



## No More Lies

In an earlier article I criticized several concepts of American theatre, the images it has projected and in some cases the way it is taught. The responses to the article were numerous and often very critical. I was asked a question I believe to be a fair one and I would like to share my response with you. The question was: If I am dissatisfied with the way theatre is taught, what do I propose in its place?

Let me say that although the article was about Black theatre I would like to address my answer as a possible solution to the entire educational system in America. I would like to address it to any subjects dealing with people, including psychology, history, cultural studies, sociology, history, politics, philosophy and so forth.

I propose a comparative educational system. This system would replace the brain-washing, biased system we now have. This system would replace the system of indoctrination that we have and put in its proper place a system of education and "brain training." The classes would be realistic, relevant and truthful.

I propose we deal honestly with the life styles, cultures, backgrounds and ideologies of all races of people in America, I believe once this is done a lot of our social problems, racial problems and ethnic problems will be solved, because I believe that the majority of these problems are caused by a lack of knowledge of ourselves and the people we meet every day.

Black and White students are forced by laws to confront each other daily, but the lawmakers fail to teach us how to live with each other daily. Thus we are put in a trial and error situation and I say we can't afford many more of the errors we are making. We must examine where we go wrong and where could we have gotten the proper training about each other. We all know the best way would have been for our parents to learn through association and communication but we know they have proven to be too uncivilized to do it the right way, so we must dwell on the second best way...Education.

We could have learned the things we needed to live successful lives together through our educational training. We could have learned the truth about each other and hopefully through the gaining of a knowledge of each other we could have gained a better knowledge of ourselves. We simply can't continue to function in darkness. We can't continue to just live off trial and error because we are dealing with human beings and in the process of finding error through trials and tribulations we are destroying human beings, we are hurting feelings, insulting and being insulted.

We must teach all students that to neglect any part of history, theatre or whatever is to eliminate a part of that which built America. I raise hell about neglecting Black history because I want to know history. Not only do I think I should know it but I think every student enrolled in school should know it also. The only reason I can think of that these subjects can't and shouldn't be taught is because they did not happen and that has already been proven to be a lie. These things did happen and not to teach them is to cripple a student regardless of what side of town he is raised on. Students all over America are saying NO MORE LIES, DAMMIT, and everybody seems to be uptight. Why? We want to know the truth. We honestly believe that the truth will set us free, so teach us to live and stop concentrating so much of your time on teaching us how to pretend we are making an honest living. We as students deserve to see the many life styles of fellow Americans and then we can better decide what is good and what is not good for us as a nation. All we are asking for is the truth and to be taught more of reality and less of Cinderella. Teach us fairly and judge us fairly. No more lies... no more buttering up history, no more prettying up the ugly, but the truth about life and history as it was and as it really is. Then and only then can we forgive and reunite and build something for the future out of the truths, mistakes and sorrows of the past and present.

Henry Pankey

## Film Calendar

THE SEAGULL	JANUARY 16
THE GODDESS	JANUARY 23
SPLENDOR IN THE GRASS	JANUARY 30
THE POINT	FEBRUARY 6
MACBETH	FEBRUARY 13
THE HARDER THEY FALL	FEBRUARY 20
SHIP OF FOOLS	FEBRUARY 27
THE INFORMER	MARCH 6
BURN, WITCH, BURN	MARCH 13

## An Interview With Number Two

"I've learned," exclaimed Peter Girvin, vice-president of the SCA, "a hellava lot more here, than I thought I could before I came here." Peter is presently from Beaufort, N.C., and has traveled quite a bit over the United States with his family. Among his hobbies are playing the guitar and harmonica. "And I'm learning to play the piano," he retorted, "which just goes to show you that the influence from the other departments is very strong here."

"My main goal," he said, "is to leave here with a vast knowledge of electricity, a total working concept of back stage theatrical experience, several letters of recommendation and a degree."

N.C. Essay: Since these are your goals, do you feel that the Design and Production department is helping you to attain these goals, and has the department greatly improved since you first began here?

Girvin: Yes, to both questions. I feel that the Design and Production department has greatly improved since I began here as a Freshman. I think that the D. & P. department owes a great deal to John Synden who has contributed greatly. I feel that he came here with specific ideas and ways to renovate the department, and he made the necessary changes.

