

Egyptian's Grand Re-opening is set

The movies were learning to "talk." Vaudeville shared stages with silver screens in the nation's theatres. It was 1929.

And it will be 1929 again for two days, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 17 and 18, during the Egyptian Theatre's Grand Re-opening Weekend.

Back on the Egyptian's 36-foot silver screen will be the same stars and music which was heard during the historic theatre's opening week in December 1929. The movie will be "Rio Rita," adapted for the screen from the Ziegfield hit Broadway musical.

Just as it was nearly 54 years ago, the movie will share the Egyptian stage with a program of vaudeville acts, directed by Mildred Olson.

The format will match the old-time "two-fer" schedule of three movie showings and two vaudeville performances each day. That's "two-fer" the price of one.

On both Saturday and Sunday, "Rio Rita" will open the continuous showings at 2 p.m., followed by the vaudeville show at 4:25 p.m. The next movie will be at 5:10 p.m.; vaudeville at 7:30 p.m. and the final movie show-

ing at 8:10 p.m.

The film, shot in 24 days with one-third of it in an early color process, stars Bebe Daniels and John Boles. Direct from the Ziegfield Broadway production are comics Bert Wheeler and Robert Woolsey. The plot is based on a modern (1929) western involving the hero, heroine and a nasty — and almost successful — villain.

In addition to the popular title song, Harry Tierney and Joe McCarthy produced a score with titles such as: "The Ranger Song," "If you're in Love, You'll Waltz," "The Kinkajou," and "Following the Sun Around."

Despite the problems of early sound filming (every cactus seems to hide a microphone), it was in "Rio Rita" that Daniels made her successful transition from silent to sound motion pictures. It mixes action, comedy and song for a combination adding up to one of the better early film musicals.

Director Olson has assembled an entertaining vaudeville revue of local artists, featuring special numbers by the Isa Bella School of Dance.

The vaudeville show will range from the entrances

of the attractive, traditional card girl through piano and vocal solos to a juggler, acrobats, barbershop harmonies and a special "dramatics ensemble" with Anthony and Cleopatra.

Choreographed by Isa Bella Twombly, the dancers will present a trio of sections during the vaudeville shows. Just as "Rio Rita" originated in New York's theatre dis-

trict, one of the dance presentations will bring the audiences "A Bit of Broadway." In keeping with their Egyptian Theatre setting, the dancers also will do a tap novelty titled "King Tut." In the final section, the Isa Bella dancers will honor the music of Tchaikovsky.

Featured in the vaudeville show will be Edina Jackson as the card girl and Harold Russie at the piano. Mike McKune

will do a juggling act; Donna Kubetz, vocal selections; Lisa Abramson and Mark Jepsen, acrobatics; Mike Holmes, a song, and barbershop harmonies from The Prospective Sweet Adelines and The Used Parts Quartet.

The "dramatic ensemble" will feature Julie McCrea as Cleo with Mike Holmes as Anthony with Dave Cantalupo, Edina Jackson and Donna

Winckler as slaves.

Tickets for the movie and vaudeville are \$5 and are available at the door. The Egyptian box office will open at 1:30 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday.

Next movies at the Egyptian will be "My Favorite Year" starring Peter O'Toole Sept. 23-25 and "Officer and a Gentleman" starring Richard Gere and Lou Gosset Sept. 30-Oct. 2.

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