

Pilobolus troupe-a malleable myth

by Libby Lewis
Staff Writer

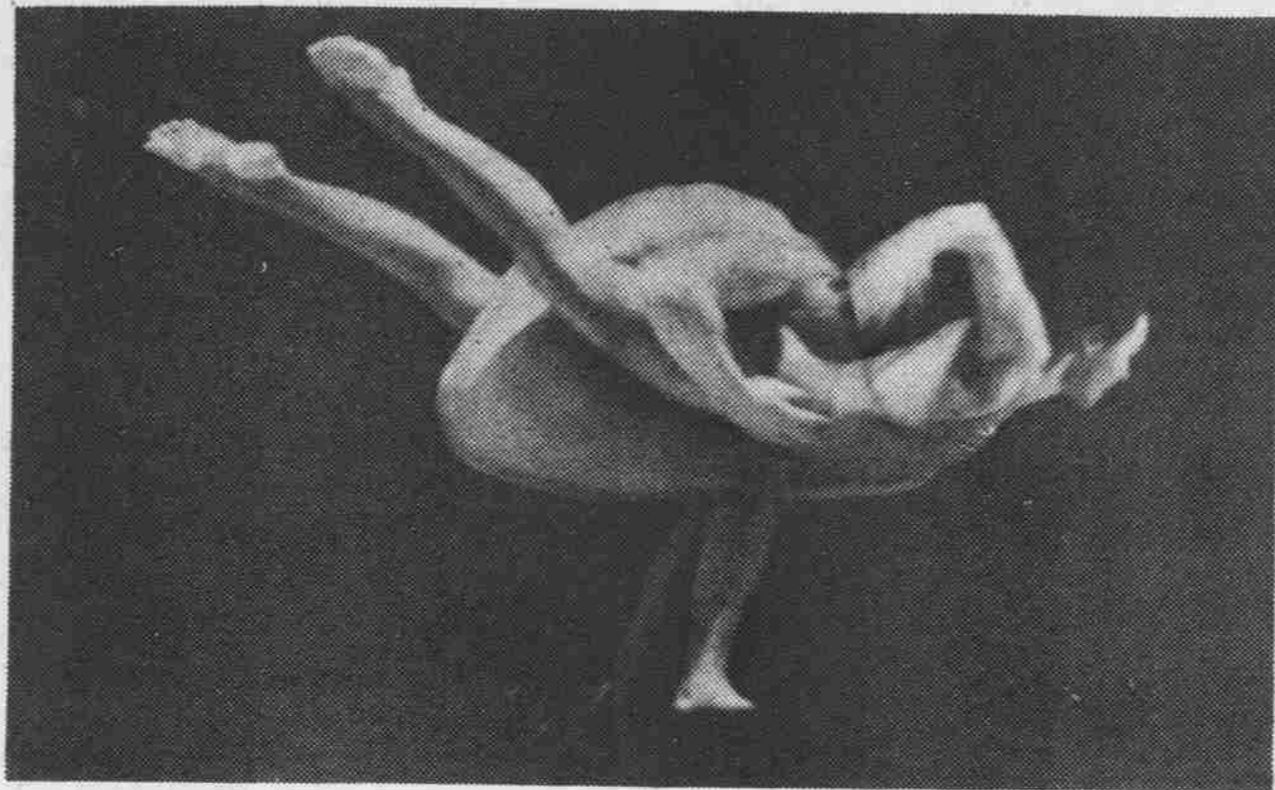
Human bodies are malleable things. So, for that matter, are human beings. One can twist and hurt them badly, seize them for their attention, follow them and prove devotion; or, one may hit upon a shared something (be it through language, movement or intuition); then it becomes communication.

The Pilobolus Dance Theatre is entrenched in that shared movement. Not that all dance isn't—but the repertoire of this group admits force as being the nucleus of its art—whereas in most dance, the force stems from the choreographer's personal view and is translated through the dancers' bodies.

PDT's communication is based on sensitivity—without the connotations of "dance therapy." It is practically without "technique" in the strict dance sense of the word, but it is a group which knows each body in it so well, that it can very nearly intuit a member's movement. And here is its strength—it uses that knowledge to transfer an intensity, almost Lawrencian in its nakedness, to the audience.

