Thank Heaven for Gigi

by Ida Peters Mechanic Theatre this Christmas two acts. season but thank heaven we did

Set in turn-of-the-century tress Lisa Howard, who is raised Paris, "Gigi" features delightful by her aunt and grandmother to songs such as "Thank Heaven For be a "courtesan." This translates Little Girls," "I Remember It today as a "kept" woman or high-Well," "The Night They Invented price prostitute. Champagne" and the title song, Gigi is from a poor family and

"Gigi" is a welcome change since before Thanksgiving have turned many people off.

The musical now playing at the Baltimore didn't get "Cats," Lyric Opera House thru January "My One And Only," or "La Cage 5 is a pleasant two-hour produc-Aux Folles" at the Lyric or tion with 12 musical numbers in

Adapted from French author get the musically colorful "Gigi," Colette's best known novels, the Lerner and Lowe's Academy musical is the story of a young Award-winning French Musical. girl, Gigi, played by Canadian ac-

Aunt Alicia, Betsy Palmer (...you remember her from TV's "I've from boring television specials, Got A Secret" and "To Tell the outer-space hookum, star wars, Truth") schools her each week on warmed-over Scrooge and manners; how to recognize fake Christmas carols which after jewelry; and how to order exotic foods in a restaurant



Louis Jourdan

grandmother, Mamita. Her daughter is an unsuccessful actress so she encourages her granddaughter, Gigi, to study

hard to be a courtesan. She has an entertaining evening... for a playboy, played convincingly by ing a great time as he gives a Tom Hewitt, as the man who will properly French-Chevalier take care of them both in her old reading to "Thank Heaven For Litage. She doesn't count on Gigi's tle Girls" and "I'm Glad I'm Not own instinct for survival in that a Young Anymore." The duet by man always marries what he Taina Elg and Jourdan on " can't sample.

Louis Jourdan, in the Maurice Chevalier role of Honore sets the One. tone early at the opening of the musical by stating there are two Stage in D.C. is great in his kinds of women; those who attain marriage and those who is fresh and appealing in her big

And, as an aging playboy who . Tonight." has been unfaithful all his life flitting from flower to flower he frey Schneider is the only jarring tries to teach his nephew, note. While the menage of art-Gaston, how to have fun in life deco glass and bamboo-like without love and marriage.

give it up first... you don't get marriage and the ring. Even after 26 years since the Academy

Remember It Well" is funnypoignant... a high point of Act

Tom Hewitt, from the Arena number "Gigi" and Lisa Howard number "Say A Prayer for Me

The stage as destined by Jefdesigns is functional and speeds There's a delightful old-fashion up the 16 scene changes seeing so many TV specials ac-

All in all, "Gigi" is a fitting limax to end 1984 at the Lyric with a hope for better things to come in 1985. Go and enjoy!

will be held in the Concert Hall. Millenium chamber music ensem-

Friday Plus, December 21, 1984

programming.

V-103

Invite you to join us at a

The Afro-American Newspapers

Mrs. Santa

The Gatsby's

Friday, December 21, 1984 5 p.m.-9 p.m.

1984 comes to a joyous conclu- S.C., will enchant the entire fami- soloists in Medieval carols, sion as the Kennedy Center Holi- ly. This delightful program in Renaissance Christmas music, day Festival fills the halls and cludes a choir of more than 100 George Crumb's Little Suite theaters with the seasonal young people arrayed on a Christmas and Ottorino sounds of celebration. As in past 26-foot-tall tree-shaped scaffold Respighi's Lauda per la years, the festival will feature a draped with garlands and Nativita del Signore.

host of daily free family enter- covered with shining Christmas To bring everything to a roustainment, including carolers, ornaments. Brightly costumed ing finale, the Kennedy Center's handbell ringers, puppet shows, folk dancers perform around the annual New Year's Eve party, "A bands, mimes and strolling base of the tree in a program Night in Old Vienna," with Alexminstrels, in the Grand Foyer and beginning with familiar sacred ander Schneider and Friends the Theater Lab. At least 40 local and secular carols, progressing begins at 9 p.m. on the 31st with performing artists and through international holiday an evening of chamber music ensembles will provide festive tranditions and finally closing followed by dancing in the Grand with the presentation of a living Foyer for all patrons attending In addition to these informal nativity scene. On the ensuing Kennedy Center theaters that events, seven major programs evening, December 29, the night.

Two special activities in the including two magical new per- ble will give a special Christmas Theater Lab should excite parformances. First, on December concert spanning 1,000 years of ticular interest. Puppetfest Pro-, the splendid "Singing music. The Millenium's program ductions' delightful adaptation of Charles Dickens' A Christmas formances December 26 and 27.

