

UNC's Fine Arts Renaissance



The Clefhangers, UNC's male capella singing group ...

Spirit of cooperation saves the day

By Thomas Healy
Assistant Omnibus Editor

The quality and diversity of student arts at the University is unquestionable. From elite a cappella singing groups like the Clef Hangers and the Loreleis, to the unique performances of the Lab Theater, artistic talent abounds on campus.

Yet never in the University's history have all these groups had the opportunity to collaborate on an event that would display their talent and work to the student body. Until now, that is — Sunday kicks off the first UNC-CH Student Fine Arts Festival. The festival, a week's worth of art exhibits, concerts, plays, readings and performances, is a showcase of student art sponsored by the Carolina Union Activities Board.

Malini Moorthy, the originator of the concept, and a member of the performing arts committee of the CUAB, stressed the uniqueness of the event. "What's special about this particular effort is it's the first time that each group is performing with the conscious and recognition of other groups of student art on campus."

"Each one has done their own thing, and there has been little opportunity for them to get together to do something for all student art. In order for the student body and the university to understand all the arts that are going on, we needed everyone to work together," said Moorthy.

Together and cooperation are the key words to describe the preparation that has gone into the festival. Jane Cox, chairman of the performing arts committee of the CUAB, said it had been a tremendous feeling to see a good portion of the arts community working together in one room. "It's been amazing to see so much publicity

around campus," Cox added. The idea for an all-student arts festival was conceived by Moorthy early last year. After calling all the student groups involved in the arts, and advertising for anyone else who would be interested in participating in the festival, the turnout for the performing arts committee meeting was greater than anyone had imagined.

It has been a gradual process, said Cox, of developing the idea. The CUAB helps put a lot of exciting things together, but they are not the Board's own projects. The festival is a culmination of a year's work at the CUAB, Cox said.

An interest in bringing different kinds of art together was the motivation behind the idea, said Moorthy. There have been past attempts to start a student arts board, but they never resulted in anything concrete. The first goal for this festival is to make sure it is successful and that it gains the recognition it deserves.

The majority of the participants in the festival are affiliated with student art groups, but a few individual acts will also be featured. Moorthy said she hoped that, in the future, they would be able to have more diverse types of art, but added that even for the first time, they have been able to achieve wide diversity in this year's festival. The festival will run from Sunday, April 8 to Thursday, April 12, and all events are free.

Here's a rundown and brief description of the week's events:

- **Syzygy Happenings**, a collection of eclectic performance art, takes place in the Pit at 6 p.m. Sunday and again at 6 p.m. Wednesday. The show begins in the Pit and then proceeds through campus as a performance of various dances and other short non-traditional multi-media performances. The show is performed by Syzygy, a

student theater troupe.

- A variety of performances by student theater are part of the festival. In addition to the production of *Dr. Faustus* by the Lab Theater, the *Pauper Players* are performing excerpts from the hit musical *Grease* Tuesday at 2 p.m. And *Mucedorus*, a hilarious comedy, dealing with the face and frolic of our times, will be performed in the Cabaret Wednesday at 5 p.m. and again Thursday at 1 p.m.

- **The Performing Arts Committee** is sponsoring a collage concert in the Cabaret Sunday at 7 p.m. The concert is a potpourri of art and dance, interspersed with music.

- **The Ebony Readers** feature two dramatizations about the life and times of Nelson Mandela. The performances, entitled *The Land and the People*, are a combination of monologue and dance routines in celebration of Mandela's release from captivity. The readings are Tuesday and Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Hanes Art Center.

- **Cellar Door**, the student literary magazine, features poetry and prose readings at the Cabaret Monday at 8 p.m.

- **Carolina Campus Jam** is a conjunction of the most prominent student vocal groups. For the first time, the *Carolina Tarheel Voices*, the *UNC Loreleis*, the *UNC Clef Hangers* and *Heels to Heaven* throw off all pretensions and perform together. The concert starts Tuesday at 5:30 p.m., with each group performing a few songs separately before the whole shebang culminates in a riveting collaboration of student voices, never before heard on campus.

- **Matt McCafferty**, an acoustic guitarist who frequently plays at the Cabaret, showcases original musical compositions at the Cabaret Wednesday at 7 p.m. Matt's music draws from folk, country, rock, pop and jazz.

- Light classical entertainment is the focus of "Les Flutes du Jour" in the Carolina Union Gallery Monday from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m., and a clarinet quintet performs Mozart Wednesday in the Carolina Union at noon.

- **Brannon Wiles**, a music major, performs his junior degree recital in Pearson Recital Hall at 7 p.m. Monday.

- **The Gallery Committee** is displaying the *Juried Undergraduate Art Show* in the Carolina Union Gallery throughout the week. The exhibit spotlights student art from UNC as well as from other N.C. universities. Great Hall is the site of another week long art exhibit sponsored by the *Undergraduate Art Association* and individual artists.

- A variety of pottery and sculpture demonstrations and exhibits are also a part of the festival. A sculpture class does a sculpture installation from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Pit Monday, and **Kimberly Russell** directs *Participatory Pit Pottery* Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The event consists of throwing pottery in the Pit, and audience participation is requested. A sculpture garden appears in the Pit at the same time.

