

'Twelfth Night' Production Succeeds With Simplicity

Five actors from the London stage used simplicity as the core of their opening performance of "Twelfth Night" Wednesday at Playmakers Theatre.

According to Homer Swander, director of London's A Center for Theatre, Education and Research, "In the simplicity lies the magic. In the simplicity lies the heart of Shakespeare's gift to us all."

Perhaps this simplicity became immediately obvious with the non-chalant opening scene, in which the five actors oozed onto center stage and chanted the words "Twelfth Night."

This creative, collaborative art form was extremely elaborate in its plot, as most Shakespearean plays are, but very elementary in its construction.

All actors were modernly clad in what appeared to be street clothes and made all stage appearances without the disguise of heavy makeup. Unusual in a dramatic production, the actors were not able to hide behind the masquerade of a frivolous "operatic spectacular."

The stage was completely bare except

for a semicircle of wooden chairs. "Twelfth Night" was unique in presentation.

The actors sat amusingly in the background in the semicircle of chairs when their characters were not a direct part of the scene. As the scene would draw to a close or a character was no longer needed, the actor actually sat and watched as though he were a part of the audience.

"Our responsibility is to open (the play) as directly as possible to the creative powers of (the audience's) imagination," Swander said.

They met this goal with magnificence, as it seemed to the audience members as though they were watching a perfected rehearsal of the production. In essence, the performance showcased the various actors' abilities and insightfully discussed Shakespeare's plot.

Sir Toby Belch and Sir Andrew Aguecheek, who were depicted as "fellows of the strangest mind in the world," presented many humorous Three Stooges-style slapstick routines during the performance, which induced several fits of laughter in the audience. A great stage spectacle full of drunkenness, singing, chanting and movement kept the audience alive through-

out the 2 1/2 hour performance.

The most humorous scene occurred when Malvolio (Hugh Sullivan) appeared on stage wearing yellow stockings. He ranted and raved in an attempt to court Olivia. Malvolio had apparently come into contact with one of Shakespeare's ominous letters that explained if he dressed in that manner, Olivia would love him. Actually, the letter was a hoax designed to make a fool of Malvolio, a pompous character.

The most professional aspect of the performance was the fact that five actors (three men, two women) portrayed 16 different characters throughout the evening. Although most actors met with success in this obviously challenging situation, it often led the audience astray in their ability to comprehend the plot as it thickened.

This love triangle plot seemed reminiscent of many typical college students' lives.

Sebastian and Viola, twins portrayed by Eunice Roberts, are separated after a journey overseas. Viola pretends to be a man, taking the job of a messenger named Cesario for the Duke of Illyria (Geoffrey Church). The duke sends "Cesario" to court Olivia (Suzan Sylvester) for him. Olivia, however, falls in love with "Cesario" instead.

Meanwhile, Viola falls in love with the duke. When Sebastian (Viola's fraternal twin) arrives in town and somehow visits Olivia, Sebastian agrees to marry Olivia. When Viola reveals her identity to the duke, the two get married.

Despite the somewhat confusing plot, the actors showed the audience what high acting quality should look like.

Suzan Sylvester, who trained at London's Central School of Speech and Drama, portrayed a most impressive dual role of Olivia and Olivia's maid. The two were often on stage together and held convincing direct conversations.

Eunice Roberts had the difficult task of playing twins on stage simultaneously at the climax. Roberts made it believable, however, that two separate identities were actually on stage conversing.

Although "Twelfth Night" was at certain instances confusing because of the numerous multiple roles, this London troupe certainly delivered Swander's goal of "finding and presenting the Shakespearean gift."

The final performance of "Twelfth Night" will be Saturday at 8 p.m. in Hill Hall. For more information, call 962-1449.

Sweet Honey's Music Uses Diverse Sounds

Few groups in the world, especially a cappella groups, can incorporate as many influences into their music as Sweet Honey in the Rock does. World beat, blues, jazz, folk, pop, gospel, reggae, African chant, and yes, even rap all play a role in the sound of Sweet Honey in the Rock.

