

50 Austin American-Statesman Sunday, December 12, 1982

Benefit party today

Artists' friends plan to gather support

Friends of Austin artist Millie Hanson, who is suffering from a rare form of cancer, are staging a benefit Christmas party and fundraiser today at the California Hotel, 407 E. Seventh St., 7-10 p.m. Admission by donation.

Proceeds from the event will go toward covering the cost of sending Hanson to New York for spe-

cial treatment. The organizers also intend to demonstrate their support for Hanson's struggle with her illness.

The party will feature food, drink, live music and a raffle, with prizes ranging from a Fat Chocolate Cake to a Coplorado weekend.

It's a puzzlement to Brynner

Knight-Ridder News Service

After all this time, it still strikes Yul Brynner as "amazing, absolutely amazing" that fans and colleagues insist on defining him as a stern first cousin to all those glaring autocrats he's played on stage and screen.

The rumored stories of Brynner the Tyrant, Brynner the Temperamental Star, Brynner the Hotheaded Perfectionist who won't tolerate human frailty, continue to spread, he acknowledges. But why? Brynner has always viewed Brynner as a nice guy, a sentimental pushover.

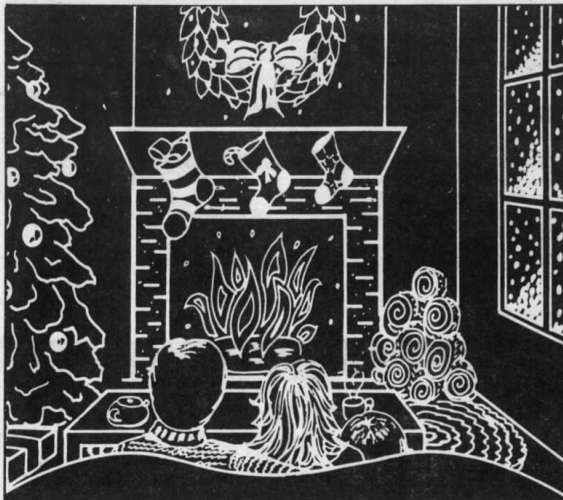
"I'm always in a good mood," the one and only King in "The King and I" says. "But for some reason people have that image of me. They hear how severe I am, how demanding I am. And then they meet me, and they're always surprised by how pleasant I am."

Certainly the Brynner now pitching his second

national tour of the 1951 Rodgers and Hammerstein hit seems a reasonable enough fellow. Actually, he's much more than reasonable; he's downright amiable, and only too happy to answer every query, no matter how probing or personal.

In a lot of ways, you sense that Brynner, at 62 (some calculate 67), is now working to set the record straight on a career that began as a Parisian trapeze artist and led to silver-screen leads in "The Ten Commandments," "The Magnificent Seven" and the "abominably abbreviated" 1956 adaptation of "The King and I," which brought him an Oscar.

For starters, Brynner insists the public and media have misinterpreted his pursuit of excellence. He has been unfairly cast as an unfeeling ogre when, in fact, his ongoing campaign against "shoddiness and mediocrity" has been waged for the public good, he maintains.



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