- **Student Film Night**, in the Carolina Union Gallery Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., is a showcase of films by students. The films have been collected by the Gallery Committee, which sponsors the evening.

- **WXYC** provides a experience 21st-century audio experience Sunday from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. The show features recorded music, spoken word, live sonic performance and audience participation through phone calls.



... and the Loreleis, the female counterpart, perform in the pit on Tuesday, April 10 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

They hope to pry minds open

Doctor Faustus

Presented by Lab Theater

06 Graham Memorial

Sunday, April 8 at 4 and 8 p.m.
Monday, April 9 at 4 and 8 p.m.
Tuesday, April 10 at 5 p.m.

Free admission,
Donations accepted

The latest Lab Theater play should be a familiar one, at least in name. But this production of "Doctor Faustus," the 16th-century play by Christopher Marlowe known for its spiritual battles and introspection, promises to throw tradition out the door and hopes to pry open minds.

Faustus is (gasp!) a woman discovering her own sexuality. Mephistopheles is a two-in-one character, both male and female. So it came as no surprise when director Maria Earman, a senior drama and English major, explained that gender issues were central to the play.

"There's a bit of male and female in each of us," Earman said. The characters in the play are "interlating in a pseudo-sexual way," she added.

At the same time, concentrating on sexuality just scratches the surface of this interpretation of "Doctor Faustus." Earman also decided to get away from the clear-cut line between good and evil that seems to run through more traditional performances of the play.

JESSICA YATES Theater

"Nobody's playing all the good and all the evil characters," she said. "I'm kind of leaving a lot of things open to the audience, about sexuality, whether someone's good or bad, whether Faustus is damned or not." She said she worked with the actors and actresses in adapting their interpretations of their characters to the rest of the performance as well.

Debbie Morrison, a junior speech communications and psychology major, plays the role of Faustus. She said she has learned a lot about herself from the experience. "There are things that are really important to think about — when you get to the end of life, you have to find out what there really is, and I think about that a lot," she said. The play raises a lot of these questions, she said. "Is everyone worthy of this so-called salvation, if it really exists?"

Earman said she thought "Doctor Faustus" was an interesting choice for a Lab Theater production. "Faustus is a scholar, and she's rejecting scholasticism," she said. "It's ironic that we're doing this at a university." She added that her work in directing the play was serving as her honors thesis.

All of the actors and actresses except Morrison in "Doctor Faustus" have multiple roles. Faustus remains on stage throughout the play to show how the action actually occurs in her mind as a dream sequence.

The rest of the performers said they have had their share of challenges. Fresh-

man Chris Qualls, whose main role is the male Mephistopheles, said recitations in verse can be difficult. "You have to make it mean something to yourself, instead of just poetry."

Jen Davis, a sophomore psychology major who plays the female Mephistopheles, agreed. "The verse can be pretty, but it's very scary at first."

Issues of religious doctrine have interested a lot of the performers. Time Cole, a junior drama major who plays Robin, said that the question of whether or not Faustus is spiritually saved still exists, although the original audiences may have interpreted the play differently. "When this was first written, this was a real issue," he said. "It must have been terrifying for the audience to watch."

Mark Fatzinger, a freshman whose main role is Wagner, said he had studied the play in German classes. He said he was fascinated with the way Faustus sacrifices her soul but still toys with spiritual questions of salvation. "For me, as a Christian, she (Faustus) seems so close in spots."

Earman's interpretation of the play was one of the most challenging and eye-opening aspects of the experience to Chris Patrick, a freshman who plays Lucifer. "I can not picture Faustus as a man anymore, I can not picture Mephistopheles as one person," he said. "Being in it, I see how it (Earman's interpretation) is so well adapted to the play."

Allison Herring, a freshman whose main role is Scholar, agreed. "I like Maria's interpretation." She added that playing multiple roles was a good learning experience for her.

Pamela Hartley, who plays Emperor, was not present for the interview.

