

Reviewers for *The Kansas City Star* think the following recent releases have particular merit. For show times, consult individual theater listings.

**Truth or Dare:** Controversial backstage documentary of Madonna's recent tour may not reveal the star's true personality (it may no longer exist) but it's an effective study of the alienating nature of fame. (Audience rating: R)

**La Femme Nikita:** French director Luc Besson delivers a thriller about a young junkie (Anne Parillaud) who is trained as an unquestioning assassin by a shadowy government agency. Then she falls in love and develops a conscience. Stylish, exciting and very well acted. (Audience rating: R)

**Defending Your Life:** Albert Brooks wrote, directed and stars in this whimsical comedy about a yuppie who dies and finds that heaven is a huge, indifferent bureaucracy where he must go on trial to justify his earthly existence. With Meryl Streep, Rip Torn. (Audience rating: PG)

**The Long Walk Home:** Director Richard Pearce's deeply moving look at the 1955 Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott, with great performances from Whoopi Goldberg and Sissy Spacek. (Audience rating: PG-13)

**New Jack City:** Mario Van Peebles makes a spectacular feature directing debut with this gritty story of the rise and fall of a black crack king (Wesley Snipes) and a renegade cop (rapper Ice T) who brings him down. (Audience rating: R)

**Silence of the Lambs:** Jonathan Demme directs Jodie Foster and Scott Glenn in the story of an FBI agent who, in an effort to understand the mind of a serial killer, studies an imprisoned psychopath (Anthony Hopkins). (Audience rating: R)

**Mr. and Mrs. Bridge:** Director James Ivory's dissection of a bourgeois Kansas City marriage during the Depression has a few local landmarks, several first-rate performances (Paul Newman and the Oscar-nominated Joanne Woodward are remarkable) and a bittersweet quality that lingers for days afterwards. (Audience rating: PG-13)

**Dances With Wolves:** Kevin Costner stars in and directs this western (winner of seven Oscars, including Best Picture and Best Director) about a Civil War soldier who is adopted by a tribe of Sioux Indians. (Audience rating: PG-13)

## Special screenings

**Spartacus:** The epic 1961 Kirk Douglas/Stanley Kubrick production about a slave revolt in ancient Rome has been restored with additional footage

young woman who finds herself communing with an imaginary childhood friend (Rik Mayall). (Audience rating: PG-13)

**Hudson Hawk:** Bruce Willis plays a cat burglar forced to steal art masterpieces. With Danny Aiello and Andie MacDowell. (Audience rating: R)

**Theima & Louise:** Susan Sarandon and Geena Davis play good ol' gals on a roadtrip through the Southwest in Ridley Scott's latest. (Audience rating: R)

**Truly Madly Deeply:** A mourning woman (Juliet Stevenson) is surprised to find her apartment occupied by her late lover (Alan Rickman) and some of his friends from the Other Side in Anthony Minghella's British comedy. (No MPAA rating)

**Wild Hearts Can't Be Broken:** Walt Disney offers the true story of Sonora Webster, who continued her career as an Atlantic City stunt rider despite blindness. (Audience rating: G)

## THEATER

### Equity Theater

**The Boys Next Door:** Missouri Repertory Theatre, 2 p.m. today, Helen F. Spencer Theatre, 50th and Cherry streets. (235-2700)

**Plaza Suite:** American Heartland Theatre, 2 p.m. today, 8 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday-Saturday, 1 and 8 p.m. Wednesday, American Heartland Theatre, Crown Center. (842-9999)

**Mother Hicks:** 2 and 4 p.m. today, Theatre for Young America, Overland Theatre, 7204 W. 80th St., Overland Park. (648-4600)

**Smoke on the Mountain:** dinner theater, noon and 6 p.m. today, 6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, Tiffany's Attic, 5028 Main St. (561-7921)

**Shear Madness:** 2 p.m. today, 8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, Stage Two, Weston Crown Center hotel lobby. (842-9999)

### Non-Equity theater

**To Kill a Mockingbird:** Community Players, 3 p.m. today, Community Christian Church, 4601 Main St. (561-6531)

**The Changing of an Uncle Tom:** We Must X-L Inc., 7:30 p.m. today, Folly Theater, 300 W. 12th St. (474-4444)

**Gumshoe and Army Antics:** Martin City Melodrama & Vaudeville Co., 7:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 13440 Holmes Road. (942-7576)

