

# Dinner theater adds artistic flavor to Haymarket

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so popular with audiences.

"(Tony and Tina's Wedding) was originally an off-off-Broadway play that has really taken off in popularity," Schreiber said. "Now, it's almost like a cult thing. People come back again and again to see the show from different perspectives."

The reason for "Tony and Tina's" popularity is because it is interactive dinner theater, which means the audience must "get into the act" in order for the play to be a success,

Schreiber said.

Upon arrival at "Tony and Tina's," patrons become guests, and are seated either with the groom's family or the bride's family, Schreiber said. The play features the actual wedding, a receiving line, a wedding reception dinner and a dance. A cast of 24 does the major roles, with some of their performance being scripted and some of it being improvisational. This means every night is a little different, although the outcome is the same.

"It's just like going to an actual

wedding. It's a wedding of two families which don't hold too much love for each other ... actually, you could call it the wedding from hell," Schreiber said.

Most people can relate to the story, Schreiber said, because everyone in the audience has been to a few weddings. But few have been as comic as this one, she said.

"The audience becomes (a part of the story). The wedding party stops by and talks to you, which can be really fun if you are willing to play along. You can be passive or active,

and either way, you will have a good time," Schreiber said.

Upcoming events at Star City will include Los Angeles comedian Susan Rice on July 10, whom Schreiber characterized as a "very funny lady," as well as "Nonsense Jamboree," starting on July 16 and running for five successive weekends, she said.

Tickets for "Tony and Tina's Wedding" cost \$22. The price of admission includes both the play and a dinner consisting of pasta, salad, a roll and wedding cake. Tickets for

Sunday's 2 p.m. performance must be reserved.

But needing a reservation shouldn't stop anyone from seeing this play, she said.

"('Tony and Tina's') is the best buy in town," Schreiber said.

Audiences seem to agree with Schreiber, because all shows except Sunday's matinee performance are sold out. Ticket prices are \$22, and may be reserved by calling (402) 477-8277 and leaving a message until Saturday evening.

## Week in Preview

### MUSIC

**Duffy's Tavern: 1412 O St.**

-Thursday: Live karaoke with Shithook

-Sunday: Love Nut with King Construct

-Wednesday: Rascal Basket with Scott's Wallet

**Duggan's Pub: 440 S. 11th St.**

-Thursday: Rhythm Method

-Friday: Brown Paper Bag

-Saturday: Bossphilly

-Monday: Open stage

-Tuesday: Open stage, acoustic

-Wednesday: Leroy and guest

**Knickerbockers: 901 O St.**

-Friday: Black Oak Arkansas with Shithook

-Saturday: Black Dahlia's with g.i.o and Melee

**Royal Grove Nite Club: 340 W. Cornhusker Hwy.**

-Thursday: Garage Nite (interactive comedy)

-Friday and Saturday: Rockin' Fossils

\*all shows 19 and over, no cover

**Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery: 12th and R streets**

-Tuesday: Jazz in June with Ivan Paduart

**Zoo Bar: 136 N. 14th St.**

-Thursday: Yabba Griffiths

-Friday and Saturday: Caribe

-Monday: Brown Paper Bag

-Tuesday: Jazz Jam with Annette Murrell

-Wednesday: Natty Nation

### THEATER

**Lincoln Community Playhouse: 2500 S. 56th St.**

-Thursday through Saturday: "Moon Over Buffalo" at 7:30 p.m.

-Sunday: "Moon Over Buffalo" at 2 p.m.

**Mary Riepma Ross Theater, Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, 12th and R streets**

-Thursday through Sunday: Sweetheart: The Films of Mary Pickford, call for show times 472-5353

## 'X-Files' makes jump from television to big screen

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back into their investigations of that which cannot be easily categorized. FBI bureaucrats need someone to blame for the building's explosion, and the two agents seem to be the chosen target.

Their research into the explosion to clear their names reveals what appears to be the tip of a massive conspiracy to cover up alien activity on Earth. Scully and Mulder must try to save the whole human race from destruction by a mutated and deadly virus, while the FBI threatens to shut them down or separate them.

There are black helicopters, mysterious viruses, aliens, explosions, cryptic warnings, conspiracies, plots and another run-in with The Syndicate.

The movie pulls out the stops and unveils a much greater extent of the conspiracy that the series has only nibbled at for years. Poor Scully can hardly be the rational skeptic after this. Her last layers of doubt are removed as she is exposed to alien abduction. Mulder gets to enjoy being right about the aliens, and about his methodology of the unexpected.

X-Files may be left to wonder where the series can possibly go from here. Were the creators trying to kill off the fodder for their show with a bang-up finale? It seems that Mulder and Scully aren't the only ones trying to fight the future.

Visually, the movie is really slick. The makers take advantage of the possibilities of the silver screen and big-budget special effects. The shots are often grand and panoramic. Special effects are good — so much so that they don't stand out as special effects. Editing is clean, and the film is well paced and energetic. The whole movie is dark, though. Perhaps they were going for moody, but the whole thing looks like it was shot through a filter.

However, as with the series, the most enjoyable part of the movie is the simple appeal of Duchovny and Anderson. They have an understated, powerful chemistry, and they make a good team.

Unfortunately, they're so

caught up in the action of the movie that we miss a lot of the basic interaction between them common to the series. The characters never get any breathing time. They zip about all over the world, leaving one to wonder when they have time to eat, sleep, talk or do anything else.

Even though David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson have become popular sex symbols, with nude photos of them posted up all over the Internet, in real life Scully and Mulder would be total nerds, with their computers, their microscopes and the fact that they don't have sex (with each other, or anyone else, it seems). And with all the paranoid babble about aliens and supernatural events, they'd also be the sort of wackos you'd cross the street just to avoid walking near.

"X-Files" writer, producer and series creator Chris Carter has said that his goal with "The X-Files" movie was to make a film that could stand on its own, apart from the television series. The first "X-Files" motion picture effectively accommodates both first time viewers and hardcore fans. Even those who have never seen the television series can follow the script without getting too lost (no more than anyone else). Characters and scenarios are established quickly and efficiently in a manner that informs newbies of the basics without boring long-time viewers of the show.

Okay. I've never been an "X-Files" fan. In fact, I've never watched a single entire episode. However, seeing this movie, it's easy to understand the immense popularity of the series.

While not particularly stunning or original, this is a rather enjoyable flick. It's a mixture of classic science fiction and buddy-cop genres, with enough humor and suspenseful elements to keep it moving. I can't claim that this film will convert me into a regular viewer of the television series, but I may at least be willing to watch an episode now and then.

In a summer that's been largely characterized by a lot of overhyped and pointless big-budget flicks, "The X Files" offers more enjoyable and worthwhile entertainment.



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