

AILEY REVIEWED

by SANDY WILLIAMS

The Alvin Ailey Dance Theater appeared Friday, February 13, at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. The dancers' performance was technically superb as compared to other Modern companies, but the Alvin Ailey company lacked the enthusiasm to project any excitement to their audience.

The program began with *Dance For Six*, choreography by Joyce Trisler. This work contained ballet and modern movements seasoned with acrobatic flavoring. These conglomerated movements produced an unsuccessful work. The dancers performed easily, moving smoothly across the stage; however, the lifts were often strained and jerky.

After intermission the curtain opened on *Poeme*, choreographed by Pauline Koner. The pas de deux of the exploration of two sensitive young people was disappointing. It seemed that not enough rehearsal time had been used to perfect the work. Many times it appeared shaky and very concentrated. There was never any tenderness or communication between the two dancers as they performed the piece Miss Koner has beautifully set to Samuel Barber's music, *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra*.

Metallics opened with one girl dressed in black standing behind a line of pipes. Her dance to electronic music was good and strong especially in the use of her head. Later a couple dressed in white appeared and danced a simple and honest pas de deux. The effects of lighting, props, and music were very impressive as was the dancing.

EDITORIAL

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the point:

- 2 KLH record players
- 2 KLH speakers
- 2 microphones (Neuman Telefunken)
- 2 amplifiers (Neuman Telefunken)
- 15 folding music stands
- 45 music stand lights
- 1 sony 777 tape recorder
- 2 flutes - one belonging to the school, the other to a student
- 1 trumpet

The total cost of replacing the equipment would amount to between 3 and 4 thousand dollars. The school has contacted the Director of the State Bureau of Investigation and asked for assistance in apprehending the stolen equipment.

Another step the school has taken to prevent these burglaries is to investigate the possibility of a new lock system for the Moore and Sanford Dormitories.

Two possibilities are being discussed. First, all of the present locks could be replaced by similar
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The company concluded with *Revelations*. The choreography was by Alvin Ailey and was definitely the high spot of the evening. This work includes five couples who dance to traditional spirituals. Though the tempos were varied, the dancers were able to adapt easily and dance with the assuredness of their bodies and personalities. This work was expressive and they performed *Revelations* with the soul only found in Negro dancers.

Two former dancers of NCSA are now with the Alvin Ailey Company. Leland Schwantes is a dancer while Gene Lowry is Lighting Director.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater started in March of 1958. They have since toured colleges and universities, appeared in Arts Festivals throughout the U.S. and in 1963 appeared at the International Festival of Rio de Janeiro. Also in 1967 they had a nine week tour of ten African countries under the auspices of the U.S. State Department.

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locks but with new master keys. This would cost around \$4,000 and would involve waiting 60 to 90 days for delivery of the cylinders. The other possibility is the maximum security locks similar to the ones on the offices and the music studios in the Main Building. Keys for these locks cannot be duplicated except by the manufacturer and then only with special written permission from the purchaser. Students would have to pay a \$20 key deposit which would be refunded at the end of the year provided the key was not lost. If the key were lost, the \$20 would be used to replace the lock, not the key.

Neither system could be installed for use this semester and the Student Government is allegedly soliciting the opinions of student about the system and their willingness to pay a \$20 key deposit.

The problem still faces us as a serious one, but definite measures are being taken to alleviate and control the theft. In the arrests and investigations which police have recently made, the only clues available were provided by students. Maybe the administration is not entirely inaccurate by stating that they need the students' help in apprehending the criminals in these campus thefts.

THE ARTFUL DODGER
NCSA Literary Magazine

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THE SPRING ISSUE.

MIKE FERGUSON } EDITORS
TONI ANGEVINE }

LETTERS

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premises--hardly worth publishing in an elementary school bulletin, let alone in a college publication--but I forget; this is NCSA.

By the way, in a recent conversation I was slyly and very indirectly simi-accused of enjoying seeing institutions for the arts closing. Well, let me say that the arts have only been the center of my planning and studies for the past six years and I know all too well their shakey and uncertain standing in the United States today, and that if I was such a masochist to even think such a pathetic injustice, I would be either crazy or have a gun in my back. However, the existence of artistic educational institutions at the expense of human beings' emotional stabilities, their futures, their money, and four to eight years of their lives, is a grotesque travesty on nature.

I have a strong belief that no matter what you are or do in life--be you actor, plumber, musician, King, dancer, judge, or farmer--you are a human being FIRST, and whatever you do for a living SECOND. And if the normal human being side of the education in a performing arts school is not cultivated and encouraged, or at least allowed to progress normally (without the allowed aid of stimulative or depressive crutches) then warped, emotionally unstable, and very dependent half-people are the result of the training, or lack of it. This result, at the expense of the existence of such a school is wrong and indeed unnatural. I find the ideas and ideals brilliant and beautiful, but the actuality incredibly lacking with guinea pig students nervously biding their time with dulled searching eyes and peals of phony, uncertain laughter.

I can stand criticism. I'm learned in that. But I cannot abide any unclear and broad references to my person, and this is the first time I have ever experienced this in any publication of even limited circulation, such as this one. A man, they say, is best judged by his peers. But I am very unclear as to what that recent comment was or meant, and I can only wonder. If you're going to start a project, idea, or even attack, fellow students, don't just meddle around with half-way. Go ALL THE WAY, OR NOT AT ALL!