

THEATRE TALK



DECLAN HASSETT



Michael Twomey, "Billa" and Paddy Comerford who appear in *Summer Revels '90* at the Cork Opera House.

'Revels' time again at the Opera House

SUMMER Revels '90 re-opens the Opera House on Monday, August 27 next with another nice mix of comedy and music that has proved so popular over the past 20 years. All the old favourites - Billa, Cha and Miah, Paddy Comerford and Dick Healy will once again take to the stage. Two new lady traffic wardens (Billa and Paddy) cope with the vicissitudes of the job in their own unorthodox way.

There's 'an hilarious' sketch in the men's ward of a hospital, Cha and Miah discourse on matters of national and international import, there's a heat of the 'Tulip Of Cork' beauty competition to rival the Rose Of Tralee and Billa reminisces on dancing in the old days. Paddy relates all his experiences at the World Cup - all with uproarious results.

The Montforts, choreographed by Mary Weston, as usual, form the backbone of the musical aspect of the show while Christy Morris (who also adds to the fun of the sketches), Hugh Moynihan and Deirdre White sing some favourite songs old and new. The McTeggart Dancers come up with some unusual Irish dance routines. The colourful sets are designed by Patrick Murray, and Sheila Healy is responsible for the very attractive costuming.

The show is devised and directed by Michael Twomey, and the Musical Director is Ronnie O' Shaughnessy. Seats are at popular prices with special family concessions on certain nights. Billa's new tape, proceeds to the Society of St.

Vincent De Paul, will be available at the theatre also. The box office will be open on Monday next.

●The final performance of Island Theatre Company's production of Brian Friel's famous classic *Translations* will be staged at the Belltable, Limerick tonight at 8.30 p.m. A powerful and moving drama, it is set in Donegal in 1833 and centres on a master and pupils of a hedge school who are trying to come to terms with the arrival of a team of British Army map-makers.

Also at the Belltable, Monica Spenser has been receiving particularly high praise for her portrayal of Madame Jambart in the hilariously funny *All My Husbands*, which begins its final week's run on Tuesday next.

●Also in Limerick the second of the Belltable Film Club's four-part series of films from a golden era of movie-making, the 30s and 40s, continues on Monday next. You can see the likes of Greta Garbo, Orson Welles, Frederick March and Randolph Scott at the Belltable Arts centre.

The season continues on Monday next with the

excellent Western double bill *Coroner Creek* featuring Randolph Scott as the man out to seek revenge for the death of his fiancée and *Park Avenue Logger*, which is set amongst a community of lumberjacks with a cast that includes George O'Brien and Ward Bond. Then next week there's *Anna Karenina* and the double bill *Detour* and *The Glass Alibi*. All screenings are at 8.30 p.m.

●It's nice to see that Cork girl Bernie O'Donoghue, who migrated to the West of Ireland to work as a professional actress with Galway's newest addition to the theatre world, Punchbag, is doing so well.

Bernie is now part and parcel of the new era in Galway theatre, acting in two recent productions. Punchbag's conception as a full-time company came about a few months ago when its present directors, David Quinn and Sean Evers met, discussed and constructively added to the foundations that were laid by Quinn last year.

Bernie will finish up tonight in *Philadelphia Here I Come*, which was run in conjunction with the Galway Arts Festival.