

CULTURE'S NEW HOME: Bright lights and formally dressed theatergoers are symbolic of the city of anticipation surrounding San Diego's Civic Theater opening Tuesday. At the theater's entrance are representatives of the many local cultural organiza-

tions expected to utilize the theater. Included are, from left, Lowell Davis, Mrs. Thomas Hamilton, Philip Klauer, Mrs. Jack Gales Whitney, Mrs. Michael Iles Gonzalez, Morley Golden, Mrs. John Chambers and David Thompson. At the door are Mrs.

Norman Lawson, Mrs. Lionel U. Ridout and Dellar Clark. The new theater is captured in this night color photo by Don Tichenchuk, assisted by Phil McKahan, both San Diego Union staff photographers.

The Civic Theater: On A Note Of Triumph

By ALAN M. KRIGSSMAN

Architecture, the post tells us, is frozen music. And in the spirit of this resonant metaphor the citizens of San Diego may well look upon their new Civic Theater, on the threshold of its opening Tuesday evening, as a grand, graceful symphony of fulfilled aspirations.

Or they may view it rather as a noble cantata, proclaiming once and for all time to the world at large our city's determination to seek a high place in the cultural firmament.

To the many who dream, fought and worked toward this moment over the years, the reality of the theater will be the final, triumphant note in a sweeping crescendo of hope, vision, planning and effort. To the Community Concourse, which the theater itself now makes a completed entity, it will become a living symbol and instrument of the downtown renaissance. And to all of the city and its inhabitants, present and future, it will stand henceforth as an artistic capital, the seat and dwelling place of the very finest San Diego has to offer in the realm of performance.

No one knows now, of course, what performances will sound or look like in the hall, and no one will know until Tuesday's inaugural concert by the San Diego Sym-

phony. Experts have been consulted, and every effort has been made to insure optimum visual and acoustical effect, and to avoid mistakes encountered elsewhere. Experience, however, has taught us not to look

for certainties in these matters. Part of the excitement of the opening, in fact, is the anticipation of discovering for the first time the theater's natural sound, sight and "atmosphere."

The tremendous benefits of the theater, particularly in relation to what San Diegans have been previously accustomed to, will be apparent from the moment the doors open. The orchestra, for example, will find

itself for the first time with more than ample space on the stage. It will be backed up by an acoustical shell which will enhance the sound by controlled projection. It will have had a proper space for rehearsal, with adequate room for its members, their instruments, their music, their lunch boxes. The conductor and guest artists will have spacious and commodious dressing rooms.

The Civic Theater, in short, has all the essentials of an ideal workshop and showcase for symphony, opera, dance and drama—the whole spectrum of the performing arts. This alone will make it a lodestone to the many touring companies and soloists who hitherto may have shunned San Diego as an inhospitable or impracticable place

It's Everyone's Business

By MORLEY GOLDEN

There is a body of thought in our country, made popular in many novels, which holds that the businessman is the enemy of culture.

The major argument for such thought is that the two are naturally inimical—that business deals in tangible returns and that the returns of art must almost always be intangible by their nature.

Like many generalities, this one is absurd. Within our own

city, we have hundreds of examples of businessmen who have been among the most active in the preservation and promotion of our cultural life.

Among them I count my associates in San Diagam, Inc., who have made the major contributions in money and time to the completion of our new theater, a project that represents a shot of adrenalin in our increasingly

healthy cultural veins.

At the moment our attention is focused on our Centre City. But we need not look very far into the neighborhoods and communities of our area to find additional business support for theater, music, art, literature, etc.

I have often wondered why.

(Continued on E-7, Col. 5)

Morley Golden

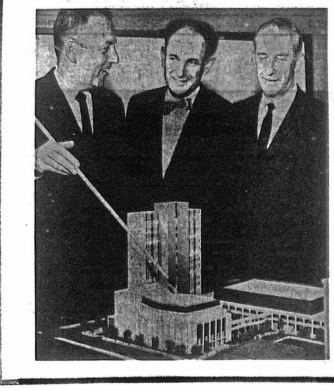


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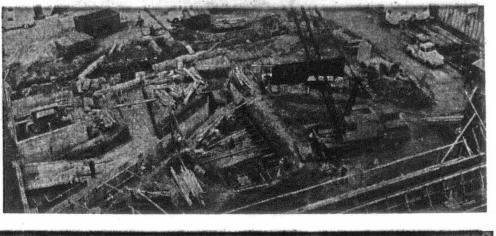
Key Steps In Birth Of

San Diego's fresh and robust Civic Theater comes into the world's lively and vital infant...

business of civic theater building—from the time architects were authorized to begin designs...



