LINCOLN
CENTER,
GREENWICH
VILLAGE-STYLE

Lillian Hellman is reported to have said that Lincoln Center looks like it was ordered over the phone from Mussolini. That multi-million dollar extravaganza is, however, much more than an aesthetic failure. Would-be patrons have long lamented the difficulty in obtaining tickets, the high prices, and the annoying lack of coordination among the various theatres.

Owner-entrepreneur Seymour Kaback has taken over what used to be the largest kosher catering establishment on the lower east side, and transformed a rat-infested, leaky garbage dump into a theatrical oasis devoted to making life easy for beleaguered Fun City residents. Besides the six theatres, the Mercer Arts Center boasts the acting studios and workshops of Viveca Lindfors and Gene Frankel, which each occupy handsome, second floor quarters; a boutique called "The Zoo," featuring handcrafted leather clothes and other merchandise; a snazzy bar named "Obie Alley," and a unique, ultramodern nightclub type locale, the "Blue Room Cabaret."

Clockwork Orange Decor

This last room is unique not just for its "Clockwork Orange" decor, but also because it features house, no-minimum entertainment all week long except Mondays. On a recent evening at the Cabaret, I caught the current incumbents, Morey & Paul. These two handsome and talented young songwriters perform their own, original material. They are at the kind...