

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Mailed August 13, 1987

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - A new rock musical which had its beginnings in Youngstown, has just opened and is now running at Byrdcliffe Barn, near Woodstock, N.Y.

"Quasimodo," based on the "Hunchback of Notre Dame" by Victor Hugo, made its world premiere at the theatre on Aug. 13. The Youngstown connection evolved when the two writers of the musical, Karen Sunde and Christopher Martin, and the two composers, Bob Jewett and Jack Maebly, spent three weeks at Youngstown State University in 1986 perfecting the musical score with YSU students and area performers.

Their workshop culminated in a world premiere concert reading by the local performers on March 14, 1986 at the St. Joseph Newman Center on Wick Avenue.

YSU's Dr. John White of Youngstown, professor of Sociology, Anthropology & Social Work, played the title role and the roles of Gringoire and Esmeralde were sung by YSU students David McVicker and Diedre Pates.

Local performers Mark Serman and Anne Finnerty-James appeared as Frollo and Sister Gudulle.

Dr. Dennis Henneman of Youngstown, coordinator of Theatre Studies at YSU, who organized the Quasimodo workshop as part of the Interface in Theatre program funded by the Youngstown Foundation, was invited to the premiere performances in Woodstock by the authors.

The production, conceived and directed by Christopher Martin, is slated for a limited run through Aug. 23. For ticket and reservation information, phone the theatre at (914) 679-2079.

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NEWS SERVICE - SH
87-31

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Al Bright of Youngstown, professor of Art at Youngstown State University, will have his work exhibited Aug. 16 in Federal Plaza, Downtown, Youngstown.

Bright's outdoor exhibit of paintings are a result of his faculty improvement leave from the university during 1986-87.

Featured in the exhibit will be large paintings produced in Texas and Florida during his leave.

The show is open to the public and will be held from 2-8 p.m. next to Power's Auditorium. In case of rain, the exhibit will be held at the artist's studio at 257½ Federal Plaza West.

Bright, a member of the YSU faculty since 1965, graduated from South High School, received his bachelor's degree in art from YSU and master's degree from Kent State University. He has been awarded two Distinguished Professorships by Youngstown State.

He has produced more than 50 one-man exhibitions across the country and his works are in a number of permanent collections. He served on the National Humanities Faculty, was chairman of the Ohio Visual Arts Council's Visual Arts Panel and served on the OAC Executive Board, was president of the Youngstown Area Arts Council, and serves on many other art/educational organizations.

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NEWS SERVICE - SH

87-30

FOR RELEASE:

1987 SUMMER COMMENCEMENT HONOR GRADUATES

In the attached list of area graduates who completed their degree requirements, three (3) stars indicate an academic achievement of *summa cum laude* (3.8 point average and above, out of a possible 4.0); two (2) stars, *magna cum laude* (3.6); and one (1) star, *cum laude* (3.4).

Those receiving associate degrees with high honors are indicated by HH and those with honors, by the letter H.

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NEWS SERVICE
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