

Gallery presents Albee

The Gallery Theatre, sponsored by Carrboro's Art School, hosted the first amateur performance (outside of London and New York) of Edward Albee's *Counting The Ways* and *Listening* last weekend. Prior to this "regional premier," much ado was made over the Gallery's coup in acquiring the rights to the new scripts. So it was with more than a little excitement that the small but eager opening-night audience awaited the first "curtain" of the evening.

Some time after 8:30 p.m., after a rather clumsy clicking on and off of the lights in the room that serves as the theater, a phantom hand suddenly appeared, waving a hand-lettered sign from behind a black drape,

theatre

By PATRICIA C. GREEN

Counting the Ways, Listening
by Edward Albee

signifying that *Counting The Ways* was (at last) underway. After an ominous crashing about in the dark, the man and woman who were to create Albee's scenes from a marriage were bumbling about on stage and in the light.

Cornelia Strickland and Gerald Unks play the wife and husband through whom Albee parades his most current views of the "loves me—loves me not" scene. Strickland was quit believable and endearing in the interlude that came halfway through the hour-long play. This break in the series of unconventional marital sketches calls for the

performers to step out of character and related to the audience as themselves.

UNC Prof. Gerald Unks, as the husband, managed to appear as natural in character as out. Unks' moments alone on stage were the most refreshing of the entire evening.

The Gallery's second, more serious offering of the night was *Listening* and featured Betty Setzer as the hard-soft, stable shaky caretaker of a psychotic young woman. Setzer was the bulwark of this cast. Her sheer bravado as an actress was enough to carry the uneven performances of the two others on stage.

Kathryn Conway as the patient and Richard Zaffron as the institution's cook had occasional arresting moments together. But Conway was never the picture of the "delicate butterfly" that Albee called for—and Zaffron failed to excite the audience with his opening monologue, an essential and somewhat poetic passage.

The poetic Albee seemed to be carefully hidden, in fact, throughout the greater part of this version of *Counting The Ways* and *Listening*. The jagged script and uneven performances made it difficult to determine just how the old Albee spirit is shifting about in these new works.

Yet despite the unevenness of this production, several isolated moments are well worth experiencing. Certainly Gallery's attempts to provide area theater buffs with a chance to see current American drama, and to provide students and townsfolk with a community stage, deserves encouragement.

The Albee plays continue tonight and Saturday with Sam Shepard's The Tooth of Crime opening Dec. 11.



Richard Zaffron, right, and Kathryn Conway star in "Counting the Ways," a new play by Edward Albee now playing at the Gallery Theater in Carrboro. "Counting the Ways" and "Listening" are playing this weekend, sponsored by the Art School.

TV violence on trial

Television has been under constant attack over the past few years because many consider the amounts of sex and violence on the three commercial networks to be excessive. The latter of these two "evils" has made national headlines during the past few weeks in connection with a Miami murder trial.

wavelength

By JIMMY WILKES

Fifteen-year-old Ronny Zamora was being tried for the June 4 shooting death of 82-year-old neighbor Elinor Haggart. The trial's connection with television appeared when Zamora's attorney, Ellis Rubin, stated that his defense would rest on the contention that Ronny had been driven temporarily insane by excessive exposure to television violence, and thus, should not be held accountable for his actions. There was never any doubt as to Zamora's guilt or innocence, only to his sanity at the time of the killing.

Rubin began his defense by having Ronny's mother testify to her son's extensive amount of television viewing, especially shows like *Kojak*, and *Baretta*. She went on

to add that Ronny became extremely agitated and nervous when viewing "violent" shows and that this reaction led her to worry about his television viewing.

However, the key to Rubin's case rested not on the testimony of Ronny's mother, but on the decision of the judge, Judge H. Paul Baker, as to the admittance of testimony by Florida Technological University psychologist Dr. Margaret Thomas. Thomas was willing to substantiate Rubin's defense by testifying to the link between television and violence. Even without examining Zamora, Thomas was convinced that his viewing of television could lead to such violent actions.

But early last week Judge Baker ruled that Thomas could not testify before the jury, thus undercutting Rubin's efforts to link television to the crime. Judge Baker stated that since Thomas couldn't offer "conclusive" evidence linking television violence to any particular crime, that there was no way for her to link the killing of Elinor Haggart to Ronny Zamora's television viewing. Without this expert testimony it took the Miami jury only two hours of deliberation before returning a guilty verdict.

The significance of the trial rests not only

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Creme de cacao nightcap: who said milk is harmless?

Milk has long been a tradition in the American diet. Few among us can say that they were *not* raised on wholesome Grade "A" milk. For perhaps the first eighteen years of our lives, milk was the **THING TO DRINK**. Good for us and chock full of protein and Vitamin D. Then along comes college and suddenly it's no longer "in" to be seen with a glass of milk in your hand, not even chocolate milk. Beer, wine and liquor come to replace this lifelong pal. Some of us would like to have some milk occasionally, but we're too embarrassed to do anything about it. Now, you can. Try some delicious Creme De Cacao Nightcap—The Drink of the Week! The milk you've been longing for with all the status of a mixed drink. And the taste is sooooo good and smoooooth! You'll find it hard to believe that consuming a gallon of this "harmless mixture" could prevent you from leaving the stadium before the sun sets behind the pines. It's excellent inside or outside, in the morning or before bed. Try it soon. Your mom will be proud of you!

Creme De Cacao Nightcap ingredients: 2 ozs. heavy sweet cream; 2 tsp. sugar; 4 tsp.

weekend bartender

By CARL R. FOX

white Creme De Cacao; 10 ozs. whole milk; 4 ozs. white Creme De Cacao; 2 ozs. California Brandy; 4 tbsp. sugar; Cocoa.

Beat cream in a blender or small, narrow bowl until whipped. Stir two teaspoons sugar and four teaspoons creme de cacao into whipped cream. Store in refrigerator until needed. Heat milk, four ounces creme de cacao, brandy and four tablepoons sugar until hot but *NOT* boiling. Pour hot milk mixture into stemmed goblets or mugs. Spoon whipped cream on top. Sprinkle lightly with cocoa. Serve on saucers. Makes four servings. NOTE: This drink is excellent for cold outdoor sports events. Simply multiply the recipe to accommodate your needs. COST: About \$10 to \$12 for a large batch.

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