

'Passion' Production Lacks Strong Script

How can I describe it? Well, to quote a line from a song, the play "Passion" left in my head "... ahh, the wretchedness." This play's faults lay in its script, not necessarily in the acting or directing.

Novelist James Lapine was trying to set a love dilemma in a time period not his own, perhaps to romanticize the story. Aside from the costumes, he made no effort, however, to situate the story in that time period. The intent was to make a grand statement about completing ourselves by relishing the paradox of opposing parts of a whole. Instead he ended up with characters and emotions that weren't real.

SOPHIE MILAM
Theater Review
"Passion"
Company Carolina

"Passion," based on a book by Lapine, with a score composed by Stephen Sondheim, is a musical originally produced on Broadway in 1994. The production is being put on by Carolina Company this week. The story takes place in 1863 near Milan at a remote military outpost. The title lets you know that it is a love story, so do not be misled by its military setting; the military theme only serves as an excuse to move Giorgio, the main character, between his two lovers.

Giorgio, an officer in the Italian army, must leave his married lover, Clara, in Milan for his remote post. There he meets Fosca, a sick woman who has never been loved by a man. She fell into depression after learning that her husband, a fraud posing as a count, spent all of her wedding dowry. Her wish to die ebbs when she falls for Giorgio. She boldly confesses her love to him, and, when he suggests that they "just be friends," she becomes obsessed. At first Giorgio avoids her pleas, but eventually her ploy works, and he agrees to be-

come her companion so that she might regain her health. It is obvious from her first appearance that Fosca will win Giorgio's heart, so the remaining hour and 45 minutes are spent waiting to see how it all unfolds. Not well. The script, including Sondheim's lyrics, is almost comical — every line uttered is a cliché. The worst aspect of the play, however, is the music. The performance of the orchestra was fine, but where the script lacked originality, the songs lacked variety. The same tune was repeated for essentially every song, monotonous to say the least.

It was difficult to judge the acting, considering the storyline was so incredibly poor. Fosca, played by Julie Foldesi, a junior from Raleigh, was the strongest character in the play. Her character was extremely passionate with the obsession for Giorgio, and Foldesi's relentless stares showed that she obviously had a clear understanding of her role. She gave a convincing performance.

Considering he played a man strong in his convictions and weak in his actions, the ambiguity of Giorgio (Max von Essen) can be blamed on the script, not so much the actor. A junior from Rockville Centre, N.Y., von Essen sang as beautifully as his co-star Erin Cottrell (junior, Trenton, N.J.), who played Clara. Cottrell displayed excellent acting throughout the play. Her character allowed her to exhibit passion, confusion and jealousy — certainly the most vivid character.

The remainder of the cast failed in their attempts at humor. Their stale one-liners were out of place and were juxtaposed to the pseudo-intense developing love story. The directing by Ted Shaffner was certainly competent. Though poorly-written and coupled with monotonous music, Carolina Company's "Passion" is filled with near passionate performances.

Lab! Production, 'Intifada' Breaks Audience's Hearts

"Intifada," the current production at the Lab! Theatre, can be summed up in one word: triumphant.

Written by junior Mac Rogers and directed by senior Dan Kois, this courtroom drama at once captivates and brutalizes, endears and devastates.

Though two-and-a-half-hours long, "Intifada" is spellbindingly fast-paced, with a consistent, ambitious momentum often difficult to maintain in a stage production of its size and scope. But "Intifada" is characterized by its ambition and bravery. Kois does a magnificent job of bringing together a relatively large group of strong characters — which tends toward small casts — into a cohesive whole.

The play's action revolves around Alex "now, not later" Price, played with frenetic brilliance and moving honesty by Rogers himself. As a student attorney defending an alleged date rapist in the fictional Meridian College Honor Court, Alex's life suffers from the same fast pace that so drives the play; he lacks emotional, intellectual and physical "stillness." Finding himself in the difficult situation of having to defend Daniel Morning (senior Johnny Knight of Greensboro), a freshman whose guilt is insisted on by Alex's peers in the court and student government — as well as the whole college community — Alex must confront unpleasant realities of the court system, of gender relations and of his own sexuality.

In Arabic, "Intifada" means an uprising or rebellion — a breaking-down of tyranny. Alex must stage a two-fold rebellion;

his is a mind and heart-shattering intifada.

