

Paul Muni Calls Zola Role Easy

Actor Finds He Has
Much in Common With
French Novelist.

By JAMES THRASHER

As regards public and critical reception, there is a similarity between "The Life of Emile Zola," which comes to the Circle screen Friday, and "King Richard II," due at English's early in 1938.

There hasn't been a dissenting note in the chorus of praise that has greeted Maurice Evans' Shakespearean revival and Paul Muni's portrayal of the great French novelist.

Just what preparation fortified Mr. Evans' portrayal of the weak-willed monarch hasn't been publicized as yet. But word of Mr. Muni's rigid training for the Zola portrayal has preceded the picture's showing here.

Chooses Own Roles

In the first place, of course, Mr. Muni's artistic integrity is well known. He is one actor whose talent has brought the blessed recompense of being permitted to choose his own parts. So he brings to each performance a sympathy and enthusiasm.

The preparation for "Zola" began with several months of research by the star. From all available sources he gathered a list of Zola's mannerisms and characteristics. During this period he also grew a beard to add a realistic touch.

He practiced these mannerisms and tricks of gait and gesture until some who had known the picture's subject declared the star "looked more like Zola than Zola himself." He spoke his lines into a dictaphone, then played the recording back for further correction. By the time the picture went into production, Mr. Muni could be seen shuffling about in Zola's middle-aged outfit off the set as well as on.

Wanted to Be Successful

In addition, it seems reasonable to believe the report that the actor's characteristics parallel those of his subject in many instances. Zola, it is known, was a poor lad who determined some day to have fame and the comforts then denied him. Mr. Muni, in his boyhood dreams, seems to have been fired with an enthusiasm for material success along with his artistic ideals. At any rate, he followed his father's footsteps into the Yiddish theater despite the protests of the elder Weisenfreuds (that being Mr. Muni's name), who had hoped for their son a more secure financial existence.

Mr. Muni took the easy way to fame and fortune, not did he serve as interpreter. The Frenchman revolted against the stagnant, artificial literature of his day. He dared to write with unrelenting realism and expose many of the overlooked corruptions in social and political life. The actor, too, shunned the frothy entertainment of Broadway plays to cling to the artistic but unremunerative Yiddish theater until his chance came in "We Americans."

As a champion of human rights, Zola is famous. Mr. Muni's contribution in this line has not been so significant, yet almost all of his pictures have been in the nature of social documents of one sort or another, as well as capital entertainment.

Both Threatened to Retire

Then, too, there was the urge in both men for retirement. Zola's creative activity seemed almost at an end—certainly his crusading fire had faded out when the Dreyfus case brought him back into the thick of the fray. Mr. Muni periodically threatens to leave the screen for his home in Palos Verdes. But each year finds him again before the camera.

His present European vacation, which will take him to Russia for appearances with the Moscow Art Players, is his first prolonged absence from Hollywood in many seasons.

All these comparisons may be far-fetched, but they do seem to indicate that Mr. Muni is the man for the part he has recently taken.

"I had less trouble in assuming the character of Zola than any other person I have ever portrayed.

It was no effort for me to think as he did, to react to things as he did. I think we must have quite a bit in common."

Augment Jepson Recital Audience

Many music lovers from outside the city are to augment the local audience which is to hear Helen Jepson in the Martini Concerts, resuming at English's tonight.

Groups from Crawfordville, Kokomo and Marion are among the school, college and sorority representatives who have purchased season subscriptions. Other outside subscribers are from Bloomington, Rushville, Madison, Anderson, Muncie, Newcastle, Lebanon, Greencastle, Bedford and numerous other cities.

ENDS TONIGHT
Midwest Sports, Inc. presents
ROLLER DERBY
Re. U. S. Pat. Off. COLISEUM
General Admission 25c

LOEW'S
Now—25c to 6
WARNER BAXTER
JOAN BENNETT
LAWRENCE GROSSMITH, OWEN DAVIS JR.
AND A DISTINGUISHED CAST
"London by Night"
Friday! DOUBLE FUN WITH
W.M. POWELL MYRNA LOY
"DOUBLE WEDDING"

101 PRIZES AWAIT SILHOUETTE CONTEST WINNERS



No. 15



No. 16

Identify the star whose silhouette appears above. Then keep the accompanying photo as an aid to identification of another star whose silhouette will also appear. Keep all silhouettes and photos and send them to the Silhouette Contest Editor of The Indianapolis Times when you have the complete set of 28. After you have identified the star in the silhouette write in answers to the following questions:

Star's Film Name
Birth Place
Name one film this star was in.....

