

# Yardbird Suite Plans Regular Programs Of Satire, Revues, Drama And Cool Jazz

By Marion Raycheba

Yardbird Suite is a hole in the ground for cats interested in avant garde theatre and jazz.

Or so says Bud D'Amur, president of the Suite's directing executive.

"The nucleus of Yardbird is a hodge-podge of locals interested in the theatre," he said.

Regular weekend programs of high calibre folk music, jazz workouts, drama productions and revue numbers are planned for this season. Already in rehearsal for staging in early December is "Wail For Two Pedestals."

Written by Dr. Wilfred Watson

of the U of A English department, "Wail" is a satire on contemporary life.

"It's a verse parody full of local references, hitting everything and everybody," said D'Amur. Major roles will be played by John Arntzen, Mahara Christane, Wilf Rowe and Danny Singer.

### SELECTIVE CATERING

"Yardbird has a place for all of the performing arts. We want to cater to everyone; but," D'Amur added, "we think the campus crowd will dig it more than the general public."

"We hope to draw on the campus for talented performers. Everyone is welcome to drop in and show us what they can do."

The Suite (10443 Whyte Avenue) is a basement room crammed with small, round ice-cream parlour tables. It boasts a huge tapestry of a Japanese K.N.O. lion figure donated by Dr. Watson and original drawings by the wife of a local jazz musician.

Supervisor of operations at the Suite is "Freddie," a sculptured figure in beaten copper.

### NEW SET-UP

The present set-up is comparatively new. D'Amur knew by August that his group would be involved in the Suite. Then in October complete management of it was thrown at them. Shortly after that, the Suite was moved to its present location.

Yardbird is a voluntary organization that needs more help and more money. "The only thing that gets paid is the rent," said D'Amur. "Everything else, especially time, is contributed by interested people."

"CKUA has done more for us than any other public communications outlet," he said. "It's our life-blood." The station has produced folk music festivals and jazz concerts for the Suite as well as publicity for their activities on "Music For Moderns," a Saturday afternoon show.

### SPECIAL RATES

The executive hopes to draw a large membership and are offering cut-rates to university students as a special concession. Casual memberships, good for a single performance, are also being offered.

D'Amur sees a real need for Yardbird in Edmonton.

"There's no other opportunity to do modern plays except at Studio Theatre," he said. "After all, the function of the theatre is to mirror people. We're searching for a deeper, more stimulating theatre. We want to involve the public in the controversy of seeing such work. We want to do the 'now' theatre."

### SOAP-OPERA

"Ibsen is the original soap-opera man," said D'Amur. "He wrote about his contemporaries. We want to transfer his themes and Shakespeare's and Shaw's into a modern context."

Although he denies the existence of reality outside of the theatre, D'Amur did say a few words about Varsity Varieties.

"It's a great outlet for people who want to have fun and socialize. It has energy and vitality even though it lacks polish and control. It has no artistic value but it's better than the local pastime of beer-drinking."

## "L'Avventura" Showing Soon

"L'Avventura" is the moving story of the growing love between a young man and woman as they search for Anna, his fiancée and her friend.

This tender exploration of the tragic complexities of love has won several awards. Filmed in Italy in 1960, it has since won a Cannes Special Award, the Grand Prize of International Movie Critics and the London Film Festival Grand Prize.

"L'Avventura" will be shown by the Edmonton Film Society on Monday at 8:15 p.m. Season tickets are available at the department of extension or at the Bay box office.

## Exhibition Opens

The paintings of a young Edmonton artist, Margaret Kitsco, will be exhibited in conjunction with the opening of Studio Theatre.

The paintings will be displayed in the lobby of Studio Theatre from Nov. 17 to Dec. 8, when Eugene O'Neill's "Long Day's Journey into Night" is being presented by Studio Theatre.

Miss Kitsco, who received her diploma in Art from U of A in 1963, is an assistant instructor of art classes with the department of extension.

## STUDIO THEATRE

OPENS THE 16th SEASON WITH

# LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT

by Eugene O'Neill

Tues. Nov. 17  
thru  
Sat. Nov. 21

TWOFORS available to U of A students

Wed. Nov. 18 and Thurs. Nov. 19

(Must be picked up at the Box Office before 5 p.m.)

STUDENT PREVIEW Mon., Nov. 16 — 50c

Studio Theatre Box Office Room 216, Old Ed. Bldg.



You can't miss it. The entrance leads to . . .

### Fine Arts Calendar

"Long Day's Journey Into Night"	November 17-21
Studio Theatre	
Guest Artists Da Camera Singers	November 18
Chamber Music Society	
"L'Avventura"	November 16
Edmonton Film Society	



. . . the Japanese lion figure which points in the direction of . . .



. . . Freddie