In "Alraune," there is the hurt, dependency and ecstasy of a relationship in Alison Chase and Moses Pendleton's dancing; but this is not two lovers sublimating their emotions. They are the hurt, dependency and the ecstasy, and there is a powerful difference.

In "Oscellus," the soft lighting and minimum of costuming magnifies the dancers' bodies; one sees each tendon



Pilobolus Dance Theatre

Staff photo by Bruce Clarke

and muscle at work. Suddenly, the stage is covered with the patterns. This is the symmetry, the triggered rhythm of movement that the group is well-known for.

"It was like watching a cell divide and fuse, over and over again," said one viewer.

"The Eve of Samhain" (pronounced Sa-own) discards or envelops the scientific for the mythological, in a baffling energy. One looks for a myth in the dance, an eerie blend of spirits, bells and strange, seemingly disconnected interactions. "The Eve of Samhain" is the Celtic version of Halloween, which explains the weird antics, Scotch-Irish

music, and an attempted slip-jig. But the myth of the piece lies not in Celtic origins—"it's an extended myth," says company member Alison Chase. "A myth about us," adds Michael Tracy, another company member.

Although "The Eve of Samhain" is almost mesmerizing to watch, it is an actual frustration to see. The piece is only a week or so old ("still in the womb," says Chase), and it has many transitions to go through. One would imagine, in six months' time, the piece will be much shorter and more revealing. Tuesday night's audience saw a "raw" version of the myth of the Pilobolus Dance Theatre.

That's Entertainment

Pegasus Theatre Troupe—Members of this modern band of strolling players have been performing mime in the Carolina Union and magic in classrooms all week. At noon today in the Great Hall, they will put it all together in a Medicine Show. Admission is by donation.

Reader's Theatre—For their 1977 premier UNC Readers will present *The Catbird Seat* by James Thurber and *My Side of the Matter* by Truman Capote at 8 p.m. today in rooms 213-215 of the Carolina Union. Admission is free.

Deep Jonah—In the basement of the Carolina Union, Barry Gabel will play original songs about life in New York and his travels across the U.S. Gabel's style is based on the music of Jackson Browne. David

Crosby and Willis Alan Ramsay. At 8:30 tonight. Admission is \$1.

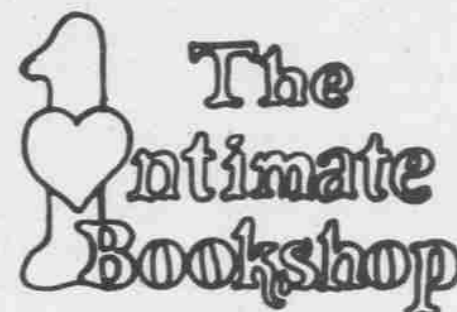
Lab Theatre—The season opener for Lab Theatre is *Picnic* by William Inge. At 8 tonight in the Graham Memorial Lounge Theatre. Tickets are free and can be picked up in Graham Memorial.

A Star is Born—The last film in the Judy Garland Film Festival will be shown at 8 tonight in Carroll Hall. Tickets are 50 cents and can be purchased at the Union Desk.

