

Intensive Arts Period Two Weeks in December . . . What Happened?

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.— The two-week period of intensive arts from December 4 to 15 found most of the students involved in some kind of performance experience.

"The Nutcracker," scheduled for a total of 9 performances in three cities, involved all of the ballet students. The traditional Christmas ballet was performed in Winston-Salem on December 8, 9 and 10, in Wilmington on the 12th and 13th and in Greensboro on the 16th and 17th.

The School of Drama mounted one studio presentation and two tours during the two week period. Scheduled in the Dome Theatre was a program of one-acts featuring "A Last Supper," by James Pendleton, the winner of the NCSA New Play Competition. The program, under the direction of Donald Hotton, Instructor in Acting, also included Strindberg's "The Stronger" and Pinter's "The Dumb Waiter."

Two public school tours, supported by the State Legislature, were "Russian Roulette," a program of Chekhov one-acts directed by Robert Murray, Instructor in Acting, and Emlyn Williams' "A Murder Has Been Arranged," directed by William Dreyer, Instructor in Voice.

The Chekhov one-acts were presented in high schools in the coastal area during the first week and in the southwestern part of the state during the second week. Included in the program were "The Brute," "Marriage Proposal," and "Swan Song."

Described as a ghost story, "A Murder Has Been Arranged" was presented in elementary schools in the eastern and southern parts of the state. It will be presented in Winston-Salem by the Children's Theatre Board in January.

Students in the School of Music presented Berlioz' "The Childhood of Christ," featuring the NCSA Chorus and Orchestra and soloists, under the direction of Nicholas Harsanyi on December 11 at the Salem Fine Arts Center and later in public schools in Burlington, Greensboro and Durham.

The heavy production schedule provided a crew assignment for everyone in the School of Design and Production as well.

And What Students Said About It!

"Best work I've done all year!"-- Penny Dennis, Drama

"I'd like to see two intensive arts periods during the year." --Kerry Benson, Music

"Intensive arts week reminds me of an idyllic, cascading tapestry of warm, amiable hours spent lazing languidly between the solitary movement class held in the morn and the serendipity potpurri hodgepodge during the hour of brunch. These hours are ceremoniously given birth to annually in the smoke-filled recesses and the secreted quarters of the combined shadowy resources of the entire faculty's faculties."-- John Coggesahl, Drama

"Intensive Arts (period) was about as intense as a flash flood in a Fizzie factory... (and) was good for people who like to sleep."-- Denise Myers, Drama

"Better last year due to the fact that there were more guest artists brought in,"-- Pauletta Pearson, Music

"Intensive arts was a bore... dahling!"-- Bev Petty, Drama

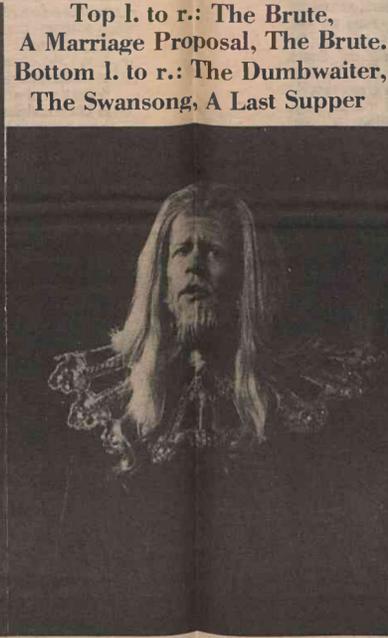
"... very different; we were put out of practice rooms into the halls."-- Ernest Stuart, Music

"Intensive arts is great for early Christmas shopping. However, I'm delighted that the Nutcracker is the reason for intensive arts, because I love Tchaikovsky. Don't you think so?" -- Missy Snelling, Drama



DRAMATIC SCENES IN DECEMBER

Top l. to r.: The Brute, A Marriage Proposal, The Brute. Bottom l. to r.: The Dumbwaiter, The Swansong, A Last Supper



... AND NUTCRACKER, 1972

"I liked it very much. I thought the reviews given in the paper were unfair. The reviewer takes a bad attitude at things done at our school."--John Patykula

"I found that it had beautiful moments. The sets were hideous and used much too often. Some of the dancing was sluggish but for the most part I was surprised that it went as well as it did with most of the cast being relatively new members. The lighting was not effective. The technical aspects lessened the enthusiasm for the dancers."--Steve Carson, Drama

"I think the performance speaks for itself."--Tim Swing, Music

"It's great to eat on a dollar a day in downtown Raleigh; that's why I haven't been on tour since my freshman year."--Don Martin, D&P

