

Spot Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic
By Bill Whitman



Ghoulies and Ghosties and Long-Legged Beasties...

... and things that go BOOMP in the nite! Well you can say we're in a rut if you wish but it always seems to fit at Halloween time which will be upon us next week, so keep the goodies handy for the Trick-or-Treaters.

So there's lots going on around the Bay Area in this connection. Like over there at Smith Bros. Indian Village



FLAMENCO STYLE... It's the type of entertainment you enjoy at Bill Fremont's (shown above) Matador Restaurant on Pico in W.L.A. famed for its Flamenco music and dancers along with its delicious Foods-of-Spain.

Hollywood Reporter

By Mike Connolly

Dear Mr. Connolly: I've been seeing those pictures of Sandra Dee and her son, Todd Duncan which were taken at the Coconut Grove in Hollywood. Dressing a 4-year-old in a tuxedo and taking him to a nightclub till all hours is cruel. He ought to be home in bed. I don't believe the Darins are fit to be parents. — M.S., Los Angeles, California.

Dear M.C.: It's true Sandra took little Todd to the Grove. The occasion was Bob by Darin's opening. Now, the facts you don't know: Todd wasn't kept up "till all hours." And if it were an attempt at a reconciliation for Todd's parents, don't you think you would change your mind?

Dear Mike: Does Ed Sullivan eat something when he comes onstage? His right jaw always looks like he has something in his mouth. — R.L.B., Peoria, Illinois.

Dear R.L.B.: At the time, you were seeing Ed Sullivan when he was having some trouble with his teeth. It's all been taken care of and I'll bet you don't notice it anymore.

Dear Mr. Connolly: I recently saw "Madame X" and thought Lana Turner lovely. Was George Masters, who did Lynda Bird Johnson for the Academy Awards, responsible? Also I read that the picture was a remake. Could you tell me what it was called and what stars played in it? — Mrs. M.A. Willow Grove, Penna.

Dear Mrs. M.A.: First, George Masters did not do the make-up for Lana Turner. George is a hairstylist. Second, "Madame X" has been filmed twice before. Once with Pauline Frederick and then Ruth Chatterton.

Dear M.C.: Could you tell us what Batman's address is? Could he send us a letter? Does he like his role as Batman? Is Robin married? — R.C. and M.P., Logansport, Louisiana.

Dear R.C. and M.P.: You may write to Batman in care of: 20th-Century Fox

Studios, 10201 West Pico Blvd., Beverly Hills, Calif. Yes, Adam West likes his role as Batman—it's made him world-famous — although he will only play the role for a few more years and then go on to something else. Yes, Robin is married and has just become a father for the first time.

Dear Mike: I'm a Swedish girl and have been here 1 1/2 years. Could you please tell me about George Chakiris and where he is. Where can I write to him? Has "The High Bright Sun" been shown in California yet? — K.I., Atherton, Calif.

Dear K.I.: George has been making TV specials in Europe which have been shown here in the States. Watch for the re-runs. You may write to George in care of: Columbia Studios, 1438 N. Gower Street, Hollywood. "The High Bright Sun" sounds like a foreign title for his film, "King of the Sun" with Yul Brynner which has been released here. Watch for its rerun or its showing on TV.

Dear Mr. C.: Could you please give me the address of someone who knows the movie stars' home addresses? — M.P., Springfield, Mass.

Dear M.P.: Please write Gil Turner, Turner's Drug Store, Sunset and Doheny, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069 and ask about the maps of the movie stars' homes.

Dear Mr. Connolly: I was an ardent fan of the late Jim Reeves, country and pop singer, who was killed in a plane crash two years ago. He made a movie in Africa called "Kimberly Jim." Can you give me an address where I may learn more about him and the movie. It means very much to me. — Mrs. R.C., San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mrs. R.C.: Since Jim wasn't a Hollywood star, I don't have any information about him. But you can write to the recording company for which he made records and you should get satisfactory results.

the Halloween festivities around the South Bay area will be The Red Balloon on Hawthorne. Should be quite a colorful array, too, with all the costuming that's going on.

Works this way. Each waitress has been left to her own devices (?) to come up with some sort of costume to fit the occasion and with these kids' imagination... WOW!

There'll be a twenty-dollar prize for the best outfit and... get this... you, Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Customer are to be the judges. Contest starts Thursday.

There'll be free pumpkins for the kiddies and "Griseida The Witch" will be dispensing "Witches Brew" to the kids free. Oh of course you grown-up kids can get in on it, too, according to manager Clara Dahlke, who is ALSO to be in costume, by the way!

One of the features at the Red Balloon will be homemade pumpkin pie with whipped cream for 30 cents and if you've ever gotten yourself outside one of the Red Balloon's home-made pies you know you're in for a treat, not a trick.

So you'll come and have fun for Halloween Days. But while we're on the topic of food — that "all-you-can-eat" Fried Chicken they feature over there at the Balloon for \$1.09 is a fantastic feast, to say the least (poetry). Whipped spuds, chicken gravy, cold slaw, plus hot roll and butter go along with the bit from 11 in the ayme til closing.

Then on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays for ninety-nine pennies you can eat all the spaghetti and special Red Balloon meat sauce along with garlic bread that you are able to carry away. Under your belt, that is! A tossed green salad with Italian dressing is tossed in with the deal. Sound good? Well it surely is!

To single out any one person or one group of persons appearing currently at the Municipal Auditorium Concert Hall in Long Beach would be well nigh impossible with the brand of talent "West Side Story" presents. They're all excellent.