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Carolina Union Activities

Barry Gabel and Friends

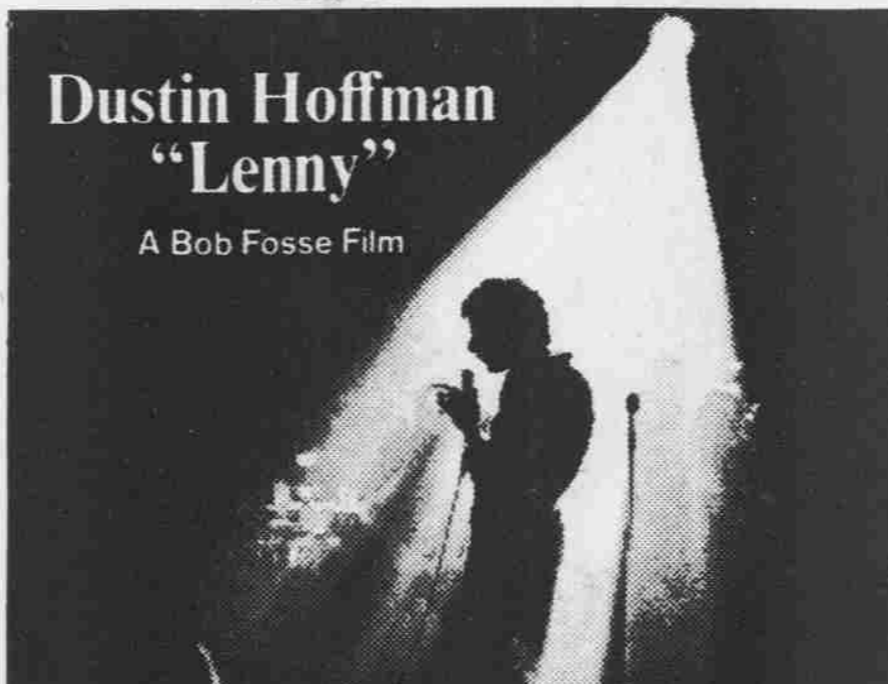
Original songs from travels through New York, Mexico and Canada

8:30 p.m. in Deep Jonah Brown bag - beer & wine \$1.00

The Union Film Committee Presents SUPER FRIDAY

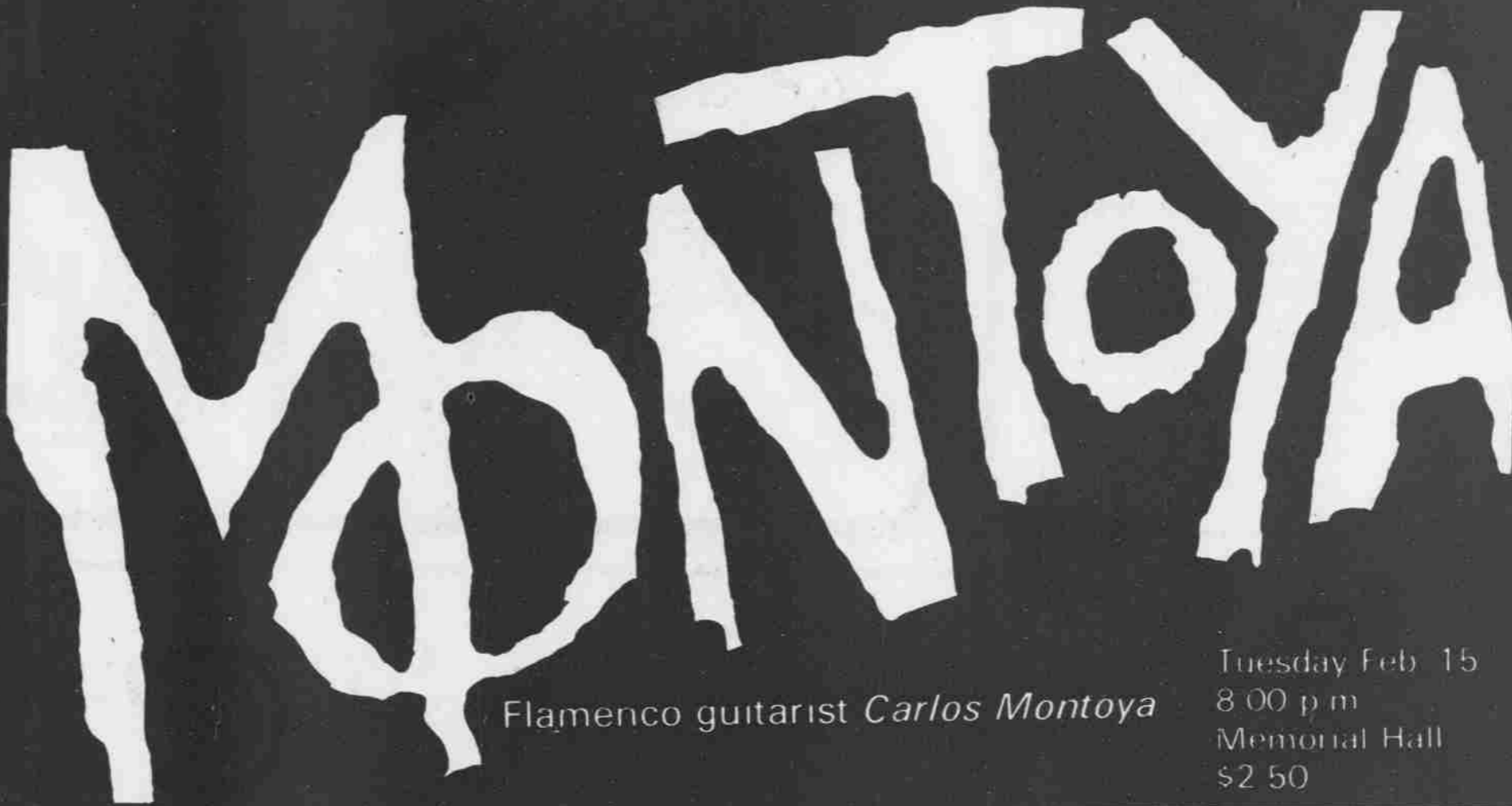
Dustin Hoffman "Lenny"