Name not more than three films in which this star will appear this coming season. (Note: Complete list of coming films and stars appeared in the special Hollywood Forecast Section of The Times Oct. 13. If the star's name did not appear in that section leave the space blank. If the star appears in only one or two films, specify them only. Any coming films not mentioned in the Hollywood Forecast Section will NOT be considered in the judging.)

IN NEW YORK—By GEORGE ROSS

Maxwell Anderson's Newest Play Draws Crowds
Despite Critics' Slams.

NEW YORK, Oct. 18.—The Stage: When "The Star Wagon" in a difficult spot.

ONE of the most touted offerings of the new stage semester has fallen by the wayside. The setup for Ben Hecht's "To Quito and Back" was plush and impressive. Mr. Hecht is one of our leading American fictioneers. The play was presented by the distinguished Theater Guild. Its leading lady was Sylvia Sidney, whose name is hallowed in Hollywood's ballyhoo. Its leading man, Leslie Banks, had been drafted all the way from England. The whispering campaign had run for months that "To Quito and Back" was a play of exceptional merit.

When the play was first presented in New York, it was received with such vicious contempt by the reviewers that they might as well have expressed their opinions with machine guns instead of typewriters. They were equally contemptuous of the play—which, by the way, is not only as dull as dishwater, but as hard to swallow—and of the players, singling out Miss Sidney for their direct hits.

MRS. GOLDEN, however, did nothing of the kind. He moved Paul McGrath, who had another part in the show into the vacant role and by chartered plane he flew Morgan Farley from Broadway to the Capital as Mr. McGrath's successor. A week and a half later, he brought "Susan and God" to the Rialto, where it was revealed as a study of a woman who finds her own way back from a crackpot cult to common sense and her husband and daughter.

There were such critical bravos for Miss Lawrence as few actresses have been accorded in recent seasons and Mr. McGrath earned praise, not as a competent substi-

KEITH'S
ON THE STAGE
BILLIE VALLIE
SONNY BOY
6 ACTS, 60 VODVIL
ON SCREEN
CHAN CHARLIE or Broadway
Friday HEIDI
HEIDI

OHIO
Bob Burns
Martha Raye
Gloria Stuart
"Mountain Music"
"Love Takes Flight"

3 DAYS BEG. THURS., OCT. 21
MATINEE SATURDAY

ALFRED de LAGRE, Jr., presents

Yes, My Darling Daughter
Mark Reed's Comedy Hit
WITH FLORENCE REED
LAWRENCE GROSSMITH, OWEN DAVIS JR.
AND A DISTINGUISHED CAST
"A daughter tells her mother the facts of life. A charming comedy from all angles. Highly recommended." — The New Yorker Magazine

9 MONTHS ON BROADWAY
Eves.—Orch., \$2.75, \$2.20; Balc., \$2.20, \$1.65;
Gal., \$5c. Sat.—Orch., \$2.20, \$1.65; Balc., \$1.65, \$1.10;
Gal., \$5c. Incl. tax. SEATS NOW ON SALE!

RULES--

1. Identify the silhouette (not the photo) which appears daily. 2. Keep all photos and silhouettes and send them together with answers to the Silhouette Contest Editor of The Indianapolis Times, Scrivens-Howard Newsprinters, 10th and Market Streets, Indianapolis, or to your branch or local theater are barred from participating. 3. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

4. Answers to the question concerning coming season are to be based on the star's name as it appears in the list of the Hollywood Forecast Section of The Times.

5. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

6. Answers to the question concerning coming season are to be based on the star's name as it appears in the list of the Hollywood Forecast Section of The Times.

7. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

8. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

9. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

10. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

11. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

12. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

13. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

14. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

15. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

16. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

17. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

18. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

19. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

20. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

21. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

22. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

23. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

24. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

25. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

26. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

27. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

28. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

29. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

30. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

31. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

32. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

33. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

34. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

35. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

36. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

37. Judging will be based on:

A. Correctness of identification. B. Originality and completeness of answers to questions on coupon. C. Most meritorious 100-word essays, in opinion of local judges.

</div