

# Production Of 'Waiting For Godot' Is Excellent, Thought-provoking

A REVIEW BY RICHARD ALSOP

The Fine Arts Department on this campus staged Samuel Beckett's dramatic play "Waiting For Godot" last Thursday through Saturday evenings. The play, based on a kind of abstraction, depicts two men, Estragon (John Hostetter) and Vladimir (Paul Atwell), in what is termed by most commentators as a parable.

Estragon and Vladimir, (affectionately known to each other as Gogo and Didi), who clearly represent men in general, are made abstract in the most cruel and literal sense. They have been pulled away from the world and now must find some way to make life more meaningful. This in turn makes the parable one in which life has no point.

The tree, the only visible scenery, becomes the symbol of the world as a prominent instrument for suicide, or as life as the non-committing of suicide. All in all, the two heroes are not barely alive but no longer living in the world. Richard Gantt did an excellent job with the

important set decoration.

The superb acting of the cast was so outstanding that the attentive listener never feels he is watching events as they happen but living them instead.

The casual attitude Estragon and Vladimir possess in believing "We are waiting, therefore there must be something we are waiting for" is personified in their inability to recognize the senselessness of their position.

After being told several times that their "saviour" Godot would not be there but would most certainly come later, it becomes apparent that Godot will never

come--and that perhaps, Godot never exists. His name is only the symbol for the fact that a life that goes on pointlessly misinterprets itself as waiting for something.

The play suffers from a lack of cohesion mainly because lack of cohesion is the subject matter. That the events and fragments of conversation which constitute the play arise without motivation, or simply repeat themselves, needs to be denied; for the lack of motivation is motivated by the subject matter.

It is quite understandable that



Roger Grosswald, as Lucky, turned in an awe-provoking performance -- the highlight of the play was a three page oration he delivered with frightening exactness and a driving beat. (Photo By Fred Jordan)



Didi and Gogo inspect newcomer Lucky whom they find strange--and an excellent way of passing the time while waiting. (Photo By Fred Jordan)



Didi and Gogo show expressions of despair while they sit and wait for Godot. (Photo By Fred Jordan)

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