But, unlike many groups who fuse different sounds together, Sweet Honey in the Rock separates the sounds and composes individual numbers that are true to a specific sound.

Wednesday night in Memorial Hall, the group demonstrated its diversity to a full crowd. With music that ensures that you cannot sit still, five women, true to their African heritage, wowed women and men of all ages and races.

Bernice Johnson Reagon, the founder of Sweet Honey in the Rock, guided the crowd through two hour-long sets that highlighted the group's interest in promoting the issues of the black woman.

In telling about Sweet Honey's song "Other Side," Reagon emphasized that she and the other members take sides on social and political issues.

"I wrote this song at a time when I was trying to find a way to say, 'I take sides.' Sometimes it's important for you to know that you and I differ on an issue," Reagon said.

With engaging eloquence, Reagon described how everyday experiences inspired most of the songs they performed.

Lyrics from one particular song seemed to highlight the musical and social stance of these women: "I'm a stranger here, I'm a stranger there." Reagon emphasized to the crowd how the black woman was left unfamiliar with her home continent but was still not welcome in the continent she

had been brought to. This point seemed to be well taken by the entire audience. Still, a special understanding was shared between the black women in the audience and Sweet Honey in the Rock.

Songs like "On Children," "Trying Times," "Ballad of the Broken Word" and "No Mirrors in Nana's House" excited the crowd as much as old favorites "Breathes" and "More Than a Paycheck." One of the biggest roars came during "Sojourner's Battle Hymn," the tune to "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" as it was performed by the black regiment from Michigan that originally used it.

Indeed, this group has mastered tight rhythms that few groups can control. With an emphasis on traditional African rhythms and improvisations, Sweet Honey in the Rock exemplified the beats that pervade all forms of popular music today.

Beyond just the rhythm, Sweet Honey accompanied its smooth and harmonious vocals with emulated sounds of various instrument and natural sounds. Relying only on a few traditional percussion instruments and five well-tuned voices, Sweet Honey created more music than most groups that don't perform a cappella.

Layering intense harmonies and beats, Sweet Honey in the Rock created music that could be felt, as well as heard.

Shirley Childress Johnson, the group's sign language interpreter, kept a rhythm of her own and relayed the group's messages to the hearing-impaired.

It is a tribute to Sweet Honey that a person with difficulty hearing could still extract a great deal of expression from one of their concerts. By seeing the stage actions of the group and the sign language of Johnson along with feeling the rhythm of the music, anyone could enjoy the show on this basis alone.

ROBBERY

FROM PAGE 1

robbery in 1994, and there were two last year," Cousins said.

Chapel Hill police only made one arrest for the two bank robberies last year.

Any information should be reported to Chapel Hill police detectives at 968-2767 or Chapel Hill Crimestoppers at 942-7515.

SENIOR

FROM PAGE 1

we haven't reached over the phone."

Senior Class President Joe Andrews said senior class officers were successful the first time they asked for help from campus groups.

"Before when we went and talked to groups across campus, we got a lot of volunteers for the phone-a-thon," he said. "This time we expect to catch a lot of seniors in those groups who haven't been

reached about the gift."

Andrews said this year's campaign was different from previous senior class fund-raising drives.

"The marshals have become considerably more involved than they have in the past," Andrews said.

"With their strong base of support we have been able to touch on many individual networks and therefore make students more aware," he said.

Holly Stepp contributed to this article.

SOKOLOWSKI

FROM PAGE 1

doesn't mean they planned it for weeks."

Sheffield said he was not surprised at the denial of some of his motions. "A couple of the (issues) were (issues) where I thought the law ought to be different," he said. "When you have a position you think is right, you don't give it up just because (the courts) don't agree with you."

Sokolowski, now being held at Central Prison in Raleigh, was taken to Dorothea Dix Hospital last fall, where he was determined competent to stand trial. When he was admitted, a razor blade was found hidden in his mouth.

Battle set bond at \$1 million for each first-degree murder charge, for a total of \$2 million. The trial is set to start March 14.

