kimball Recital Hall. All seats are reserved; student tickets are \$2.50, adults \$3.

New-breed directors jolting movie industry

Martin Scorsese, John Milius and George Lucas are hardly household names, but in the world of movies and critics, few filmmakers have been more talked about in recent months than these three. They are part of a new group of young American directors who acquired their film know-how at school. Armed with knowledge and little experience, they jumped into the industry and made a bigger splash than anyone expected.

Scorsese's *Mean Streets* and Lucas' *American Graffiti* made nearly all of the 1973 10 best films lists. Milius, originally a screenwriter whose directorial debut was *Dillinger*, is probably the most sought after writer in Hollywood today.

These three have been the most successful, but they are not the only new directors who have left their stamp on the film industry. James Guercio was a successful record producer until his first movie, *Electra Glide in Blue*, turned the critics' heads his way. James Frawley's comic western *Kid Blue*, appeared on several 10 best films lists. *Bang the Drum Slowly* was a popular first effort by John Hancock, and screenwriter Terry Malick kicked off his career with *Badlands*, the story of a young couple on a Midwestern killing spree.

greg lukow key grip

Lucas and Milius were both 1967 graduates from the University of Southern California film school; their interests lay, not in European filmmakers, but in the tradition of such great American directors as John Ford, Orson Welles, Howard Hawks and Raoul Walsh. Lucas' first film was the respectable, but a little-circulated science fiction production called *THX 1138*. His second, the nostalgic *Graffiti*, was probably the most popular surprise of the year.

Milius is easily the most controversial and dynamic writer in Hollywood today. He has written scripts for *Dirty Harry*, *Jeremiah Johnson*, *Dillinger* and *Magnum Force*, and his \$300,000 fee for *Judge Roy Bean* is probably a record.

To producers, a Milius film means money, and Milius knows it. He is a brash, confident individual whose violent macho films prompted one critic to denounce his "ugly, right-wing habits. A collector of rare antique guns, his contract for *Jeremiah Johnson* gave him the right to shoot all the animals killed for the picture.

Scorsese is a New York counterpart to Lucas and Milius. *Mean Streets* is his fifth film, and like many of the new directors' movies, it is a counter-culture reflection on mainstream American lifestyles. He reaches into his past to create a mythic autobiography of growing up in Manhattan's Little Italy.

It is a sign of the times, that many major studios are closing down and others are taking risks on projects like *Mean Streets*. Fragmented distribution and increased circulation make the situation chaotic, but hopefully it will promote even more breakthrough films from the growing ranks of potentially great filmmakers.

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Crossword Puzzle

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|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| ACROSS | ship | word | 43. Beverage |
| 1. School dance | 15. Copper money | 33. Beetle | 44. Droop |
| 4. Enclosed structure | 16. Errand boy | 34. Ridge of sand | 46. Utopian |
| 8. Exploit | 18. Cessation | 36. Cover | 50. Artificial |
| 12. Personality | 20. Sea eagle | 37. Algerian city | 55. Pronoun |
| 13. Track shape | 21. Seasoning | 39. Perserverance | 56. Languish |
| 14. Jason's | 24. Revolt | 41. Single thickness | 57. Ibsen heroine |
| | 28. Royal | | 58. Being |
| | 32. Child's | | 59. Mimicked |

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| 60. And others (abbr.) | 29. Division of Spartan army |
| 61. Harden | 30. Implore |
| DOWN | 31. Curtain fabric |
| 1. Cure | 35. Extremist |
| 2. S-shaped molding | 38. Fitted one inside the other |
| 3. Mail | 40. Scoundrel |
| 4. Contrast | 42. Exclamation |
| 5. Salutation | 45. Biological factor |
| 6. Neon | 47. Sense organs |
| 7. Otherwise | 48. First-class |
| 8. Stirred up | 49. Intense desire |
| 9. Unit of work | 50. Health resort |
| 10. Mature | 51. Yelp |
| 11. High hill | 52. Compass direction |
| 17. Transgress | 53. T.ny child |
| 19. Employ | 54. — Gershwin |
| 22. Roster | |
| 23. Seizes | |
| 25. Indonesian island | |
| 26. Redact | |
| 27. English title | |
| 28. Heathen deity | |

Average time of solution: 22 min.

OVAL HACK TRI
 RARA ALAI HAL
 BRAT LAND EKE
 SANE TED EYES
 CUE IRA
 RECORD DORMER
 ALUM LAVE
 PATENT DAYBED
 ROE EBB
 AMOS NOT IBEX
 HUM FARO RETE
 ALI ECRU DEAN
 BET DEAR STILO

Answer to last puzzle

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