"Nutcracker was a good show - especially if you like fairies (Sugar Plum and others). It was also an attempt to kill the D & P department, if they don't kill Mr. Lindgren first . . . but that's snow business."--Michael Shurgan, Music

"... most impressive!"--William "Rocky" Fulp--Drama

"The Ballet was good, but I thought it lacked a certain amount of togetherness or oneness on the part of the performers involved."--Ann Robinson, Music

"It reminded me of my childhood."--Dale Stuckenbruck, Music

"Everyone's eyes were on Lauren Eager . . . Thank God for Lauren Eager."--Denise Myers, Drama

"No comment . . . on the grounds that it may incriminate me."--Val Ondines, Dance

"Not as good as last year!"--Mike Shindleman, Music

"I think the performances went rather well considering all the mishaps that occurred. The cast was worried if things would go well. The younger people were excited and exciting to work with. Enthusiasm made up for experience. I enjoyed working Nutcracker very much though there were times when things looked grim and parts were a bit shakey. It was true that the dancing caliber was not as high but the cast was young and it was many of the performers first year. I was starting at the bottom to work towards a peak."--Adam Miller, Dance

Three Days In January Self-Evaluation By Faculty and Staff

Borrowing three days from the Winter Term, the entire faculty and staff met together January 3-5. It was necessary to postpone the resumption of classes and to suspend all activities for the faculty to deal effectively with the important concerns of curricular review and the Institutional Self-Study. The faculty and staff discussed the issues and proposed changes in three different settings: mixed groups cutting across schools and departments; customary departmental meetings; and finally in convocations of the general faculty.

Several representatives from the community and the boards participated in the sessions, and Dr. Cameron West, Vice President for Planning for the greater University, spoke one evening on the role of NCSA in the University. The tenor of all of the meetings was quite positive. Agreement was reached quickly on the principal proposition that the concept coordinated studies should be studied to the end that the educational program for each student reflect the full range of arts and academic resources of the School.

At the concluding Friday afternoon session, the general faculty voted (without dissent) the following:

- I. To form a broadly representative Curriculum Review Commission (30 students and faculty) to study and make recommendations to the general faculty concerning four topics:
 - A. Transdisciplinary Courses.
 - B. Wednesday Convocation Series.
 - C. Use of an English course as the focal point for a Wednesday Series and/or production critiques.
 - D. Advisory System.

II. To direct the Arts Deans, both collectively and individually, in consultation with their faculty and designated representatives of the Academic and Student Affairs departments, to make recommendations to the general faculty concerning four issues:

- A. Definition of and standards for the Certificate and the Degrees.
- B. Define the program of study for majors.
- C. Specify ancillary courses (ex. music for dancers)
- D. Do advance work on the calendar of productions paying special attention to the number of productions and their overall educational purpose.

III. To direct the full Administrative Committee together with the Faculty Council to study and to make recommendations to the general faculty concerning faculty work loads and the alignment of faculty duties.

Meeting time was specified (12:30 - 2:30 on Wednesdays) for the Curriculum Review Committee. Note was made of the conflict with the Self-Study committees, but both groups were asked to proceed giving priority, if need be, to the Curriculum Review.

All of the groups given assignments were asked to prepare progress reports for meetings of the general faculty scheduled for 12:30 - 2:30 on successive Wednesdays, February 7 and March 7.

--Samuel M. Stone,
Chairman
Steering Committee
Self-Study

And How the Evaluators Evaluate It!

"The spirit of cooperation among the arts and academics departments was the most hopeful thing I've seen in this school in eight years."--Marion Fitzsimmons

"It was a great airing situation for everyone."-- Emile Simonel

"I was very impressed with faculty response and I'm sure that I speak for the majority of student body in expressing thanks for their participation. I think a lot of good ideas came out of the meetings, and it was the first time since this school began that the entire faculty had joined together on a singular issue. Maybe next year curriculum review will be the supposed topic of discussion instead of trans-disciplinary courses."--Peter Girvin, D & P Student

"I felt that these meetings provided a very important opportunity for all of us to take a look at the past and to begin to think about the serious planning we need to do. These meetings also gave us an opportunity to ask questions and to give and receive information previously unnoticed. It also gave us a chance to voice personal feelings and aims for the school's future. I think that the meetings were very helpful, and I'll try to make this an annual thing."-- Chancellor Ward

"It gave us a new sense of perspective about what we are doing-- an extremely valuable experience."-- Paul Meier