FLEXIBILITY
GUEST FIRST
BENEFITS **LOBSTER** **TRAVELING**

WE'VE GOT A LINE
ON FUN & FLEXIBILITY

Red Lobster, America's number one full-service seafood dinnerhouse, is ready to lure you in with a convenient location, upbeat environment, full training, great pay and excellent benefits! Join us in one of the following positions:

- Waiters/Waitresses
- Hosts/Hostesses

Red Lobster
4416 Chapel Hill Blvd.
Durham, NC

Apply in person Monday-Friday from 2pm - 4pm at the above location.
We are an equal opportunity employer.

Red Lobster.

Players

DOLLAR WEEKENDS!!

FRIDAY

\$1.00 - 24 OZ. DRAFT
***ONLY \$1.00 COVER with UNC ID!**

SATURDAY

\$1.00 BOTTLES
***ONLY \$1.00 COVER with UNC ID!**

Non-business majors, prepare for the corporate job market in a rigorous six-week program designed to provide you with a solid understanding of basic business skills and operations. Taught by UNC's Kenan-Flagler Business School faculty.

May 22-July 1, 1994

Sponsored by:
▲ The Division of Continuing Education in cooperation with
▲ The Kenan-Flagler Business School

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill


Application deadline: April 1

For information contact:
Carolina Business Institute
Conferences & Institutes
PO Box 3392
Chapel Hill, NC 27515-3392
919-962-2643 or 1-800-845-8640
FAX 919-962-2061

Carolina Business Institute

NURSE OPPORTUNITIES

NURSING AT ITS FINEST.



You'll find pride and professionalism as a member of the 100% BSN Army Nurse Corps plus the pay and benefits of an Army officer and excellent opportunities for higher education.

Call your Army Recruiter now.
Call Collect Staff Sgt. Frazer (919) 790-7893
ARMY.
BE ALL YOU CAN BE.

Campus Calendar

FRIDAY
11:50 a.m. ArtsFest '94 will present Modern Extension in the Pit.
NOON: Women's Studies will present Virginia Sapiro on "Mary Wollstonecraft, Feminism and Democracy: On Being Basted" in 02 Manning Hall.
The BCC will feature "King: From Montgomery to Memphis" as part of the Spring Film Festival.
1 p.m. Passed Out (A Juggling Club) will meet in Carmichael Ballroom.
5 p.m. The Spanish House will have Tertulia, its weekly conversation program, in the Hardback Cafe.
5 p.m. Student Affairs deadline for nominations for the Chancellor's Awards for Excellence in Student Activities and Leadership. Due in 104 Steele.
6:30 p.m. FOCUS invites graduate students to a potluck dinner and a talk by Tony Bishop on "Ministering to Homosexuals" at Professor Frederick Brooks' home, 413 Granville Ed., Chapel Hill.

SATURDAY
11 a.m. CUAB will accept works from full-time undergraduates for the juried art show until 2 p.m.
12:30 p.m. Protect Our Woods will hold a demonstration against the Mitsubishi Corp. in Raleigh.
1 p.m. SEAC will have Roadkill '94, a pack bike ride around Chapel Hill.
6 p.m. Self-Knowledge Symposium will sponsor "The Value Option Game" in Union 211.
8 p.m. CUAB will present Dov Holladay and Byron Stripling with the UNC Jazz Band in Memorial Hall.
LAB! Theater will present Peter Shaffer's "Equus."

SUNDAY
2 p.m. CUAB will present the UNC, ECU and Appalachian State jazz ensembles in the Great Hall.
4 p.m. LAB! Theater will present "Equus." It will also be shown at 8 p.m.

LIFE IS FUN
YOUR CLOTHES SHOULD BETOO!

UNIQUE TIES 452 W. FRANKLIN ST. CHAPEL HILL 933-4007

WINTER SALE 20% - 60% OFF

Saturday, Feb. 26
10 am-5 pm
EVERYTHING IS \$5.00!



BARR-EE STATION
CATALOGUE OUTLET

WAREHOUSE SALE
149 E. Franklin St., Upstairs • Sat. Jan. 29 • 10 til 5
Catalogue Clothing for Men & Women at drastically reduced prices.
Immediate gratification of this caliber has never been so inexpensive!