Helping (or forcing) Alex to rebel is his fellow student attorney Vi, an outspoken and outraged lesbian who refuses to accept any person or idea — especially the validity of heterosexual love — without thorough scrutiny. In many ways she serves as the chorus of the play and is responsible for unraveling part of the mystery of the court case. As Vi, Nikki Coleman-Andrews, a senior from Rocky Mount, exudes audacity, spirit and sex; like the play itself she is shocking and compelling at once.

Alex's legal opponent in the case, Linda Tannen, is a gung-ho student attorney general who jumps at the chance to advocate for the alleged victim. She sees the case as crucial to both her career and the personal safety of all Meridian women. As Linda, junior Lori Evans of Greenville epitomizes the steely, almost impersonal, profession-

ally-minded legal advocate. But her portrayal is also marked by a surprising and touching humanity.

Knight's interpretation of defendant Daniel Morning is key to the impact of the play. He is a nice, bright kid inclined toward sudden and overwhelming emotion — be it affection or anger. The contrast between what he has done, what others think he has done and what he thinks he has done can be profoundly disturbing.

As his fellow freshman and accuser Jodie Merritt, junior Shannon Byrd of Durham rarely appears on stage and speaks even more rarely; but her performance is one of convincing sadness, longing and conflict.

In the final scenes of "Intifada," Alex laments, "My heart's already broken." If the audience's hearts weren't yet broken, they will be by the end of this tour-de-force production.

LILY THAYER
Theater Review
"Intifada"
Lab! Theatre

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1
including any violation of ABC laws, we will recommend the ABC commission not issue them a permit," Capowski said.

Capowski said the proposal is an attempt to curb excessive alcohol consumption and violence downtown.

"We recognize that especially on Franklin Street, late at night and on the weekends, there is a problem with people drinking excessively and bar owners who want to supply them with the means for this," he said. "Then they do violent things, anywhere in the range from alcohol-related car accidents to public urination."

The proposal would also extend the amount of time the council is allotted to review the bar and its request.

"With more time to take into consideration the characteristics of an establishment, the town council would be able to take a more active role in the recommendation process," Karpinos said.

In addition to an alcohol permit, a bar must also be issued a local business license by the town once a year in order to operate. The second proposal targets the council's involvement in the renewal process.

"Under state law, the local government can consider a business' performance in the past year, and on that basis, choose to deny renewal of their town business license," Karpinos said. "If the proposal is pursued, someone might be turned down if their track record in the past year includes violations of ABC law."

Capowski said the council's review of area bars would extend beyond alcohol

MTV

FROM PAGE 1
election season, helping to reverse a 20-year cycle of declining youth voter participation.

"MTV made a conscious effort to give presidential candidates an opportunity to reach an audience that is usually ignored," Guy said.

Using interactive computers on the bus, students can register their opinions about the state of the union and the current crop of presidential candidates. While students participate in the survey, a camera on top of the computer takes their pictures and puts them on-line.

Guy said the bus was coming to UNC directly from a college festival in Washington, D.C.

Black History Month Spotlight

Booker T. Washington (1856-1915)
Booker T. Washington, born a slave in Franklin County, Va., became the most influential black leader of his time in the United States.

In 1881, Washington founded the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, of which he served as

principal. In 1895, Washington delivered an address at the Cotton States Exposition in Atlanta that became known as the Atlanta Compromise. In the address, Washington accepted racial inequality in exchange for economic advancement for blacks.

Campus Calendar

MONDAY

6 p.m. OPERATION SMILE members, please drop off your \$30 check for t-shirts between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. Look for sign in Union. Pick up raffle tickets if you don't have them yet!

7 p.m. YOUNG DEMOCRATS will meet in Union 205. Please join us for food, fun and games as we celebrate Newt!

WANTED: Troubadours, Jongleurs and Minne-singers. Students for Creative Anarchism meet in the Marchand parking lot to go to Valdemar's for a Bardic Circle.

HEKIMA, the reading circle discussing African-American literature, will meet in the BCC. We will be discussing "Song of Solomon."

7:30 p.m. THE DIALECTIC and PHILANTHROPIC SOCIETIES will debate the resolution, "The political unification of the European Union is possible within the next 25 years," in the Dialectic Chamber, third floor, New West. All are welcome.

8 p.m. PLAYMAKERS: Special staged reading of Tennessee Williams' "The Two Character Play" will be held in the Paul Green Theatre. Ticket prices vary. For more information, call (919) 962-PLAY.

