

# Need some culture?

## Opas is an alternative to Houston, Austin

Halfway between the cultured towns of Houston and Austin, College Station without the draw of Texas A&M might never get the off-Broadway shows it has seen in the 30 years that MSC Opas has brought the performing arts to A&M.

But being on a University campus is more than just academics and football, even at tradition-led A&M. MTV brings its campus concert tours, Franklin Graham brings his show-stopping preaching and Christian music, and MSC Opas brings us entertainment we would only see in big-city theaters. What's best of all is that you can still wear jeans without being frowned upon.

Students also receive a discount on tickets that black-tied administration and alumni pay full price for. The prices depend on where you want to sit in Rudder Auditorium and how much you are willing to pay.

Sandy, Danny, Rizzo and the Pink Ladies sing loud, rock-n-roll tunes during their last year at Rydell High.

Michael Flatley's *Lord of the Dance* takes the stage March 18 and 19. Michael Flatley is listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as possessing the world's fastest feet. Costumes, vibrant music, more than 21 sets and 40 dancers make this show much more than a dance recital.

On April 3, the Moscow Soloists with violist Yuri Bashmet, all performers under the age of 30, will play a program highlighted by Bach and Tchaikovsky. The graduates of the Moscow Conservatory will begin their world tour at A&M and then head to Carnegie Hall in New York.

*The Music Man* closes out Opas'



RUBEN DELUNA • THE BATTALION

Student prices for individual shows on the mainstage this season range from \$15 to \$45. All shows begin at 7:30 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium unless otherwise indicated.

The mainstage opens with the comedy *Greater Tuna*, about Tuna, Texas, the state's third-smallest town, showing Sept. 5-7.

The opera *La Boheme*, performed by the Stanislavsky Opera Company, is the basis of the popular musical *Rent*. *La Boheme*, a tale of bohemian artists trying to pay the rent on their tiny Paris attic apartment, runs Oct. 1-2.

*Rent*, the 1996 Tony award winner for Best Musical, plays Oct. 29-30. On a variation of the themes of *La Boheme*, *Rent* follows the lives of a community of young artists struggling for recognition in the modern world.

*Sing Along Santa* comes to Rudder Dec. 14 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. The show is a family sing-a-long with all the Christmas favorites.

The spring semester opens with the World War-II tale composed by Rodgers and Hammerstein, *South Pacific*, playing Jan. 24-25. *South Pacific* is another Tony award and Pulitzer Prize winner, a love story on a remote island in the 1940s.

The Girls Choir of Harlem will take their first world tour this spring, stopping at A&M for a show Feb. 7 to prove their voices equal their signing brothers, the Boys Choir of Harlem.

*Grease*, the fifth-longest running musical in Broadway history, hits A&M Feb. 11 and 12.

30th season on April 22-23. "We've got trouble, right here in River City," music man and con artist Harold Hill contends in this musical, set on convincing the town of River City, Iowa, that they need a marching band to keep their children out of trouble.

Grammy-award winning Tom Chapin & Friends opens Opas' season of Intimate Gatherings on Oct. 10 at 7:30 p.m. in Rudder Theatre. The artist's trio will share family folk sounds and southern bluegrass akin to the music heard in *O Brother! Where Art Thou?*

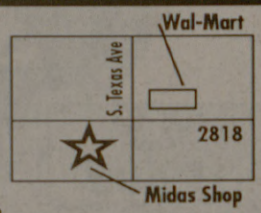
Claire Bloom in *Shakespeare's Women* brings experienced Shakespearean actor Bloom and her one-woman show to Rudder Theatre Nov. 14. Bloom first performed onstage at Stratford-Upon-Avon at age 17 as Hamlet's Ophelia.

The Debussy Quartet with James Dick, pianist opens on the small stage at Rudder Theatre on Feb. 13. The quartet will perform Dvork's Piano Quintet in A Major and Mozart's Quartet #16 in E flat major.

Tickets can be ordered online for each show or order a season subscription to multiple shows at [opas.tamu.edu](http://opas.tamu.edu), or visit the TicketMaster outlet on the ground floor of Rudder from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. More information on mainstage shows, as well as Intimate Gatherings and Opas, Jr., programs geared for the entire family, can be found on the MSC Opas web site at [opas.tamu.edu](http://opas.tamu.edu).

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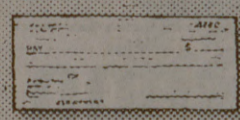
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# Welcome back AGS!

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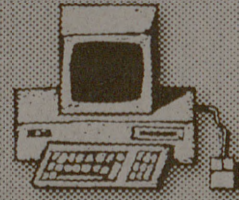
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## The Rose Amphitheatre

Saturday - Sept. 7th, 7:00pm

Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$18 at the gate. On sale at [www.CraterCraze.com](http://www.CraterCraze.com)  
Cooler's welcome \$5 charge for small \$10 charge for large.

**ABSOLUTELY NO GLASS CONTAINERS.**

Directions: From Henderson take 259 south approximately 12 miles to FM 1798. Turn right and go 1.2 miles to double gate on left side of the road. From Nacogdoches, take 259 north and go 6 miles north of Mt. Enterprise to FM 1798 and turn left.

Grand Opening - The Rose Steak House

"Great Steaks and Ribs"  
Dine in the restaurant or on the deck overlooking the venue.

Starkey & Johnson  
3pm to 6pm on the back deck

