

THE
H & E
REVIEW

Chicago sings and dances its way to success

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JULIE HOLLEMAN AND ELIZABETH EVANS
Movie Critics

Death row has never been so entertaining. Complete with song and dance numbers, the new movie *Chicago* leaves audiences in awe of the newly discovered talent of well-known actors.

Chicago follows the story of Roxie Hart, portrayed by Renee Zellweger (*Bridget Jones' Diary*). Roxie is a naïve woman convicted of murdering her lover. While on death row, she meets the notorious jazz star and killer Velma Kelly, played by Catherine Zeta-Jones (*The Mask of Zorro*). Both of these women vie for the

services of infamous Chicago lawyer Billy Flynn, played by Richard Gere (*Unfaithful*).

Roxie obsesses about one day being on the stage. Audiences see events through Roxie's eyes as she imagines everything as if it were performed on a musical Chicago stage.

Zellweger portrays a woman who will sacrifice anything to be on the stage. Zellweger's many talents are evident in this film, although her singing is far surpassed by her dancing. Her overall interpretation of Roxie helps people see the conflicting elements of danger and innocence in her character. Her depiction of Roxie was so compelling that it recently earned her a Golden Globe award for

Best Actress. Perhaps this will be an insight into the future when it comes time for the Oscars.

Zeta-Jones presents audiences with a feisty, vibrantly sensuous villain on death row for a double homicide. Zeta-Jones was originally trained for dancing on the London stage before her movie career. However, her singing is much better than her dancing, possibly due to her small supporting role. Her acting skills in this movie were exceptional and they earned her a nomination for Best Actress at the Golden Globes, the same award her co-star was nominated for. Although she didn't win the award, her acting in this musical is flawless.

Gere, this year's winner

of the Golden Globe for Best Actor, is extremely entertaining as the suave and sexy lawyer whom every death row damsel needs. His singing and dancing capabilities will amaze audiences, even if he does it in his boxers. Despite his age, Gere is handsome in this film, and his acting isn't bad either. While accepting his Golden Globe Award, he said, "And to think I didn't even want to do this movie." We're sure he's glad he decided to work on the film, and we'll be looking forward to seeing what happens for him at the Oscars, as well as for his co-star Zellweger.

The film combines singing and dancing that is so entertaining, audiences

will be wanting more. The musical selections are dark at times, but even those are incredible. The talent, the script and the music in this film are extraordinary. This winning combination earned the film seven Golden Globe nominations, three of which turned into Golden Globe wins.

Chicago is definitely a hit that is sure to be nominated for many Oscars. We recommend that you see this film, especially if you love musicals and want to be blown away by the effects of great talent.

Our ratings:

H: **1/2

E: **1/2

Community Calendar

The North Carolina Museum of Art will present *The Naked City* as part of its Winter Film Series on Jan. 24 at 8 p.m. Call the museum or Ticketmaster for tickets.

Raleigh Little Theatre will present *The Dance on Widow's Row*, a comedy by North Carolina native Samm-ART Williams, on Jan. 31 & Feb. 1, 5-8 & 12-15 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 2, 9 & 16 at 3 p.m. Call 821-3111 for tickets.

The Manbites Dog Theater Company in Durham will present *The Shape of Things*, a play by Neil LaBute, Thursdays through Sundays, Jan. 30-Feb. 16. Opening night, Jan. 30, is "pay what you like" night (\$5 minimum). Call 682-3343 for reservations.

The N.C. State Wolfpack men's basketball team will play the North Carolina Tarheels at 2 p.m. on Jan. 26 at the RBC Center.

The Tokyo String Quartet will perform at the BTI Center on Jan. 26 at 3 p.m. Call the BTI Center for tickets.

The Opera Company of North Carolina will present *Samson & Dalila* on Jan. 31 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 2 at 2 p.m. at Memorial Auditorium. Call Ticketmaster for tickets.

Hillbillies

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I certainly do not want to be associated with Elly May Clampett, whom everyone remembers as an ignorant blond.

I am from a small country town many consider "Hicksville." However, I consider myself intelligent and in no way lacking luxuries. My luxuries include never having to worry

about having food on my table or a roof over my head.

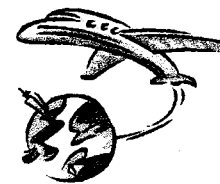
If this means that I am a hillbilly, then so be it. I would prefer not taking my life for granted and appreciating what I have to the glamour of a celebrity any day.

What I hope to accomplish with this article is to encourage my fellow southerners to rebel against this

stereotype. I fully intend on sending a copy of this article to CBS, as well as an extension of my personal opinions. I hope that you will join me. The CBS homepage, www.CBS.com has a feedback section. It will take only a few minutes to object to this discrimination I hope you all will stand up against what you believe is ethically wrong.

ATTENTION:

All Students Who Will Study Abroad In The Next Year



Applications for Travel-Study Awards Can Be Picked Up in The Office of Study Abroad, Suite 124 Joyner

These awards are available for summer, semester, and year-long programs - including the summer of 2003 and the academic year, 2003-04.

Because these awards were set up by their founders to support students who have truly outstanding records in both academics and service/leadership, potential applicants should be advised that these grants are extremely competitive. The student's own statement of her reasons for wanting to study abroad and the use to which she intends to put what she gains from that experience also weigh heavily in the committee's decision.

Deadline for applying is February 21.