Actresses Exciting in 1952 Even if Plays Were Not

By Jay Carmody

Regardless of the apathy with which they approach the prospect of selecting the year's best play on Broadway, the critics can get excited over the questionn of best actress.

They have thrown their hats in the air over any number of ninine performers; more of them than in almost any recent year.

Among these are Jessica Tandy,
Julie Harris, Audrey Hepburn,
Leora Dana, Helen Hayes, Vivian
Segal, and that other Vivienne,
Leigh, whose pair of Cleopatras
unquestionably is the tour de
force of the drama season. It is
senerally a part play however. force of the drama season. It is generally a new play, however, that makes an actress seem most exciting, and this may impede Miss Leigh in adding Broadway's ington. A special date it is, tool laural wreaths to her Hollywood

Miss Leigh in adding Broadway's laurel wreaths to her Hollywood Oscar.

The company, 100 strong and complete with symphony orchestre, will start its 14th nationwide tour at the National Theater in Washington next Dec. 29. The booking was announced today by Ballet Theater and Richard Aldrich and Richard Myers, new opperatus of the National. Van Druten and Christopher

Isherwood's "I Am a Camera,"

The week's booking at the National will permit the ballet com-

Isherwood's "I Am a Camera," and Miss Hepburn, who impersonates the calculating, comic young virgin in "Gigi."

The notices for each of these were approximately ecstatic, and Miss Harris was raised to stardom as a result of the critical fervor for her performance.

* * * * *

Of the others, Miss Tandy is no tes, and Tom Keogh. less than brilliant as the wife in the two-character comedy, "The Fourposter," yet for all the satisfaction with which her performance has been greeted, it carries less of an element of surprise. The same is true of Miss Hayes in "Mrs. McThing," Mary Coyle Chase's fantasy which was planned merely as an Anta sub-scription play and turned into one of the season's most popular

If any of the older performers inspires an election-day rout of the tender young, it is more likely to be Miss Segal. Her return to her original "Pal Joey" role, that Society wife with the instincts of a Moll, after 12 years, is the sensation of Times Square's season. In a cast full of the glowing young, Miss Segal takes over with the immaculate touch of the perfect artist of musical comedy.

As for Miss Dana, she is a delight in "Point of No Return." but she may well be lost in the shadows of such other performers as Henry Fonda, Bob Ross and mwell in Paul Osborn's predominately masculine play. Among the males, the competi-





BACK AGAIN-Ann Sheridan, whom the movies haven't been keeping too busy lately, plays a leading role in "Steel Town," opening Thursday at

lish, Edmond Jenkins and Theodis

Current Theater Attractions
And Time of Showing

Stage. Gayety — "The Cocktail

summer, however, is a one-week (at least) booking on "Don Juan (at least) booking on "Don Juan (control "Io

Capitol—"Japanese War Bride"; 10:30 a.m., 12:55, 3:25, 5:50, 8:20 The triumphant Shaw work. and 10:50 p.m. Stage: 12:05, 2:35, 5:00, 7:30 and 9:55 p.m. in New York and on the road.

played a capacity one-night stand at Constitution Hall last year. Its return engagement will have the same cast, Charles Laughton, Charles Boyer, Sir Cedric Hard- 2:35, 4:25, 6:15, 8:05 and 10 p.m. Dupont — "Rasho-Mon"; 1:00, 2:35, 4:25, 6:15, 8:05 and 10 p.m. Keith's - "Rancho Notorious" 11:45 a.m., 1:50, 3:50, 5:50, 7:55 and 9:55 p.m.

Little-"St. Matthew Passion' 5:30, 7:05, 8:45 and 10:20 p.m. who won the 1950 Academy Award for best male performance, will Metropolitan-"The Sea Hor net"; 11:15 a.m., 12:55, 2:40, 4:25 present Kim Hunter her Oscar at a special party in New York on Wednesday... Miss Hunter, busy on a play and unable to go to Ontario—"The Green 1:40, 3:45, 5:55, 7:55 and

Ontario—"The Green Glove" 1:40, 3:45, 5:55, 7:55 and 10 p.m Hollywood, was chosen best supporting actress of the year for her a.m., 1:05, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35 and streetcar Named Desire" per- 9:50 p.m.

formance. . . . Her prize was accepted in Hollywood by Bette 4:10, 6:05, 7:55 and 9:45 p.m. Davis. . . Robert Preston will be the co-star of Elliott Nugent and Martha Scott in the City Center's "The Male Animal" when the

production opens at the Gayety on April 21. . . . Michael Gordon is directing the Nugent-James 8:05 and 9:55 p.m.

Thurber comedy. . . . Three one-act plays by members of Dr. Owen Dodson's playwriting class will be and 10 p.m.

presented at Howard University starting April 8, continuing Earth"; 10:30 a.m., 1:10, 3:50, through April 12. . . . Jeanne Eng- 6:35 and 9:25 p.m.

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ture will glide back to shape — and we'll keep it that way!

Spanish

here earlier in the season

for achieving the full flavor of communal spirit as expressed in lish, Edmond Jenkins and Theodis
Shine are the student authors...
"The Royal Journey," cinema
diary of the visit of Queen (then
Princess) Elizabeth to Canada
and the United States, will open
the dance. Senora Gomez and
Senor Ray, however, are talented
performers and are impressive
enough in substituting quality for

diary of the visit of Queen (then Princess) Elizabeth to Canada and the United States, will open Wednesday at the Dupont.

Tomorrow night's premiere is an invitational affair. . . It makes use of a new and extremely impressive color film process.

Where and When

Sentor Ray, however, are talcated ready was a ready are impressive enough in substituting quality for quantity in their dancing.

Highlight of their program yesterday was a Basque Suite covering a range of moods suggesting the Basques are an old and vigorous people who are proud of their traditions. Also suggested in the several solo and duet numbers of this suite is the fact that bers of this suite is the fact that the Basques are a zestful, acrobatic lot with an earthy sense of

Aiming 'Rifle'

HOLLYWOOD. Andre de Toth has been set by Warner Bros. to direct "Springfield Rifle," story of the historic birth of Army Intelligence, starring Gary Cooper.

De Toth last completed for Warners the forthcoming "Carson City," WarnerColor production starring Randolph Scott.

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echo—light but clear—of Greco's Spanish dance feswas heard yesterday at Lisner

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Two dancers, of course, consti-tute the barest minimum of folk and this is never the best number

New Gayety—"The Cocktail Party"; 8:30 p.m.

New Gayety—"The Cocktail Party"; 8:30 p.m.

New Gayety—"The Cocktail Party"; 8:30 p.m.

Catholic University—"Macbeth"; the Magician," in which the dancers tell the passionate story of a beautiful girl held in the thrall of her dead lover until she summer, however, is a one-week and 2:25 p.m.

ented piano accompanist of Seno Ray and Senora Gomez.



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"DETECTIVE STORY" CHEVERLY Richard Base Gary Merrill, cision Before Dawn," 6:45, 9:28 cision Before Dawn, "6:45, 9:25.

HYATTSVILLE R by Fastur
Rugh Marlove, "Burles in the Afte noon" (Technicelor), 6:40, 9:41; ap Preston Foster, John Barrymore, Jr "The Big Night," 8:26.

in the Broadway Stage Hit "DETECTIVE STORY" 7, 9:30.

VIERS MILL Bouble Feature:
Lena Carter, "Busies in the Afternoon" (Technicolor), 6:30, 9:30;
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John Payne, Rhonda Piem-color), 7, 5:08.

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