

Festival to feature foreign cultures

By **JAMES COBLIN**
Staff Writer

In an effort to expose students to issues and cultures of countries around the world, the Association of International Students (AIS) will hold an International Festival in the Great Hall Saturday.

About 50 countries will be represented at the festival, which will be co-sponsored by other international clubs. Individual tables will highlight aspects of different countries, said Laura Besseyre, AIS treasurer.

The booths will contain artifacts and information about the countries that organizers feel will interest students and the community, Besseyre said.

The theme of this year's festival is

"Our Developing World," and it will focus on Third World issues and developments.

The festival will be held in the Great Hall and throughout the Student Union from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday.

"The International Festival is held every year to make the campus and community more aware of international culture and international issues," Besseyre said.

Admission to the festival is free, and all students and community members are welcome, she said.

The International Festival is a fund-raiser for AIS, she said.

AIS will sell international foods and T-shirts representing the various countries. Last year, AIS raised about \$700, Besseyre said.

Members of the community are also contributing to the festival, Besseyre said. Local restaurants like McDonald's and Bruegger's Bagel Bakery have contributed food and supplies for the festival, she said.

Community members from other countries will also be at the festival to provide insight on the cultures and issues of foreign countries, Besseyre said.

This is the 11th annual International Festival, and this year the festival was expanded into an International Week, with events highlighting international issues and with lectures by UNC faculty, Besseyre said.

Participating groups include the Slavic Club, which will sponsor a

Soviet Union booth; the African Students Association, which will present displays from eight African nations; and the Korean Club.

The Chinese Club has reserved a room in the Union to highlight "China Today." Films and presentations will educate people about the People's Republic of China and its international status, Besseyre said.

There will also be entertainment from various international organizations. Last year there were demonstrations of belly dancing and line dancing, and some of these performers will probably return, Besseyre said.

The Loreleis and the International Student Choir will also provide entertainment, she said.

Musical poet to share his political messages

From staff reports

The undisputed master of poetic political funk, Gil Scott-Heron, will perform Saturday night in Memorial Hall.

And just what is poetic political funk?

Scott-Heron has called his work a description of the past, present and future of the African-American struggle and the plight of the Third World in general. The funk enters the definition with his own blend of music that comes from blues, jazz, R&B, reggae and African melodies.

Scott-Heron has been a mover and shaker since 1970 when his first novel, "The Venture," and his first volume of poetry, "Small Talk at 125th and Lenox," were published. "Small Talk" was later released on an album with Scott-Heron accompanying himself on piano and performing original music.

He has since released 13 more albums, including *The Revolution Will Not Be Televised*, *South Africa to South Carolina* and *The Mind Of Gil Scott-Heron*. His latest book was "So Far, So Good," published last year by Third World Press.

Of his criticisms of American

politics, Scott-Heron released a rap in 1980 entitled "B-Movie," picking on former President Reagan. In honor of the 1984 election, Scott-Heron released "We Don't Need No Re-Ron."

Scott-Heron's international politics understandably extend to the South African disputes. His 1975 song "Johannesburg" preceded the Soweto riot by a year.

He has spoken out about things as varied as poverty, unemployment, Nixon's pardon, the Enrico Fermi Power plant accident, the CIA in Chile, alcoholism, believing in Superman, the Shah of Iran, oppression of aliens, Vietnam and mining conditions.

Melody Maker magazine said of his *Reflections* album, "If you thought that all the music coming out of America these days was bland and offensive, then prepare to have your illusions shattered by Gil Scott-Heron. He's the most dangerous musician alive."

Tickets for Gil Scott-Heron are available at the Black Cultural Center in the Union for \$5 for UNC students and \$10 for the public. The show begins at 8 p.m. Saturday. Call 962-9001 for more information.

Lab play looks at the absurdities of language

By **RODERICK CAMERON**
Staff Writer

"The surreal is here, within the grasp of our hands, in our everyday conversation," wrote Eugene Ionesco. The statement could easily apply to his play "The Bald Soprano," which opens Sunday in the Lab Theatre.

The play — or anti-play, as the author describes it — is one of the most well-known instances of a movement in 20th century drama which critic Martin Esslin called the Theatre of the Absurd.