A Bob Fosse Film



A Marvin Worth Production co-starring Valerie Perrine
Executive Producer David V. Picker Screenplay by Julian Barry Marvin Worth Bob Fosse
Directed by Bob Fosse United Artists

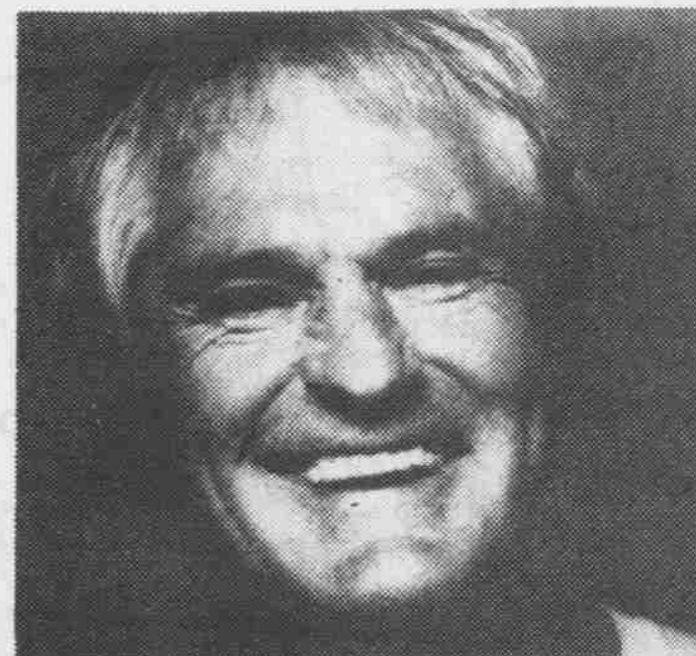
Fri. Feb. 11 7 & 9:30 in Carroll Hall. Tickets: \$1.00 on sale Wed.-Fri. at Union Desk only. NO MONEY WILL BE TAKEN AT THE DOOR.



Flamenco guitarist Carlos Montoya

Tuesday Feb. 15 8:00 p.m. Memorial Hall \$2.50

The Carolina Forum presents



Timothy Leary

... we can learn to use our brains in an efficient, ecstatic, intelligent manner. I use my nervous system for fun and profit. If others use their neurons for suffering and misery, it's simply because they've never learned to drill and focus. ... in my line of work, which is self-induced brain change, every minute and every human encounter are tremendously exciting adventures. I simply don't have time to suffer. ... I have never been concerned with gossip, public image or winning the approval of professional moralists. American morale and intelligence are so low at this time that anyone who is universally popular must be doing something dumb.

Monday, Feb. 14 8:00 p.m. Memorial Hall Tickets \$1.00 at Union Desk.

Happy the Man: Catch 'Em Now, Tomorrow They'll Be Stars

The Carolina Union is hoping to develop Chapel Hill as a place for musicians looking for fame. A new concept will be tried in the first of, hopefully, a series of shows. Admission to the hall is free, and after the show, the crowd will be asked to donate however much money they felt the show was worth.