And there are many events i all the theaters which, along with the Holiday Festival, will make the Kennedy Center the place for in order to get her man is a bit holiday entertainment: from American Ballet Theatre's wondrous Cinderella to the glorious concerts of Christmas music by the Choral Arts Society and the characters that overshadow the Paul Hill Chorale; from the National Symphony Orchestra's performances of Handel's Messiah to the Programs for Children and Youth's production of Alien ing air of a young girl raised in Equation, a space-age fantasy the woods and unfamiliar with about an extraterrestial's visit to the pretensions of civilization.

202-254-3696 or 800-424-8504.

Christmas Special 25¢ All Day

SKATING 1-6 P.M. 25¢ Admission 25¢ Rental of Skates 728-7606

BOWLING 9:30 A.M.--Until 5¢ Per Game 25¢ Shoo Rental CALL: 728-7607

"Annie Get Your Gun" is an enjoyable evening

Players Youth Theater production hesitation that all the actors did of Irving Berlin's "Annie Get Your commendable jobs in this produc-Gun" with trepidation. Musicals tion. I must reiterate that the in which adult roles are played by female characters got the best of the very young often end up in the males but overall this was a

was a big hit on Broadway for formers. "Annie Get Your Gun" Ethel Merman in the late 1940s, was an enjoyable evening. but its view of competition between the sexes being resolved by the woman being submissive out of step in the era of ERA.

It is ironic that a play featuring features performances by female male characters. Nicole Jones who played the title role of Annie Oakley was marvelous.

She had the innocent appealthat innocent quality despite the presence of a native intelligence in Annie and her quick adapta-

ion to showbusiness. Ms. Jones was a joy because production, to their credit,

Ms. Jones, in addition to her fine acting, exhibited a very powerful voice. In the parlance of Tin Pan Alley and Vaudeville, she can really belt out a tune. Her charisma and ability was a domi-

James Smith who played Frank Butler, Annie's lover and future husband did a creditable job. He had a very pleasant singing voice also. The major flaw of his percent. Butler should have been sharper.

approached the Arena above actors, I say without good production. I enjoyed the youthful exhuberance of the per-

> The Home of Jazz in Baltimore

LOUNGE

4723 Gwynn Oak Ave. 664-1041

Mondays 6:00 pm to 12:00 midnight APPRECIATION

Live Jazz - Free Food Drinks 2-4-1 Special Dancing - Jazz All Musicians Are Invited to Jam

The Place to be

Thursday, Fridays & Saturdays 9:00 pm to 2:00 am The DAVE ROSS

featuring

Sundays 8:00 p.m. to :00 a.m. RAY GASKINS

QUARTET featuring + Musicians invited to lam +

No Admission-No Cover At Anytime

SATURDAY NIGHT PAINTER'S MILL and TWO B's PRODUCTIONS present

"A VERY SPECIAL XMAS EVENT"

starring

THE TEMPTATIONS

MANHATTANS DEC. 22nd

ONE SHOW 800 P.M. ONLY

Tickets \$1400

Painter's Mill Theatre

Tickets Sold At: ALL HECHT CO. STORES MODERN MUSIC ALL TICKET CENTERS

In The Heart of Adams Morgan

the Club That Brings You The Best

A CARIBBEAN XMAS EXTRAVAGANZA: Part I FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21ST) Another Reggae Superstar!

Special Guest INFINITE

9 PM TKTS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22ND BARON

"Feeling It" Direct from

TKTS. \$12 ADV./\$14 DOOR

(EARTH REGGAE BAND SHOWTIME: 9 PM

COME AND FEEL THE IFFERENCE

Music 'HI 2 AM

SUGAR MINOTT

\$12 ADV./\$14 DOOR

Calypso At Its BESTI with

SHOWTIME: 9 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23RD REGGAE ANCHOR SUGAR MINOTT

Along with "Emperor's Choice"

TKTS. \$12./\$14 DOOR

202-328-3838 1724 California St., N.W. Christmas Wish

Warm wishes for a wonderful holiday season blsssed with love and peace and lasting joy to all. From the Staff of Friday Plus.

ALL NIGHT NEW YEAR'S EVE SPECTACULARI

21 EAST NORTH AVE. BALTIMORE, MD.

DOORS OPEN 10:00 P.M. 'HI 6:00 A.M.

in Personi . • On Stage! BOBBI HUMPHREY

"SATIN DOLL" RIVERSIDE DRIVE" "MAL EGAMEMOH" Also BALTIMORE'S OWN CARLOS JOHNSON

Admission \$20.00. . . Proper Attire Required Tickets on Sale NOW at ODELL'S

. PARTY FA VORS

POP FICKOL INCOLUMNICON CALL 837-3222 NOISE MAKERS. .

Friday Plus

features the Folger and 20th Cen-

tury Consorts' with choir and

The Gatsby's

Special Benefit for

PROGRAM

1812 N. Charles Street

adopt a family