In "The Bald Soprano," Mr. and Mrs. Smith, a typical English suburban couple, sit in their typical English suburban sitting room and have an absurd conversation.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin arrive, and an equally absurd conversation follows. Then the Fire Chief arrives, and tells some absurd stories. The Smiths have a maid. She is also absurd. The two couples have an absurd fight, and then everyone leaves, except for the Martins who take the places the Smiths occupied at the beginning and absurdly start the play all over again, as the curtain falls — absurdly.

A dialogue Ionesco found when he was trying to learn English from a textbook designed for foreigners inspired him to write the play. In the book he discovered what he described as "astounding truths": for example, that there were seven days in the week, and that the floor is down, the ceiling up. The Smiths and the Martins were taken directly from this dialogue: "two married couples solemnly informing each other of things that must have been obvious to all of them."

Ionesco said of his play that it was "a tragedy of language." But it seems to be a hilarious farce. This would not trouble Ionesco, who claimed he did not understand the distinction made between tragic and comic. He regarded comedy as essential: "the comic alone is capable of giving us the strength to bear the tragedy of

existence."

He thought the language of society was "nothing but clichés, empty formulas and slogans," and that such a language made it impossible to make oneself understood. Society's fossilized language must be "relentlessly split apart in order to find the living sap beneath it," and Ionesco tries to do this in his plays. "A work of art," he wrote, "is the expression of an incommunicable reality that one tries to communicate — and which sometimes can be communicated."

Debbie Morrison, director of the Lab production, said "The Bald Soprano" is about the breakdown of communication and the tendency of human beings to conform to social conventions, and thereby become mere stereotypes. "The characters in this play are totally interchangeable," she said.

Morrison has lengthened the text in order to reinforce her interpretation of the play. A scene is repeated, the lines being summarized and spoken at twice the speed, each actor playing a different role to the one he

had first time through.

Rather than have each actor play a specific character with individual motivations, Morrison encouraged her cast to work toward one collective character. During the rehearsal period she had every actor focus on what the other actors were doing and encouraged them to mimic each other.

Stage manager Katie Sherman described another exercise the cast performed during rehearsals. "Everyone had to tell stories from their childhood, but using only gestures and gibberish; only the director was allowed to use conventional language," she said. After a while the actors found they had developed a language that they could use amongst themselves and that Morrison could not understand. Jennifer Buzzelli, who will play the part of Mrs. Martin, said the cast developed a very strong ensemble sense.

"Our production may have a positive message," said Morrison. Individual character has been

Plan your future today

From staff reports

Students can learn more about career and academic opportunities at UNC and beyond at a Student Resource Fair today in Great Hall from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The fair, sponsored by Omega Psi Phi, will feature tables where students can get information about careers, professional school, internships and study abroad programs.

"This is an attempt to bring the students in and let them know what the University has to offer, and the opportunities that are open to them outside the University," said fraternity member Farrison Newton.

The fair will include workshops on preparing for the MCAT, LSAT and GRE exams, computer and writing tutorials, and advice on professional schools.

Officials from University Career Planning and Placement Services will be on hand to give advice on career choices and provide information on internships in students' majors.

Also, representatives from UNC's Study Abroad Program will tell students about opportunities to study in foreign countries.

"There are so many services on campus that students don't know about," said fraternity member Rudy Isaacs. "They aren't aware they exist. This is a way to show off what's available."

The fair is a service project that is part of Omega Psi Phi's Founders Week commemoration, Newton said.

renounced, but a strong sense of collective was found to replace it; language has broken down, but beneath it was what Ionesco called "the living sap." "To renew language," Ionesco wrote, "is to renew the conception, the vision of the world."

The Bald Soprano will be performed by the Lab in 06 Graham Memorial at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and at 5 p.m. Tuesday. Come 45 minutes early for seats; there are no sign-up sheets.

Campus Calendar

The DTH Campus Calendar is a daily listing of University-related activities sponsored by academic departments, student services and student organizations officially recognized by the Division of Student Affairs. To appear in Campus Calendar, announcements must be submitted on the Campus Calendar form by NOON one business day before the announcement is to run. Saturday and Sunday events are printed in Friday's calendar and must be submitted on the Wednesday before the announcement is to run. Forms and a drop box are located outside the DTH office, 104 Union. Items of Interest lists ongoing events from the same campus organizations and follows the same campus organizations and follows the same deadline schedule as Campus Calendar. Please use the same form.