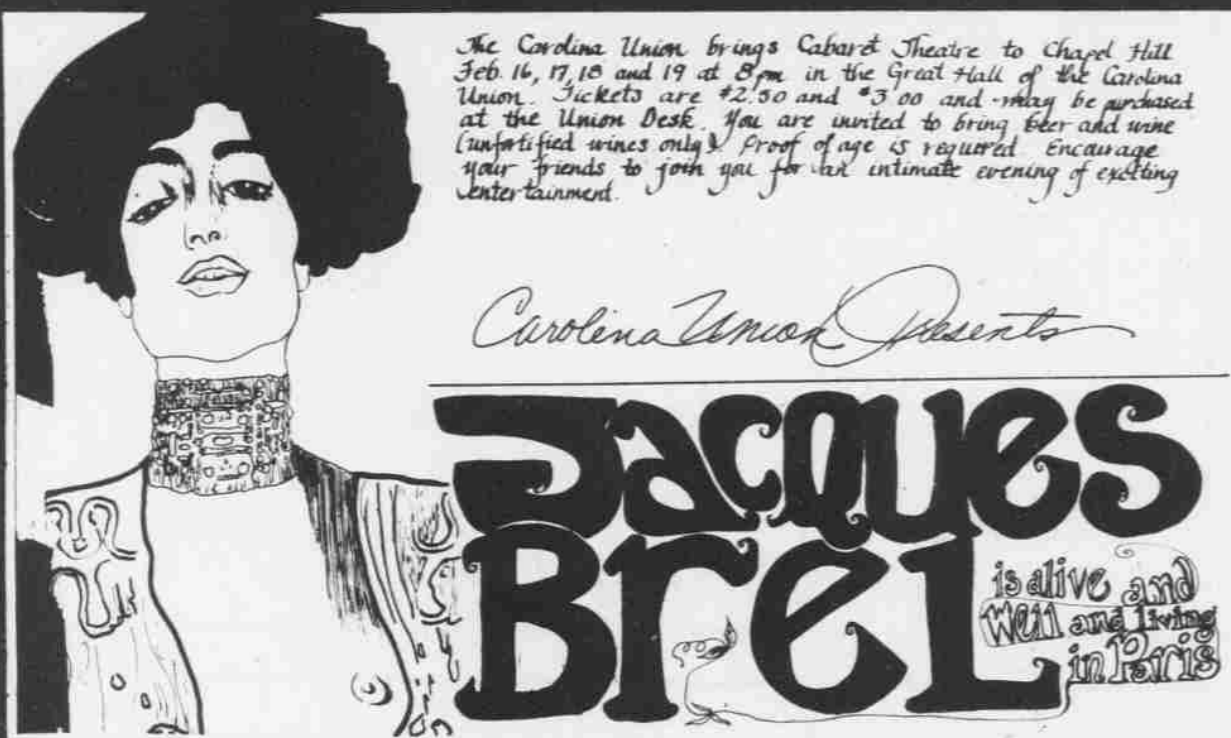
Happy the Man's music can best be described as progressive, taking influences from the classical, rock, jazz, and acoustic styles, with mostly English roots. A light show accompanies Happy the Man to reconstruct each song visually.

There's a great feeling involved when one sees or hears a group before they become famous. There will be a bunch of people around D.C. who will have that feeling after Happy the Man goes big. Your chance is here - what do you have to lose?

Appearing On Campus:

Friday Feb. 11 8:00 p.m. Memorial Hall

Pay-what-you-like-as-you-leave!



The Carolina Union brings Cabaret Theatre to Chapel Hill Feb. 16, 17, 18 and 19 at 8 p.m. in the Great Hall of the Carolina Union. Tickets are \$2.50 and \$3.00 and only be purchased at the Union Desk. You are invited to bring beer and wine (unspiced wines only). Proof of age is required. Encourage your friends to join you for the intimate evening of exciting theater.

Carolina Union Presents **JACQUES BREL** is alive and well and living in Paris