ENCOUNTERERS with the Music of Our Time: "Marimolin", Stephen Jaffe and Scott Lindroth, di-

rectors, in Nelson Music Room, East Duke Building.
8:30 p.m. FORMER LOS ANGELES RAM Gary Newell will be speaking in Carmichael Residence Hall Ballroom. Come and hear his story. Sponsored by FCA.

UNIVERSITY CAREER SERVICES will sponsor the following today:

4 p.m. JOB HUNT 101: Basic information on how to use the UCS office for seniors and graduate students in 209 Hanes Hall.

5 p.m. JOB HUNT 102: Resume (for seniors/graduate students). Covers the basics for constructing a professional resume in 209 Hanes Hall.

6 p.m. WALLACE presentation in 210 Hanes Hall. Open to all interested students.

6:30 p.m. CARE presentation in 210 Hanes Hall. Open to all interested students.

TARGET presentation in 306 Hanes Hall. Open to all interested students.

7 p.m. MCGAW INC presentation at the Carolina Inn. Open to all interested students.

LITHONIA LIGHTING presentation in 209 Hanes Hall. Open to all interested students.

ITEMS OF INTEREST
N.C. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE Robert Orr will speak in Classroom 1 of the UNC Law School Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Everyone welcome.

HONOR COURT applications are now available in Suite D. Applications due Thursday at noon.

STUDENT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S staff applications are now available in Suite D; due March 15 at 5 p.m.

CARMICHAEL RESIDENCE HALL Health Sciences Living and Learning Program is now accepting applications for the Fall 1996 semester. Available at Carmichael front desk.

CLASS OF 38 SUMMER FELLOWSHIP applications due Thursday. Four fellowships of \$3,000 each are awarded to sophomores and juniors interested in an independent study project abroad that is tied to personal and/or career aspirations. For more information, stop by the International Center in the Union or call 962-5661.

Super Haircut
NOW ONLY \$6.95 w/coupon Exp. 4/1/96
SUPERCUTS®
HOURS: M-F 10am - 8pm
Sat. 9am - 6pm
Sun. 12pm - 5pm
141 Rams Plaza **967-0226**
(located off of 15-501-On the Bus Route)

98% Fat Free
Peanut Butter
by Honey Hill Farms
"Eating Peanut Butter frozen yogurt at The Pump is like delving into a delicious jar of Skippy, except nothing sticks to the roof of your mouth or your hips."
-Lee White, Junior-UNC
Downtown Chapel Hill
106 W. Franklin St. (Next to He's Not Here)
942-PUMP
North Durham
Northgate Mall (Next to Carousel)
286-7868
the **YOGURT pump**
FREE TOPPING!
Get 2 scoops of topping free with any yogurt purchase! (Excludes Hot Fudge)
Please present coupon before ordering. One coupon per customer per visit.
Not valid with any other promotional offers. Good thru 3/7/96

For the Record
In the Friday, Feb. 16 article, "Five Local Notables Will Carry Torch Toward Olympics," Associate Vice Chancellor of University Relations Clifton Metcalf should have been quoted as saying, "We at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill are proud to join with our host communities in honoring the Olympic tradition and in saluting those who will bear the Olympic torch." The Daily Tar Heel regrets the error.

HISTORY AND CULTURE IN PARIS, FRANCE
Spend your Summer in France.
Intensive French Language in Grenoble, France and History & Culture in Paris, France
BOSTON UNIVERSITY
International Programs
For more information, please contact: Boston University International Programs
232 Bay State Road, Box PG, Boston, MA, 02215
617/353-9888
E-Mail: abroad@bu.edu
World Wide Web: http://web.bu.edu/abroad
An equal opportunity, affirmative action institution.
HISTORY AND CULTURE IN PARIS, FRANCE

Carolina Dining Services & Wicked Burrito
Welcome You To
"A NIGHT ON THE TOWN"
Wicked Burrito
BADASS MEXICAN FOOD
Wednesday, Feb. 28 from 5-7:30pm
Ala Carte Menu
in the Cutting Board, Lenoir Dining Hall
T-shirts and other apparel available.
This fine restaurant is kind enough to join us for dinner and prepare some of their signature selections. They are located in the immediate area and would like to invite you to dine with them at any time.

Carolina Pride's Spring Break Sale
Everything **40% - 70% OFF**
CAROLINA PRIDE
151 E. Franklin St. • 919-942-0127
Carolina Blue for the Pride in You.