Friday

- Noon** IRSS North Carolina Data Working Group will sponsor Jack Betts, editor of N.C. Insights, speaking on "Poverty in North Carolina," in the basement of Manning Hall.
- 12:30 p.m.** Women's Studies Luncheon will sponsor Dr. Mary Jo Kane of Bowling Green University. She will speak on "Women and Physical Recreation: Images, Realities and the Wake of Title IX" in Toy Lounge, Dey Hall.
- 1 p.m.** Muslim Students' Association will hold Friday prayers at the Union. Check the front desk for room number.
- 7 p.m.** Union Film Committee will show "Married to the Mob," starring Michelle Pfeiffer and Matthew Modine, in the Union Auditorium. Second show at 9:30 p.m.; admission is \$1.50.
- 8 p.m.** Baba's Club will meet in Frank Porter Graham Lounge to discuss "Is Marriage Dead?" A coffeehouse will follow.
- 9 p.m.** International Action will have a "Third World Dance Party" in Carmichael Ballroom. Admission is \$1.50.
- 9:30 p.m.** Union Cabaret will have a free Both Sides dance party, featuring rock, funk, R&B and progressive dance music.

Saturday

- Noon** Association of

Sunday

- 1 p.m.** International Health Forum will sponsor speakers Carol Kirschenbaum, Marty Nathan, Gary Grant and John Hatch as part of its symposium on health care issues in rural eastern North Carolina. The N.C. Rural Health Coalition will discuss how students can be involved in running a clinic in Bloomer, N.C.
- 7 p.m.** Union Film Committee will show "Mutiny on the Bounty" in the Union Auditorium, free with a student I.D. Second showing at 9:30 p.m.

student I.D.; second showing at 9:30 p.m.

Items of Interest

Office of North Carolina Fellows has applications for the Peer Leadership Consultant program at the Office of Leadership Development and the Union Desk. They are due by Friday, March 3.

UCPPS is accepting resumes in 211 Hanes from seniors and graduate students interested in careers with non-profit organizations after graduation. The resumes will be compiled in a book which will be made available to 200-300 NPO's on the East Coast. Deadline is March 1.

ALL'ARTE, the art/literary magazine, will accept submissions of original prose, poetry and artwork in the Campus Y until Feb. 17.

Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All for You tickets are on sale for \$3 at the Union Book Office.

Black Student Movement petition forms are available in the BSM Office for those interested in becoming an officer.

The Association of International Students, in cooperation with various campus organizations, will present its annual International Week until Feb. 18. The theme is "Developing Our World."

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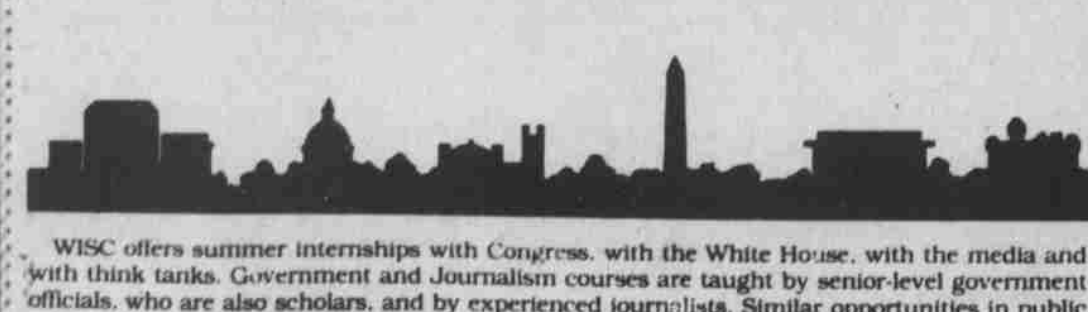
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Several colleges of Oxford University have invited The Washington International Studies Center to recommend qualified students to study for one year or for one or two terms. Lower Junior status is required, and graduate study is available. Students are directly enrolled in their colleges and receive transcripts from their Oxford college; this is NOT a program conducted by a U.S. College in Oxford. A special summer session is directed by WISC.

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