IN MODEL FORM: Selden A. Kennedy Jr., Lloyd Rocco and William Resser, from left, were appointed Jan. 30, 1962...



ALMANAC From Jan. 10 To Jan. 18

For Theater: A Note Of Triumph

Stage

CIVIC THEATER... 'Who's Ahead of Virginia Woolf?' Edward Albon's explosive drama...

'H.M.S. Plover': The 'D'Oyley Caris Opera Company will present the Gilbert and Sullivan comic opera...

ACTORS QUARTER... Two Plays: 'Krippl's Last Tap' and 'Act Without Words II'...

MESA COLLEGE... 'Hippobytus': The Greek tragedy is presented at 8:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays...

GALERIAS CAROLTA

Graphic Materials: Etchings, engravings and drawings by Luis Filzer, Maria Palma, Frank Rabell and Leticia Tronzo...

SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE... Polytechnic Sculpture: Twenty-five artists exhibit a group show...

SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE... Phil Lectures: Earl Windley will lecture and show a film on 'The Legendary Mediterranean'...

HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY... Mr. Lester: Cyril Alfred Frankenstein will speak at 8 p.m. Friday in a series sponsored by San Diego's Mills College Alumnus...

LA JOLLA MUSEUM OF ART... Mrs. Josephine: Retrospective of the Swedish artist's work ends next Sunday...

STUDIO 55... Victoria Beck-Broders: On-man show of ceramic pots and sculpture...

THE ATHENAUM... Jane Rubin: Non-objective city and drawing to an exhibit 'Through'...

Gallery

FINE ARTS GALLERY... Joe Clemente: Group of 15 paintings and drawings through Jan. 11...

CALIFORNIA WESTERN UNIVERSITY... Shakespeare Collection: About 100 items from the collection of the Folger Shakespeare Library...

OLD TOWN GALLERY... No. 100, 1000 AM. 10 AM. to 5 PM. 10 AM. to 5 PM. Exhibition of 60 oils through Jan. 12...

THE LITTLE GALLERIES... No. 120, 1200 AM. 10 AM. to 5 PM. 10 AM. to 5 PM. Exhibition of 60 oils through Jan. 11...

HOOPER HIGH SCHOOL... Stage Film: 'The Endless Summer'...

ARTE LATINO GALERIA... Stage Film: 'The Endless Summer'...

Behind Our Picture . . .

On a chilly Wednesday night in mid-December several dozen persons worked as a team to aid The San Diego Union in producing the color photograph of the Civic Theater...

SHERWOOD HALL... Chamber Concert: The Fine Arts Quartet performs works by Britten, Haydn and Beethoven...

GROSSMONT COLLEGE... Public Concert: Sirger Sam Hinton will perform at 8:30 p.m. today...

Folk Songs: Sponsor Mary Esther Nicola and Judith Taylor and tenor Ralph Wright will perform in a recital at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday...

CRAWFORD HIGH SCHOOL... Pop Concert: The school's symphonic and stage bands will perform at 8 p.m. Friday...

Band Concert: San Diego State's Symphony Band will perform at 8:15 p.m. today...

(Continued from B-1) for performance.

As for the audience, the Civic Theater will be a veritable paradise after the years of acting formations...

As with any comparable enterprise, there is always a liability, but only if every sector of the community shows its willingness to stand behind our artists...

Perhaps the most important thing to be remembered about the coming opening is that while in one sense it is an end of long road...

The theater has virtues of its own: no doubt, as an anchor of the community...

The Civic Theater is only the down payment on this feeling. To be really settled in it, we must make sure that what happens in the building lives up to the standards set by the edifice itself.

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We are extremely fortunate in our present artistic resources and our foreseeable potential as well. Already we have an orchestra of virtuosi with a gifted, capable conductor...

live opera company, an excellent ballet troupe, a fine community theater and other local performing outfits...

The new theater, however, is a large one to fill. As with any comparable enterprise, there is always a liability, but only if every sector of the community shows its willingness to stand behind our artists...

An even more precarious danger is that we might per-

the theater to become an arena for pandering to the mythical "lowest common denominator." In the avidity to make the theater a going concern...

ing and fostering the highest values in the life of the community. Thus also, the drama of its opening will be remembered in history as San Diego's finest hour.

ORDER SEASON TICKETS! 1965 Theatrical Season. Gisele MACKENZIE, Jerry VAN DYKE, Rhonda FLEMING, Ricardo MONTALBAN, Howard DUFF.

