

Rossini's Barber opens doors

Rossini's sparkling comedy, *The Barber of Seville* will open the 14th season of the Edmonton Opera Association on September 30 at the Jubilee Auditorium. Further performances will take place October 2 and 4 with a student matinee on October 6. Singing the title role of the mischief making barber in 17th century Seville will be the young baritone, Alan Titus. This will be Mr. Titus's second appearance with the Edmonton Opera Association, having sung the role of Danilo in the production of *The Merry Widow* in January of 1975.

Since that time Mr. Titus has made debuts at the Metropolitan and San Francisco operas.

Huguette Tourangeau, the round Canadian mezzo will sing the role of *Rosina* for the first time in her career.

American tenor John Walker, also seen in *The Merry Widow* has been cast as Almoviva. Four Canadians round out the cast. Long time favorites with the Edmonton Opera Association audiences and singing the roles of Bartolo and Basilio are baritone Napoleon

Bisson and bass Claude Corbeil. Two Edmonton artists, mezzo Merla Aikman and tenor Lary Benson will portray Berthe and Fiorello.

The opera, which will be sung in English will be staged by the company's Artistic Director Irving Guttman.

Tickets for the Barber of Seville are now on sale at the Edmonton Opera Association offices, No. 503-10102 - 101 Street, Bank of Commerce Building and at Woodwards, Edmonton Centre Ticket Office

Funky fiddler will give jazzy concert

This Friday, Oct. 1, Stephane Grapelli will be appearing in concert with the Diz Disley Trio in the SUB theatre. At sixty-eight, the jazz violinist is in the prime of his musical career. A versatile player of many moods that range from rock and progressive jazz, to traditional mainstream & jazz, he has won large cross section of fans.

Grapelli, who has been playing violin since he was 12, acquired fame when he first teamed up with the gypsy guitarist, Django Reinhardt. Since Reinhardt's death in 1953, Grapelli has toured the world, playing in the company of musicians such as Oscar Peterson, Yehudi Menuhin, Jean-Luc Ponty, Manfred Mann, Alvin Lee,

Eno and *The Grateful Dead*. Grapelli and the Diz Disley Trio will appear in two concerts, 8:00 p.m. and at 10:00 p.m. Tickets are \$6.50 and are available at the SU box office and all exhibition outlets.

Gateway eats humble pie

Gateway wishes to acknowledge a mistake that appeared in Tuesday's arts pages. The band that entertained in RATT last Sat. is called *Bargain at Half the Price*. We apologize for any inconvenience that might have been caused by this error.

Hot potato at Hovel

by Francis X

You know the Hovel?...Thru that long blue and cool hallway, with the happy babies painted on it, is just the best coffee house in Edmonton. Since its beginning, it has regularly hosted North America's finest musicians! It's still presenting Edmonton's best on a regular basis, every Tuesday night in conjunction with the Edmonton Jazz Society.

For those of you who didn't know it, Edmonton is the nesting home of some very fine professional musicians. Last Tuesday over ten musicians, from the CBC studios, from Tommy Banks' Orchestra now in Vancouver and from the school hallways of Grant McEwan Community College, played together before an alert crowd of over one hundred people. Earl Seymour, billed as the lead of the entourage, displayed his versatility by soloing on tenor-sax, baritone-sax, and bass clarinet.

As usual the jazz concert opens with a warm up. Each musician is featured for a 5 to 10 minute solo and loosens up, familiarizing himself with the climate of the night, and the tensions and relaxations of the group and audience. Then, the second number concentration on rhythm allows the musicians shorter second solos in rapid succession and is like playing hot potato, each player tossing the lead quickly to another and working back into rhythm.



Earl Seymour soloing on sax at the Hovel.

The third and fourth numbers, finishing the first set and traditionally slowed down, were Beautiful People and Love Supreme by John Coltrane and featured Earl on a very soulful baritone sax.

The second set was a tasteful grouping of sophisticated bossa nova sounds with a syncopated rhythm and was flavored by the lightness of jazz of the 70's.

The very transporting quality that everyone experienced was the purity of a changing music. The slowdown came with a Thad Jones tune - Child Reborn and finished with a big electric funk, Beauty and the Beast by Wayne Shorter. Later a jam till early in the morning for all who stayed. The Hovel, Tuesday nights, remains an alternative to the usual.

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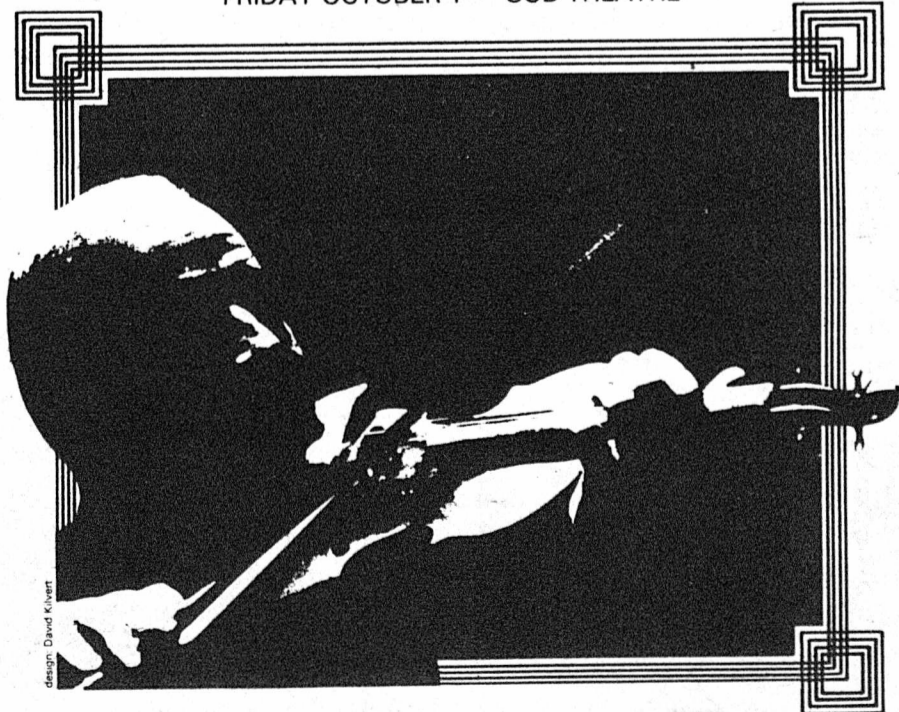
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