A presentation of the Long Beach Civic Light Opera, the popular Broadway and film click will be playing through November 6 so you still have time to catch this highly entertaining piece.

Marlene Silvers as Maria has one of the most outstanding voices we've heard in some time and is blessed with a stage presence that comes to a couple of guys and a couple of gals who accompany their own vocals on guitars, known as the Greenwich Meantimes.

And for an aspiring M.D., her Tony, played by Steve Taylor with a fine mello voice is most convincing in the male lead in this provocative opus. Too bad such a personality must shuffle off this mortal coil at the end of this

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beautifully presented bit of entertainment.

One of the most artistically staged shows we've seen locally in a long time, the scenery effects of "West Side Story" show much imagination and ingenuity as well as the opening which was presented via the magic lantern on the curtain covering the stage. Had they given a fast run-down of each piece of scenery after the show, surely the hands of the audience in the huge auditorium would have come up roses.

If any suggestion is called for it would simply be one: either mute the orchestra (which would be a shame with such orchestrations) or give the cast hotter mikes so as not to lose too much of the dialogue. But this "complaint" is a minor one compared to the whole show itself: it must be ignored.

Following the matinee in Long Beach last Sunday with a girl named Mary Whitman, Jr. we took in the Princess Louise over there on Terminal Island just south of the old Ferry Bldg. for a sumptuous repast of steak and lobster. Now when you get fare like Jerry Sutton, Jerry Wright and Mike Morrell are putting out at a top price of \$5.95, plus the excellent service offered by the highly efficient waiters and waitresses, it makes for a wonderful evening of gourmet dining at its best.

And while sitting at the long bar facing the water and channel, we couldn't help wondering just how those four stalwart mixologists, Bill, Bob, George, and Danny plus bar manager Dick Masters are going to make out when the weather gets a little rough. The Louise floats, you know!

But rest easy, the management assures you the boat is lashed firmly and permanently, even though the chandler above the main starway does swing and sway a bit.

By the way, speaking of nautical things, here's something you may or may not know. D'ya know from whence the expression "Posh" came? You know, like "getting the posh treatment?" Well it seems that in bygone days (maybe today, too) when a VIP was aboard they'd make sure his stateroom was on the sunnyside of the ship at all times. Consequently the word went out "port out — starboard home" — hence P-O-S-H. See all the really im-

portant stuff you find out when you read the Press-Herald!

You also learn a lot when you visit the S. S. Princess Louise. Easy to reach, too, simply take the Vincent Thomas Bridge out of San Pedro, bear to the right at the other end of it onto Ferry Street and follow your nose straight South for about two miles and you've got it made. Ample parking, too, but would advise reservations. Call 831-2351 and nail down some dining space. You'll enjoy your "cruise" aboard the Princess Louise.

Don't know if you're being led down the Primrose Path by the current ad running here for the Half Way House wherein they advertise chicken for \$1.25 on an all-you-can-eat basis.

All this is true but the additional entrees are equally fantastic. Like for example Tenderloin of Beef Stroganoff for \$2.50 on the complete dinner and from there the menu runs all the way up to the fabulous price of THREE-NINETY-FIVE! That's for the broiled New York steak. And the top price on the dinner menu at the Half Way House is \$4.95 for Half Way House Continental Duo — a lobster filet-mignon combo.

And for luncheon you can start as low as 85 cents for a ham or hot corned beef sandwich... or, if you're really hungry, go for the Shrimp Louie at one seventy-five. They also offer the low calorie plates for you weight watchers, so make it by the Half Way House for a wonderful luncheon dinner or tasty cocktail soon.

Heard from Dick Burg after to these long months and he informs us he's taken over Caesars at 4111 Pacific Coast Highway in Torrance and is now taking reservations in advance for parties although the spot will not be officially opened 'til November 20th.

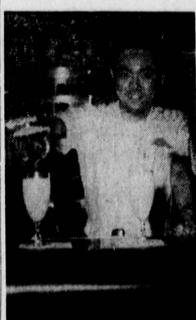
Now if you'll recall, Caesars has always been a swingin' spot on the Highway and there's no reason in the world why it can't be again, especially with a guy like Dick Burg at the helm. We're betting on him, having known him for some time, both at the Plush Horse and the Hunting Horn, then back at the Plush Horse. Dick's one helluva chef, by the way, in case you didn't know!

So let's watch for his grand opening next month and in the meantime if you've got a party planned for the future, give 'em a call down there at 378-5258 and nail down some space in one of the most beautiful rooms in the South Bay area.

All you gourmet-type people will know what Paella ala Valenciana tastes like but tell your friends about it and where they can get it.

Contrary to popular belief, there's quite a difference between Mexican food and Spanish food and at Bill Fremont's Matador Restaurant that this famed native dish of Spain may be found, and he has a chef there that spends an entire nite preparing this Castilian delicacy. No doubt about it... "Chef Fred" is the greatest!

Paella is a combination of chicken, clams, shrimp, Spanish sauces, ham, olives, rice, squid and peas, cooked in a giant Paella pot and seasoned



LOTS OF RUCK... That's about what Ronnie at the Tea House has these nites with advent of Paul Valiant at the keyboard, Tuesday through Saturday nites, Ronnie's manager-mixologist at Rose and Louis Sog's popular Torrance spot.

with saffron. Goes for \$3.75 complete, it does, and includes an iced relish dish and choice of soup or salad. Go by The Matador on West Pico soon — off San Diego Freeway at National and go East on Pico for two blocks. Have fun!

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