SIX SMASH BROADWAY PLAYS! SPECIAL GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE AT THE BOX OFFICE. ROMANOFF AND JULIET. OLD GLOBE THEATRE. HIGHWAY 395 AT CLAREMOUNT MESA BOULEVARD, WEST.

theater

Diagrams a dramatic view of the theater's development from a gapping hole in the ground, to a skeleton of steel to a richly-covered concrete and glass home. Here are some of the highlights of the three years of progress—showing how the theater was born.

FOUNDATION STAGE:
The theater site, viewed from the south, shows construction, at center left, for the theater's huge air conditioning system.

DESIGNS FOR SOUND:
The theater's 37 all-important acoustical clouds hang over the dirt floor, with stage flanking in background. The theater was literally built around the sound system.

The Phoenix Rises From The Ashes

The author, Craig Noel, is producing director of the Old Globe Theater.

By CRAIG NOEL

As a life-long resident of San Diego who has spent most of his time working in the theater, it is with a great deal of anticipation that I look forward to the opening of our new Civic Theater.

To all of us who remember the Old Savoy Theater, which was taken away from us to make room for a parking lot and gas station, the fact that now, once again, like the Phoenix arising from its ashes, all of San Diego will be able to enjoy the theatrical joys of this theater is a great source of pleasure.

We are deeply indebted to Merley Golds and the other businessmen who made this theater possible. The architect who is to be congratulated in performing an outstanding job in a short time with a comparatively modest budget, and I sincerely doubt if any community has ever received a more effective plant in such a modest sum.

One day I sat week I had the pleasure of touring the building. It's really exciting theater. The color and warmth of the auditorium, the large stage and most modern equipment, the lighting and sound system, all contribute to bring the audience into the excitement and anticipation. It is a theater that is alive and calls for participation.

This new theater must be used and enjoyed by the citizens as much as possible. We no longer have the excuse that we are not attending cultural events because of the lack of a theater. The symphony, the opera, the ballet, the theater, all need the people's support in order to realize the excitement of this beautiful new show place.

On May 5 when the curtain rises in San Diego to the first professionally produced opera, La Boheme, at this theater place of mystery, of excitement and of surprise.

SAN DIEGO STATE THEATRE
Edo de Waart Miller's *Arlecchino*
Arlo Caspazza
The Boes
Peter Soffer's *The Private Eye*
January 14-16, 8:30 p.m.
January 17-19, 8:00 p.m.
January 20-22, 8:00 p.m.

For The Architects, The Human Factor Came First

What is a theater? It is a place to view and to hear. It is a place which builds memories. It is a place which transports you out of the world of the ordinary into the world of the extraordinary.

It is a place which preserves and cultivates values in our multi-faceted culture—values created by William Shakespeare and poets, singers and composers, actors and—players and directors—through the ages.

The theater is truly much more than an office for dramatic spectacle.

A theater is the expression of people—wardly for the present, outwardly for the future.

This feeling of awe toward the theater is the philosophy of three San Diegans who literally shaped the new Civic Theater: They are the architects—Solides B. Kennedy Jr., Lloyd Recco and William F. Reiser—and the producer—Craig Noel.

These three well-known architects set out as a team to create the \$4 million Civic Theater which opens Tuesday, January 15.

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Today it is not possible for one architect to point to the backstage area and beam with pride because it is wholly his; he can associate himself with a personal satisfaction in the steps of the Old Globe and the Grand Piers. His responsibility and design was to help to solve.

Here are their comments on a few of the factors which help shape our new Civic Theater.

"We felt the theater should look like a theater—not a bank or an office building or a school," says the architect in charge of the theater place of mystery, of excitement and of surprise.

stark simplicity creates popular in architecture where large slabs of material create the feeling of freedom of feeling. When the design is distilled into its essentials, a robot-like building is the result.

"We feel that a theater should be scaled to human beings. The theater is not here to awe or overwhelm people. Both the interior and exterior should be warm and inviting leaving the theatergoer to become an important part of it. Many modern designs have gone to tremendous heights proportions and have lost track of the human factor."

Should the architect be asked to create an interior void of some combination of form and function? The architect, while it is fortunate if his work does no more than not detract from these sacred events of art.

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The theater has always held a magic for me ever since, as a boy, I saw the power of Maderlein's "The Bluebird" on stage. Theater is a kind of magic, believe which brings life's experiences into sharper focus and therefore reach a great deal of emotion into this virtuous experience.