**Working:** Bell Road Barn Players, 8 p.m. today, Saturday and Thursday, David Theatre, 4200 W. Riverside St., Riverside. (587-0218)

**Great Catherine and Overruled:** Gypsy Theatre, 8 p.m. today and Monday, 8th

**Kansas City Chamber Soloists:** pre-concert talk at 2:30 p.m., concert at 3 p.m. today, Unity on the Plaza, 707 W. 47th St. (235-2700)

**Avila College Symphony:** 3 p.m. today, Goppert Theatre, Avila College, 11901 Wornall Road. (942-8400)

**St. Patrick Parish Choir, Cantors and Instrumentalists:** 4 p.m. today, St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 1357 N.E. 42nd Terrace, Kansas City, North. (453-5510)

**Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral Choir:** 5 p.m. today, Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 13th Street and Broadway. (474-8260)

**The Chorus of the Paseo Academy of Fine and Performing Arts:** 6:30 p.m. today, Saint Mary's Episcopal Church, 1307 Holmes St. (842-0975)

**Gloria Hsu, piano:** 7:30 p.m. today, UMKC's White Recital Hall, 50th and Cherry streets. (235-2700)

**Randel L. Wolfe, organ:** 8 p.m. Monday, St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, 6630 Nall Ave., Mission. (648-4719)

**Kansas City Camerata British Heritage Celebration:** 7:30 p.m. Friday, Unity on the Plaza, 707 W. 47th St. (531-6121/235-2700)

**The Westport Ensemble:** 8 p.m. Friday, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 6401 Wornall Terrace. (523-1602)

## DANCE

**State Ballet of Missouri:** "Concerto in F," "Souvenirs" and "Dance Concertant"; 2 and 7 p.m. today, Music Hall, 13th and Central streets. (931-2232)

**1991 Midwest Morris Ale:** traditional English folk dances, music and street theater, 1:30 p.m. Saturday, North lawn, Nelson Gallery, 4525 Oak St. (751-1278)

## POP, ROCK, JAZZ ETC.

**Linda Durrell with the JCCC Jazz Orchestra:** 1:30 p.m. today, Cultural Education Center, Johnson County Community College, 12345 College Blvd. (469-8500, Ext. 3945)

**Stan Kessler & Pyramid:** jazz, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Barney Allis Plaza, 12th and Wyandotte streets. Free.

**Black Crowes with Jellyfish:** rock, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Memorial Hall, Kansas City, Kan. (931-3330)

## Museums

**Treasures of the Jewish Kashmiri Shawls:** Nate I today, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tu Saturday; Sunday tour, I Gallery, 4525 Oak St. (751-1278)

**Art With A Mission: Object and Crafts Movement:** n Sunday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Spencer Museum of Art, University of Kansas, Lawrence. (864-4710)

**Artists of Strawberry Hill:** today and Saturday, Strawberry Hill Museum and Cultural Center, Fourth St., Kansas City, Mo. (235-2700)

## Galleries

**Southwestern Images: Paintings by 13 Artists:** 10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, Artacy Gallery, 5911 Main St. (523-1602)

**Paintings & Illustrations by Kavanagh:** 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Wednesday and Friday, 8 Tuesday and Thursday, C Gallery, McAfee Memorial College, Parkville. (741-2000)

**Serigraphs by Henri Pliss:** Paper by Nancy DeLapp; and Bronze Sculpture by son; Ceramics by Rob Williams. 5 p.m. Monday-Friday, 1644 Wyandotte St. (471-1644)

**Paintings, Gouaches, D Scott Braley:** by appointment (523-4403), Dorry Gates Co. (881-2200)

**The Alchemic Emporium:** Monday-Friday, Fine Arts Center, 925 G. (881-2200)

**Oils, Acrylics, and Watercolor by Tooby Burton:** 1-5 p.m. today, 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 130 S. Main (741-7270)

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**Silent Prayer (Shmoneh graphs by Peter Freude Friday):** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. today, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. M Thursday, 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Community Center Gallery, 115th St., Overland Park. (383-9559)

**Chihuly, Scanga and St Glass:** 1-5 p.m. today, 1 Monday, Thursday and a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday at Gallery of Art, Johnson City College, 12345 College, Overland Park. (469-3100)

**In Residence: Eight Artists:** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. today, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, 130 S. Main (741-7270)