

popwood Award-winning drama by U-M alumnus David Anderson is part of the **U-M Festival of New Works**. See article, p. 9. 8pm, Arena Theatre, Frieze Bldg., corner of State & Huron, free; 763-TKTS.

As You Like It

June 7-17. The wicked Duke Frederick has wrested power from his brother, Duke Senior, exiling him to the Forest of Arden. Soon after, Senior's daughter Rosalind is exiled and joins her father in his new court ruled by nature's laws. But while in disguise, she discovers her lost lover, Orlando, and has fun toying with him while teaching him to love by turns. Love and loyalty dispel the clouds of envy in this Shakespearean comedy acted by the **Brassacks Ensemble** with their unique "no fills" style. Part of the **TreeTown Performance Festival**. 8pm Thur-Sat, 2pm Sun, Performance Network, 120 E. Huron, Ann Arbor, \$15, \$12 stu/sen, \$75 for entire festival, Thursday is pay-what-you-can; 663-0681.

Evita

June 7-10. Rock opera based on Evita Peron's rise from childhood as a peasant to becoming the popular First Lady of Argentina. "Don't Cry for Me, Argentina" is the famous song that symbolizes her spirit in this **Ann Arbor Civic Theater** performance. Evita is their largest-scale musical in years, showcasing the talents of over 70 people in the cast and crew. 8pm Thur-Sat, Sun 2pm, Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 W. University at Fletcher, Ann Arbor, \$18, \$16 stu/sen (Thursday all seats \$9); 971-AACT.

Lettice & Lovage

June 7-17. The comedic and antagonistic friendship of two eccentric women, daffy Lettice and buttoned-down bureaucrat Lotte, comes to a head when Lotte overhears Lettice, a tour guide, taking creative license with her job. **Orpheus Productions** presents this tale of inspired lunacy by British playwright Peter Shaffer. 8pm Thur-Sat, Sun 2pm, Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron St., Ypsilanti, \$12, \$10 stu/sen, Thursday the 7th is pay-what-you-can; 971-5545.

Divided

June 15-16. Tony Award-winning playwright Mel Shapiro's new screenplay gets professional staged reading in this **U-M Festival of New Works** drama. An old flame rekindles desire in the heart of Karen Goodall Dooley—a brilliant and beautiful nuclear physicist—threatening her marriage, her world-famous career and perhaps her life. Shapiro uses his usual wit, flair for language and excursions into the surreal to bring us into Dooley's dangerous, divided world of romance and international intrigue. See article, p. 9. 8pm, Frieze Bldg., corner of State & Huron, \$8; 763-TKTS.

Singin' in the Rain

June 15-17, 21-24, 28-July 1. In 1920s Hollywood, silent film actors are facing a real threat to their careers: "talkies," or movies with sound. For film star Don Lockwood, it's no problem—he has a smooth voice and dancing talent to boot,



Lotte has a bone to pick with the eccentric Lettice in Lettice & Lovage, performed at Riverside Arts Center, June 7-17.

but for his bird-brained lover Lina Lamont her squeaky voice is threatening her career—and jeopardizing their romance. **Croswell Opera House** presents this fun stage adaptation of one of the greatest musical films ever, filled with fabulous song and dance numbers. 8pm Thur-Sat, 3pm Sun, Croswell Opera House, 129 E. Maumee St., Adrian, \$20, \$18 stu/sen; 517-264-SHOW.

Improv Group

June 16. Have a buncha laughs tonight from Ann Arbor's new eclectic improv comedy group, **Tilt**, lead by Steve Peterson. 9pm, AACT Downtown, 408 W. Washington, in former Perf. Network space, Ann Arbor, \$5, \$3 student; 971-AACT.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change

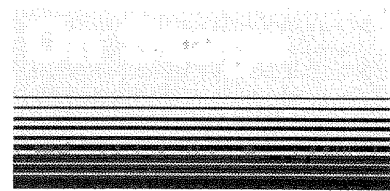
June 16. This musical joyride through the obstacle course of dating, sex, marriage and aging takes on the truths and myths behind that contemporary conundrum "the relationship." An off-Broadway hit described as "Seinfeld set to pop music," part of the **Ann Arbor Summer Festival**. 8pm, Power Center, 121 Fletcher, Ann Arbor, \$35-\$22; 747-2278.