This emotional response begins as one buys his ticket and moment as the performance date comes closer. The physical aspect of the theater should enhance and build on this feeling of mystery and make believe.

Thus, the Civic Theater, our long-cherished goal, had to be, right from the start, the new great red, strong, not-must-lose-always-benefit, suggesting that lighting will be found, in all simplicity, the tremendous distillation of the cumulative labor of the creative laborer.

Congratulations, San Diego Grand Opening NEW CIVIC THEATRE
Old Globe Theater in Balboa Park
San Diego Community Theatre for 25 Years

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track of the human factor. But this human factor was of prime concern. There is an empathy between audience and performer—a factor which is hard to explain but definitely important. To fully consider this human factor, we thought of each member

of the great among mankind. These works of music and theater of such nobility and power in the lives of us all that, at the very best, try as the architect will, he is fortunate if his work does no more than not detract from these sacred events of art.

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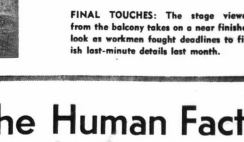
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TAKING SHAPE: The theater's steel skeleton was given concrete flesh by April, 1964, when the retorted shape of the building became apparent.



FINAL TOUCHES: The stage viewed from the balcony takes on a near finished look as workmen fought deadlines to finish last-minute details last month.



of the audience as an individual. And when the actor is observed on the stage, it is observed by one individual—not by millions as in the television set. It is the limitation of this individual and his reaction to the performer which we kept in mind in designing this building is to do so.

"The Civic Theater, too, expresses San Diego as a metropolitan—reserved, casual, yet elegant but not pretentious. We want the whole city to identify itself with the theater and we want the theater to appeal to all.

It must warmly welcome it back, mustn't you? But then, wouldn't it be so good to see him become a complete and satisfying experience."

—William F. Reiser

A once-in-a-lifetime experience of a particular environment. A contemporary housing for an art form that is from his own ordinariness. It must exhilarate him and imbue him with a sense of expectancy for a view into a world of delightful sights and sounds.

Yet it must never exceed its subordinate role to stage center because the structure is the opportunist in the feast of the night on the theater. It must embrace the occupant and the players solely to facilitate the establishment of that rapport which transports the occupant to a full, rich experience.

This, then, was our premise... we hope we captured it. It's your decision.

—Solides B. Kennedy Jr.

44th SAN DIEGO SEASON
Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra
ZUBIN MEHTA, Music Director
SATURDAY, JAN. 16—7:30 P.M.
ZUBIN MEHTA, Conductor,
DAVID PERKINS, Violinist—KURT REHER, Clarinet
BARBER—Medea's Meditation & Dance
BRAHMS—Double Concerto
BETHOVEN—Symphony No. 3
*THE ERICCA
MAIL ORDERS: P. O. BOX 7044, SAN DIEGO 92103
OR PHONE: 234-5200
BOX OFFICE: CIVIC THEATRE: 236-6520
PRICES: 4.50, 3.75, 3.00, 2.25

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ZUBIN MEHTA, Music Director
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"We feel that the theater's design is based on reason and its reasonability is its key to success. The theater's walls literally envelop the enclosed lounges encircling the seating and the general design of the interior and exterior was dictated by the requirements for optimum light and sound."

Buildings which last are born of love, of hard work, of knowledge and devotion. Certainly San Diego's new Civic Theater was born of all of these.

CONGRATULATIONS, SAN DIEGO, ON THE OPENING WEEK OF—
SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE
MAGNIFICENT COMMUNITY CONCOURSE—8:00 & 8:57
WED., JAN. 13
3:00 P.M. Sharp
ONE NIGHT ONLY

VICKI KENDALL CUMMINGS CLARK EDWARD ALBEE'S WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?
with Bryarly Lee Donald Ericson
THE PRIZE-WINNING ADULT COMEDY DRAMA DIRECTOR PRODUCTION BY EARL RING OF BROADWAY!
N.Y. Dramatists' Award "Best Play of Year,"
New York Awards, Outer Circle Civic Awards,
Annual ANTA Award, Foreign Press Award,
Variety Full Award.
TICKETS NOW \$4.50-\$7.50-\$9.00-\$2.25-\$1.50
THEATRE BOX OFFICE: 640 BROADWAY, PHENIX 3132

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THEATRE BOX OFFICE
640 BROADWAY - 239-8122

DON'T MISS THE MUSICAL THEATRE ATTRACTION
ONE NIGHT ONLY—7:30-9:00 P.M.
AND SULLIVAN IN SAN DIEGO NEW CIVIC THEATRE

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