

# arts/entertainment

## Four Christmas concerts offered at Kimball Recital Hall

By Michael Wiest

Four Christmas events will be offered this month by the UNL School of Music, according to Ron Bowlin, director of Kimball Recital Hall.

On Sunday the University Chorus will perform at Kimball Hall at 4 p.m. On Tuesday, Dec. 11, the Varsity Glee and University Chorale will perform at 8 p.m. In this performance the University's women's and men's choral groups will combine to sing selections from *Gaudete* by Anders Orwall, accompanied by flutes

and bassoon, and *Christmas Cantata* by Daniel Pinkham, assisted by organ and brass.

On Sunday, Dec. 16, the University Orchestra and University Singers will perform J.s. Bach's *Magnificat*, as well as Schoenberg's Christmas ballad, *Friede auf Erden*. Other selections will include Copland's *Fanfare for the Common Man*, Mozart's *Serenade No. 10*, and R. Schuman's *Concert-stuck for Four Horns*.

According to School of Music professor Ed Bruner, the concert will be broadcast simultaneously on radio station KUCV

and the Nebraska Educational Television Network.

Then on Monday, Dec. 17, Kimball Hall will host the First Annual Community *Messiah Singalong*. This will be an informal performance open to the public. Singers interested in participating should bring their own musical scores if possible. All orchestral players should contact the Kimball Hall Box Office to reserve a seat in the orchestra. Orchestral music will be furnished by the School of Music.

Events planned for next semester at

Kimball Hall, will include the spring opera, *La Traviata* by Giuseppe Verdi, scheduled for presentation by the UNL Opera Theatre Feb. 7-10 and the fifth annual performance of The Nebraska Dance Ensemble on Feb. 15 and 16.

The Kimball Performing Arts Series will present the Guthrie Theatre and their production of Tennessee Williams' play *The Glass Menagerie* on Feb. 25 and 26, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra on March 4 and the San Francisco Ballet on March 11 and 12.

## Hothouse showing better than script

By Peg Sheldrick

It isn't often that a production is actually better than the script it is based on, but such was the case with Megan Terry's *Hothouse* as presented this week at UNL's Studio Theatre.

### theater review

Thanks to several excellent performances and some very skillful directing by Judith Pratt, the production overcame the script's tendency to lapse into melodrama and its lack of character growth to emerge as an intriguing study in human weakness.

Set in Seattle, Wash., in 1955, the story concerns the lives of a family of women who have learned to depend on only two things in life: alcohol and one another. Jody, still in high school and confused about her own identity, was weaned on beer and raised by free-spirited Roz, a vibrant, desperate woman whose favorite time in life was the wild day-to-day existence she knew during World War II. They live with Roz's crusty, raucous old Ma, a grande dame who keeps her midget lover and her booze always within arm's reach.

The mother-daughter relationships are subject to constant role reversal. Between Roz's sometime husband, Jody's would-be fiance and the cavalcade of loonies regularly stumbling in and out, their's is a hothouse full of very aberrant hybrids indeed.

Patricia A. Raun was overwhelming as Roz, infusing her character with a superlative blend of vivacity, pathos and vitriol. The fine shadings of her performance made totally credible Roz's wild gyrations from ficiousness to vulnerability, from her raunchy invitations to bed to her plaintive pleas for a tender embrace.

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## Devil, psychic to star

The Sheldon Film Theatre will be showing *The Devil Is A Woman*, starring Marlene Dietrich, and *Make Me Psychic*, an animated film on Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

*The Devil Is A Woman* is a 1935 film directed by Josef Von Sternberg. Along with *Make Me Psychic*, it will be shown at 7 and 9 on the three nights, with Saturday and Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. Admission

is \$2.50 (\$2 for those 12 and under, and 65 and older.)

In addition, the Film Theatre will present *The Children of Theater Street*, a documentary about the Kirov ballet school, Friday, Dec. 15 through Sunday, Dec. 23 at 7 and 9 p.m., with Saturday and Sunday matinees at 3 and 5 p.m. For this film, admission is \$3 and \$2.50 for those 12 and under and 65 and older.

## Women headed for easy street; conversation shows how

By Peg Sheldrick

"Man, women today have it so easy," he said.

"Really? That's a new one on me," she said.

"Well, sure, man. I mean, you got your affirmative action plans, your women's lib movement, your Susan B. Anthony dollar."

"Oh yeah. That Susan B. Anthony dollar sure has changed my life. Had a real direct impact on me, I'm telling you."

"Aw c'mon. You know what I mean. It like symbolizes the new respect for women and like their place in history."

"Oh really. Is that why you gave your's back to the clerk the other day and asked for a paper dollar?"

"No, man. I mean, it's not because it's a woman on the coin. It's just that those dollar coins are inconvenient. I mean, they're the same size as quarters. How's a guy

supposed to tell 'em apart?"

"Gee, I don't know. Size is important. I suppose you have the same problem with one dollar bills and five dollar bills and . . ."

"That's different."

"Oh. Thanks for clearing that up."

"YOU KNOW what I mean. I'm not just talking about that coin. I mean, you've got affirmative action. You got the edge when it comes to getting jobs. You got all the breaks."

### humor

"You're absolutely right. Look at all those women heading up those multinational corporations. They're acing those men right out. It's amazing."

"Oh yeah? Well, there are a lot more women in politics then there used to be, getting elected and like that. I mean, a lot more women are in higher places."

"Name five."

"Well, there's . . . uh, Bella Abzug or whatever her name is . . ."

"Not anymore, and it's Abzug."

"Okay. Five. Let's see . . . okay, got it. Rosalynn Carter, um, that nun that got the Nobel prize, uh, Queen Elizabeth, Erma Bombeck, and, uh, Jane Fonda. So

there."

"Gee, all duly elected and frighteningly powerful. I'm impressed."

"Okay, so they aren't exactly office-holders. At least they're in the public eye. That's something, isn't it? At least the media's paying some attention to you guys."

"AND WHAT influence they have. Look how fast the ERA is moving."

"Hey, I know what that's all about, and I'm against it."

"Because you think you and I will have to use the same bathroom, right?"

"You bet."

"Your political ecumen dazzles me."

"Okay, leave politics alone. What about TV? I hear a lot about women's lib on TV."

"You mean on those commercials for panty hose and mascara and hair spray?"

"Yeah."

"Doesn't that strike you as just a touch ironic?"

"Okay, but there are a lot more women in important parts on TV shows . . ."

". . . wearing spike heels and hobble skirts and jiggling like pornographic jello."

"Not all of 'em."

"Granted. But Grandma Walton doesn't really grab the ratings, you know what I mean?"

"Look, what is it that you want? Don't you think there's been any progress at all?"

"There must have been. Otherwise we wouldn't be having this conversation."

## Chorus openings

The University Chorus of the UNL School of Music is seeking singers from on and off campus.

Director Raymond Miller said chorus rehearsals will be moved to Monday nights from 7:30 to 9:30. Rehearsals will begin Jan. 14.

Prior to the first rehearsal, Miller will have auditions for interested singers on Monday. Anyone interested should call the School of Music to arrange an audition.