Sunday, April 8		Student Fine Arts Festival		Wednesday, April 11	
All Week	Gallery Committee: Juried Undergraduate Art Show • Gallery, Carolina Union Lab Theater: <i>Doctor Faustus</i> • 06 Graham Memorial UNC Glee Club • Hill Hall Syzygy: <i>Syzygy Happenings</i> • Pit Performing Arts Committee: College Concert • Cabaret, Carolina Union Lab Theater: <i>Doctor Faustus</i> • 06 Graham Memorial WXYC: <i>Radio Free Association</i> • 89.3 FM Radio	9:30 p.m.	Jerry Smith: Saxophone Jazz with piano accompaniment • Cabaret, Carolina Union	12 p.m.	Clarinet Quintet: A. K. 581 by Amadeus Mozart Upstairs Lounge, Carolina Union Midday with Chris Brown Cabaret, Carolina Union Kimberly Russell: Participatory Pit Pottery Pit (rain site: Carolina Union Lobby)
4-6 p.m.		11 a.m.-4 p.m.	Undergraduate Art Association and Individual Artists: Art Exhibit • Great Hall, Carolina Union Pauper Players: Excerpts from <i>Grease</i> • Cabaret, Carolina Union Lab Theater: <i>Doctor Faustus</i> • 06 Graham Memorial	2-4 p.m.	Sculpture Garden Pit (rain site: Carolina Union Lobby) <i>Mucedorus</i> , directed by Maria Earman Cabaret, Carolina Union Syzygy: <i>Syzygy Happenings</i> Pit Ebony Readers: <i>Mandela, the Land and the People</i> Hanes Art Center, Auditorium Original Composition by Matt McCafferty followed by Carolina Comedy Council Cabaret, Carolina Union Student Film Night Gallery, Carolina Union
4 p.m.		2 p.m.		5-5:45 p.m.	
6 p.m.		5-7 p.m.		6 p.m.	
7 p.m.		5:30-7 p.m.		7 p.m.	
8-10 p.m.		7 p.m.		7:30 p.m.	
11 p.m.-2 a.m.		8-10 p.m.			
Monday, April 9		Tuesday, April 10		Thursday, April 12	
11 a.m.-2 p.m.	Sculpture Class: Installation • Pit (cancelled if rain) <i>Les Flutes du Jour</i> • Gallery, Carolina Union Lab Theater: <i>Doctor Faustus</i> • 06 Graham Memorial Brannon Wiles: Junior Degree Recital • Pearson Recital Hall Cellar Door: Poetry and Prose Reading • Cabaret, Carolina Union Lab Theater: <i>Doctor Faustus</i> • 06 Graham Memorial	11 a.m.-4 p.m.		1-1:45 p.m.	<i>Mucedorus</i> , directed by Maria Earman • Cabaret, Carolina Union

Musicians use jazz to express their vision

When most college students hear the term jazz, they probably remember the Sunday night "jazz flavors" program on their hometown radio station — the program where every song sounded the same, and the hours seemed to drag by in rhythmic monotony.

They forget about Charlie Parker, Count Basie, John Coltrane, and Muddy Waters. They forget about chilling sax solos, rhythmic piano chords and the spirited swing sound of trumpets. And they forget that, in the opinion of many people, jazz is the music the 20th century will be remembered for.

But in the minds of Steve Ganz and Jerry Smith, two students who will be featured at the Cabaret as part of the Fine Arts Festival, none of these elements of jazz are forgotten. Jazz is the route they have taken to express their vision of life and the sound of the instrument they love.

Ganz, a senior chemistry major, is the saxophone tenor of the UNC Jazz Ensemble. He began playing the saxo-

PROFILE

phone in the 6th grade and continued the learning process throughout high school, where he was part of a jazz ensemble. During those years, Ganz frequently won soloist awards at competitions the ensemble attended. Since then he has studied under Jack Wilkins and Ed Paoloantonio, two phenomenal players who formerly taught music at the University, and is also part of a rhythm and blues band called Blast Crisis. Jazz permeates every aspect of his life, and if he's not rehearsing with the jazz ensemble or practicing with Blast Crisis, he's practicing by himself, three hours a day, at least.

"Jazz is the ending of a natural progression toward complete self-actualization. It allows complete artistic creativity," says Ganz. "It allows one to think."

Ganz has been accepted to the New School of Jazz and Contemporary Music in New York, one of the finest schools for jazz in the country. There he hopes to devote himself full time to

the art, and to eventually make his living as a sax player. His dedication to the music is indisputable and his appreciation of jazz is far greater than that of the student who listened to jazz flavors as a background for Sunday night homework.

For Jerry Smith, jazz plays a different, although no less important role. His chosen instrument, the saxophone, is suited so perfectly for jazz that it seems only natural he should play in that style. His feelings about jazz and his appreciation of it are obvious in his words: "For me jazz is a great outlet to express my feelings about life."

Smith is a senior whose involvement in the UNC baseball team and aspirations toward law school take time away from his music. Yet he still finds time to play his jazz, join Cat In The Hat for an occasional gig, and practice for what he calls an intense hour every day.

According to Smith, this year he is truly beginning to develop his own style of playing. And talking to him, one understands that having his own style and approach to playing is very

important to him. "I don't make an effort to mimic any type of style," he says. "What I feel when I hear it (jazz) — I try to put that same feeling into it when I play it."

Smith says he would like to play the saxophone for a living if he's good enough. But he qualifies this statement by saying: "Sax is one thing I don't do to get awards or give myself some type of status. I do it strictly because I love it."

And, knowing that people feel so strongly about jazz and the saxophone, the audience should be somewhat more inspired by jazz flavors next Sunday.

Steve Ganz performs as part of a quintet at the Cabaret Tuesday at 8 p.m. Joining him are Marty Hodel on trumpet, Paul Murphy on piano, Mark Simonson on drums and Scott Miller on bass.

Jerry Smith performs with Paul Murphy in the Cabaret Monday night at 9:30 p.m. The program consists mainly of improvisational saxophone and piano jazz with a few traditional standards.

—Thomas Healy