

DTH Drama Review

Playmakers Give New Life To One-Acts

If the old Gent with the Snowy Whiskers is getting you down, Relax a while in the Old Book Corner in The Intimate

By KEN RIPLEY DTH Staff Writer

The Carolina Playmakers dusted off three one-act plays from their dramatic closet and presented them to an appreciative audience Wednesday night in the first of a five-evening production of "Encore!"

The first one-act, "Tooth or Shave," written by Josefina Niggli from Mexico and set in a little town near Monterrey, Mexico, was an entertaining comedy very cleverly written and aptly portrayed.

a funny story about two families that match wits over the purchase and ownership of a phonograph.

The set for "Tooth Or Shave" was well done, colorfully and tastefully contributing to the play.

The second one-act, "Still Stands the House," written by Canadian Gwen Pharis Ringwood and set in a western Canadian prairie farmhouse, was on a more serious nature and was more difficult to capture, a feat found somewhat of a chore by the actors.

The story had a faint taste of soap in the Playmaker production, which was unfortunate but not fatal.

The best performance in "Still Stands the House" was given by Gayle Davis, who played Hester Warren, the past-clinging sister. She had enough mobility of expression and range of emotion to portray the necessary resentment, fear, and insanity found in the character.

Melanie Lewis, though, as Ruth Warrery had trouble. Not only did she look too young to be a wife, she needed a wider range of emotion for the character and perhaps even a sense of timing. She had a tendency, to use the words of the character, to "sound affected."

Although she held down the role without serious error and

could display moments of laudable acting, she couldn't consistently be convincing as a wife faced with such problems.

James Chandler, as Bruce Warren, was more in role, but still contributed to the soap impression begun by Melanie.

The third and final one-act, "What Did You Learn in School Today?" written by Wallace H. Johnson of the United States, was the best one of the evening, no national bias intended.

The farce-satire was not only exceptionally well-written, but the creative interpretation of Director Clark Rogers and the six indistinguishable actors, the fascinating set design, and the overpowering lighting effect in

one place were themselves worth the evening spent.

The play itself is a satire generally on big business and more generally on human nature, placing adults in a situation unpleasantly resembling first grade.

The satire is thick, and unpleasant. Innumerable human foibles are dissected through the farce.

Midway through the play, the characters are involved in a sequence resembling a slow-motion movie. The lighting effect is tremendous, with a blue-white light flickering as the characters move in the awkward motions of a low-motion film. The effect is exactly as desired and done with great skill.

The clincher of the play and the note on which "Encore!" ends involves one man at the table who is not happy with what is going on and leaves the table to sit in a corner apart. Meanwhile, the men work feverishly to tear up paper and pile it in a waste basket.

By measuring the height of the trash, the men discover that they had made a great "achievement" of piling up more than before. Then, satisfied, they leave for home, leaving behind this one man still sitting in the corner, who then stands up and addresses

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UNC PROFESSOR EARL WYNN will give his annual reading of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" tonight at 8 in the Lounge of Graham Memorial. Everyone, and especially

children, are invited to hear Professor Wynn's yuletide presentation as he brings to life the age-old story of Scrooge and Tiny Tim.

Choir To Present Christmas Concert

The Carolina Choir, under the direction of Dr. Lara Hoggard, will present the University of North Carolina's annual Christmas concert of religious music at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 17, in Hill Music Hall.

Assisting in the program will be the UNC Brass Ensemble, the North Carolina String Quartet, an orchestral ensemble, and Dr. Rudolph Kremer, organist.

Randall Thompson, "Alleluia" and "Pueri Hebraeorum," will close the first portion of the program.

Soprano Caroline Bell of Bethesda, Md., alto Donnal Laney of Monroe, tenor William Stevens of Lenoir, and baritone Jefferson Ishee of Chapel Hill are the soloists in the performance of Benjamin Britten's cantata "Rejoice in the Lamb."

