The Shubert's Cats fares well against the definitive British version

One of the most consistent crowd-pleasers is The Rum Tum Tugger, who grows to resemble the rockstar of the moment more and more each year — or is it the other way around? Douglas Graham turned in a fine performance, and earned to the audience enough to elicit the applause with a simple, endearing gesture.

Yma Sumac: still a cult heroine

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Yrna Sumac is the oldest, and long the first few nights," I pinned it down to. "I'm not a supernetworker, she acknowledged ap- with a simple, reducing gesture. She also navigated her singing to keep her voice levels throughout the most complex pas- sages of the show. The sound man was not afraid to push that night!

I was a little disappointed by the lack of quirk, upbeat tunes that made her fam- ous, and her closing number, "Machito No. 1," indicated why. For whatever combina- tion of reasons, she is great difficulty keeping up with the frankly intricate vocal acrobatics required for the song. She apologized that it wasn't her best, but wanted to give it to us anyway.

After the show, the weirdest part of the evening occurred, Yma came out and signed autographs. I had noticed that I wasn't among the youngest in the audience, but when many fans started producing mint first pressings; of "Xtabay and Mampo, I was a little surprised. When a woman older than I told Yma that her daughter introduced her to the music, and when people started producing pro- grams to be signed "To my great- daughter" and they started recollect- ing seeing her in "Vegas 1952" and telling me about her, and people told me, "I'm a little amazed. When a 10-year absence, she still has a loyal following.

Three Yma Sumac records remain in print: Voice of the Xtabay, Mannie, and Legend. During the summer, Yma joined Joel Paley, James Taylor, and Ringo Starr in recording an album of Walt Disney songs on A&M Records.

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