Much Ado About Nothing

June 19. Shakespeare meets James Bond in the **Aquila Theatre Company's** stylishly contemporary take on this classic comedy. Set to Peter Gunn-style music and costumed in black suits and bowler hats, vinyl tank tops and pleather pants, this revitalization of Shakespeare runs on pure energy. True to the original script, Claudio and Hero's marriage is sabotaged by the evil Don John while Beatrice and Benedick look on, patronizing love while reluctantly falling for each other. Part of the **Ann Arbor Summer Festival**. 8pm, Power Center, 121 Fletcher, Ann Arbor, \$28-\$18; 747-2278.

2001 Hastings St.

June 21-24. Hastings street ran through the heart of Detroit's "Black Bottom," a tightly-knit, inner-city area of excitement in the 1940s, graced by the likes of Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald and Count Basie. But the area was also one of discrimination and conflict and by the '50s, it was demolished for "urban renewal." Now, the



teenage performers of **Mosaic Youth Theater**, fresh off of a European Tour, bring the Black Bottom swinging back to life with a dazzling performance, part of the **TreeTown Performance Festival**. See review, p. 109. 8pm Thur-Sat, 2pm Sun, Performance Network, 120 E. Huron, Ann Arbor, \$15, \$12 stu/sen, \$75 for entire festival, Thursday is pay-what-you-can; 663-0681.

1776

June 21-24. We all know that John Adams, Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson were brilliant thinkers, but did you know they could sing? **WCC Musical Theatre** celebrates our nation's 225th birthday with this 1969 Broadway hit musical which dramatically retells the events leading up to the signing of the Declaration of Independence as our forefathers strove to definitively sever ties to the King of Great Britain. 8pm Thur-Sat, 2pm Sun, Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, \$15, \$10 WCC stu/sen/child; 973-3327.

Misery

June 21-24, 28-July 1, 5-8. Paul Sheldon is a jaded author of a series of romance novels whose heroine, Misery Chastain, is idolized by Annie Wilkes, a nurse with an ominous past. Annie finds Paul unconscious after a terrible car accident and takes him back to her farm to nurse him back to health. Unfortunately, Paul's "number one fan" is not too happy with his latest writing. Watch your ankles! **Phoenix Productions** presents Simon Moore's masterful adaptation of the 1987 Stephen King thriller. 8pm Thur-Fri, 2 & 8pm Sat, 2 & 7pm Sun, Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti, \$14, \$10 student; 480-9577.

A Letter to Harvey Milk

June 23 Fictitious Holocaust survivor Harry Weinberg is a 77-year-old storyteller who poignantly and humorously recalls the stories of loved ones who have passed through his life. Among these people are Fanny, his wife of 42 years, Barbara, a young writing teacher, Izzi, a friend from the concentration camp, and Harvey Milk, a gay leader assassinated in 1978. From a Jewish shetl to San Francisco, Harry takes us on a touching journey. 8pm, Friends Meeting House, 1420 Hill St., Ann Arbor, \$5-\$10; 994-4937.

William Testament

June 28-July 8. William Boyer's original one-man show, presented by RAT Productions as part of the **TreeTown Performance Festival**, is about tackle, touch and tragic timing. This comic-drama will appeal to anyone who's ever run out of time-outs when the love of their life ran out on them. 8pm Thur-Sat, 4pm Sun, Performance Network, 120 E. Huron, Ann Arbor, \$15, \$12 stu/sen, \$75 for entire festival, Thursday is pay-what-you-can; 663-0681. ■