The Brass Ensemble, under the direction of John Harding, will open the concert with cathedral music played from the music building's rotunda. Included will be "Praeludium" by the contemporary composer Samuel Adler, a sonata by Claudio Monteverdi, and a canzona by Giovanni Gabrieli.

The 60-voice Carolina Choir will sing four works from the Renaissance: Palestrina's "Gloria Patri," "Tenebrae factae sunt" by Marco Antonio Ingegneri, "Ave verum corpus" by William Byrd, and "O filii et filiae" by Volckmar Leisinger. Two works by the American

The text of this work is taken from a long poem of the same name by the eighteenth century English poet, Christopher Smart. Its main theme is the worship of God by all created things, each in its own way.

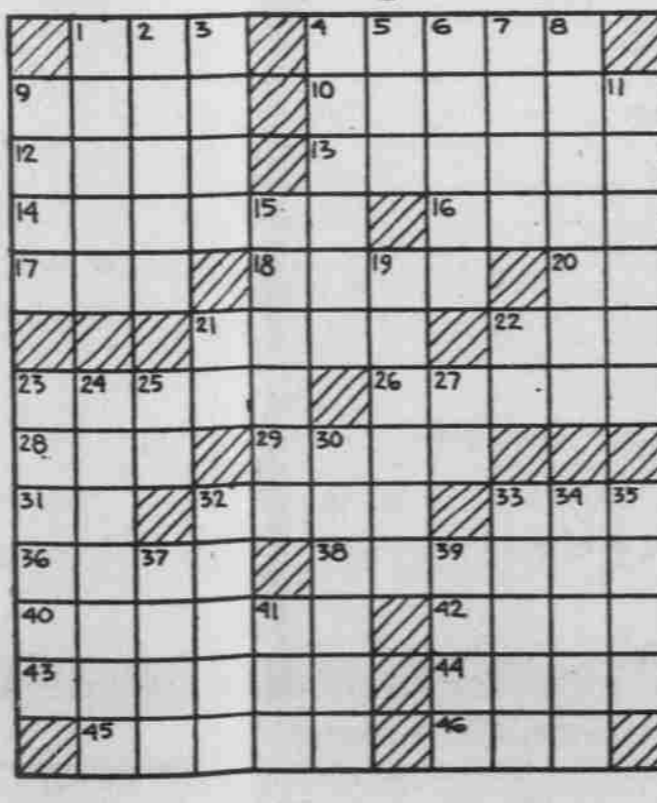
Franz Schubert's Mass in G major will close the program. Soprano Susan Stone of Hope Mills will join Stevens and Ishee as soloist. A small instrumental ensemble, which includes the North Carolina String Quartet, will assist in the performance of this work.

This regular Tuesday Evening Series program is open to the public without charge.

DAILY CROSSWORD

- ACROSS 1. Liquor from Jamaica 4. Spanish seaport 9. Tall tree 12. Interval 13. Norse epic 14. Upside down 15. Capsized (with "over") 16. Arab chieftain 17. Be incorrect 18. Meal in the forecastle 20. Guat. Hond. Nic., etc. 21. Word with man or seller 22. Alpha Delta 23. Knock down 26. Perch upon 28. Operated 29. Scottish Highlander 31. re 32. Entreats 33. Wine cask 36. Sicilian landmark 38. Presuppose 40. Fanatic 42. Kind of early pulpit 43. Fine fur 44. Poetic time of day 45. Aeries 46. Pitcher's statistic: abbr.

- DOWN 1. Rodeo performer 2. With 19 down, beset by tension 3. Lunch or dinner 4. Reproves 5. Biblical well 6. Brubeck and Garroway 7. Catalogue entry 8. Swiss city: poss. 9. Small dog, for short 11. Word with jacket or laced 15. Loom 19. See 2 down 21. Tramp 22. Italian river 23. Building decoration 24. Kind of jaw 25. Cricket 27. Chemical suffix 30. Playing marbles 32. capital is Singaraja 33. An abnormal swelling 34. Astronomer's word 35. Display sign 37. Word with caller or dropper 39. Identical 41. Between Man and Que.



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