

PlayMakers Repertory Company will present a new series of folk concerts in Paul Green Theatre on nights when the theatre is not being used. The series of Dark Night concerts, which will feature nationally known and local musicians, begins tonight.

Townes Van Zandt, a Texas singer and songwriter, will start off the series. Van Zandt, described as "the father of Texas folk" and "the most influential songwriter to come out of Texas," has produced eight albums. He also wrote *Pancho and Lefty*, a hit single for Merle Haggard and Willie Nelson.

Opening for Van Zandt will be Raleigh musicians Steve Runkle and friends. Runkle has written songs for the Oak Ridge Boys such as *Love Song*,