However, the department in a couple of years may not be on a personal level as it is today, which to me will definitely hurt the department greatly. In design and production, it is obvious that you have to have a great love for the arts, and with the loss of the personal, then the business will be greatly hurt.

N.C. Essay: What do you mean by business?

Girvin: The design and production of a show is a business. It has to have definite organization and responsibilities, and then if you personally can't uphold your responsibility, then you will be replaced or left behind in the business.

N.C. Essay: After being here three years, would you recommend this school to your friends?

Girvin: Sure I would and I have recommended the School of the Arts to my friends who are interested in a professional career in the arts.

N.C. Essay: How do you compare our academic department with other universities?

Girvin: Since my freshman year, it has grown quiet a bit, especially the English department, which has greatly become more well rounded. I think that there has been a drastic change in the Academic department, and I think a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from here is something to be very proud of.

I definitely feel that Dean Baskin has been instrumental in making these changes. It seems that he knows exactly how a student's life here is, and how much he can handle academically along with his art's work. I think he is a good dude. He understands and has the capability of saying "yes". I really think he knows what he is doing.

Working in the arts is very hard; every one must give a little and take a little. We have a good academic program here and I think that we retain things from it.

N.C. Essay: This brings us to self-study: what is your opinion of self-study and its benefits? Does it paint a concise portrait?

Girvin: Yes, I think that the self study is very important. A school should have a frequent self study. This allows the school to know itself, knowing exactly how it is "running the plant." It is hard to ask people about a personal job, but you have to know how the people involved think and

how the school itself projects. I feel that it will be a long process, but I feel that it will be beneficial.

N.C. Essay: In talking about campus life, how has it been affected?

Girvin: When I first came here, this campus was like one large family. There were about 500 students here, and everyone felt a need to associate with everyone. It seemed as though everyone wanted to know everyone else. But this changed with the social changes that affected the entire country. Everyone began to break up into their little close-knit groups that didn't particularly want to associate with anyone else. People then were only concerned with themselves rather than other people. It is still like this to some degree today.

N.C. Essay: Why are you in technical production, Peter?

Girvin: My purpose here is to help others, to be a part of a total thing - to be a part of the end product that will bring happiness to other people and myself. That's why I'm in technical production.

N.C. Essay: What about pet peeves? Do you have any particular one you would like to expound on?

Girvin: I do have pet peeves, but I wouldn't care to dwell on them at this time. Actually, there isn't anything here that really ticks me off. That is not to say this school doesn't have anything to be changed for of course it does. It is just like any other college: there are some things that you are not going to like about an administration or faculty, and there are some that you do like.

N.C. Essay: Do you think that there is a drug problem here?

Girvin: No, there is not a drug problem here. However, there are times when there are in-

sinuations towards the school about drugs that lead the community to believe that there is drug activity here. Moreover, to my knowledge, if students here do use drugs, they don't advertise it.

N.C. Essay: Peter, are there any particular rules or regulations that you feel need to be changed?

Girvin: Certainly, I think there are too many stiff rules for high school students. I think that some major innovations should come about. These changes should come from the High School students themselves, and there will be some, as soon as the students realize that they are getting the shaft. They only get improvements by asking for them, and I think that there are enough "together" people that could get together and get something done.

N.C. Essay: What about the Student Council? Do you think that it has begun to get things done?

Girvin: Yes, the council is a working organization; we are getting things done. Personally, I'm not impressed with the public relations that we have and the way that they are being handled. However, the Happenings and the Essay do print anything we ask. The big thing this fall for the council was getting the Snack Bar open, which is a student idea and operation with great support from the Marriot Corporation.

N.C. Essay: What is your opinion on Co-ed dorms? Are you in favor?

Girvin: Yes, I think that it is a great idea, a fantastic idea. My reasons would be better security, an openness and awareness of others, and I think it would help improve a good working- living relationship between the students here.

-Larry Faw

## Coming Soon

## Winter Dance Workshop

FEB. 8, 9, 10

## NCSA Orchestra Concert

JAN. 27

## Photos in this Issue

by William Beck