

Shakespeare's bizarre play

World of Troilus seethes with dark evils

By BOB McBRYDE

Troilus and Cressida is a strange and wonderful play which, in its bitterness, leaves the audience with a taste of war's futility and love's unreliability.

Shakespeare's dark comedy has been captured by U of T's Hart House theatre troupe with a sensitivity which makes this production the crowning achievement of their season.

The play is a comedy in name only; even the title is something of a misnomer. The major thrust of the action, or inaction, concerns the familiar events of the Trojan Wars.

All the well-known characters appear with their personalities sharply delineated by the playwright: proud

Achilles, dull Ajax, scheming Ulysses, noble Hector. These characters become, as the play progresses, archetypes for all warriors, and all men.

The title plot involves the sad love affair of two young Trojans, Troilus and Cressida. Cressida, through the machinations of her lecherous uncle Pandarus, is brought together with Priam's son, Troilus. But after spending an amorous night with the love-struck warrior, she is sold to the Greeks in exchange for a political prisoner.

She yields to her lustful desires in the Greek camp, becoming something of the warriors' whore. Troilus, after witnessing some of her carnal

shenanigans, is left to pine away in misery for having loved someone so unworthy.

DARK CORRUPTION

This sense of dark corruption and disintegration extends throughout the entire play world. The war at Troy is being fought over a woman who merits nothing of the sacrifice. As the war muddles along, energies on both sides are dissipated in petty discussion and personality conflict. The main

commentary on the play is provided by a bitter fool, Thersites, whose flaying insights into the pervasive lust and stupidity condition the audience's reaction.

Indeed, this war is any war. The familiar words "peace with honour" grate upon one's ears with stunning irony. Through the use of dark and eerie lighting and cacophonous music, the Hart House production creates a nightmarish atmosphere; phallic symbols abound as the lust of the warriors

is painfully demonstrated.

Director Martin Hunter has performed something of a coup in his brilliant casting. The Greek side, wearing dark costumes, is, to man, bearded and hairy; while every Trojan, dressed in white, is clean-shaven and fair.

But each side mirrors the other in terms of stupidity and animal desires, and in the scenes which alternate between opposing camps this irony is easily recognizable.

Barry O'Connor, as the lecherous procurer, Pandarus, has the last word in the play's proceedings as he addresses the audience with accusations of guilt and complicity. One leaves Troilus and Cressida with a mouth full of dust.

The Hart House Theatre at U of T presents the play until Saturday night. Students pay \$1.50. Call: 928-8668.

Sight and Sound

Mad Dogs and little chickadees

Double bills are rife this week. Calumet offers Zabriskie Point (Antonioni) and Mad Dogs and Englishmen (Joe Cocker) Sunday at 7:30 p.m. in the Calumet Common Room, Atkinson, for 69 cents. And Environmental Studies host My Little Chickadee (W. C. Fields), Horse Feathers (Marx Bros.) and short for \$1 in Curtis LH-I at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. tonight. The shorts include Running, Jumping, Standing Still, with the cast of radio's The Goon Show.

More than one way to skin Fritz

Winters skins Fritz the Cat this week in Ralph Bakshi's animated tale of Robert Crumb's infamous streetcat. The first X-rated cartoon appears in Curtis LH-I at 8 p.m. Friday and Sunday nights, for \$1.25 general, \$1 Winters.

Shocking Everyman at Glendon

Everyman, a shocking medieval play, will be presented by Glendon drama students tonight and tomorrow nights at 8 p.m. in the Pipe Room of Glendon Hall. Admission is \$1, or 50 cents for students.

Violent realism in Walking Tall

Rolling Stone called Walking Tall "the best American movie of the year". It's a true, powerful and terrifying account of one man's struggle against organized crime. "Be warned," says Bethune's ace promo department. "This is a violent film, and may even be too real for you to take." Joe Don Baker and Elizabeth Hartman star in 35 mm. with two glossy cartoons, at 8:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, in Curtis LH-L. Admission is \$1.25 general, \$1 Bethune.

Benefit concert for Ed Blackwell

A benefit jazz concert will be held Sunday, March 17 downtown for ailing drummer Ed Blackwell, known for his work with the Ornette Coleman quartet. Sonny Rollins, Karl Berger, Sadik Hakim, Sonny Greenwich and vocalist Salome Bey will participate, as well as Toronto bands like Gary Morgan and friends, the Bernie Senensky Trio and the Ted Moses group. The concert is at Mackenzie's Corner House, 620 Church at Charles, at 1 and 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 a show or \$9 for both, with half-price for children. Phone 929-5065 or 964-0583 for details.

Byrds' guiding light continues to shine



Byrds (circa 1965) with McGuinn, top left

By DYNAMITE C. STRANGE

Unlike many of the two-hit sensations which emerged and quickly faded during the mid-to-late sixties, the Byrds were able to capture and encapsulate the changing essence of trends in rock music without falling into the cliché-ridden commonplaces which characterized the work of lesser artists.

Throughout their continuing flirtations with folk, raga, science-fiction and country idioms, the group, under the aegis of Roger McGuinn, was able to assimilate influences and synthesize them into directions which were both innovative and entertaining.

On Roger McGuinn (Columbia), we are presented with an affirmation of

the ingenuity, resourcefulness, and sense of excitement which was infused into the best of what the Byrds were able to produce, during their often stormy and occasionally inconsistent attempts to create a brand of rock as lyrically sensitive as it was musically stimulating.

With help from all the original Byrds, and, on one cut, Bob Dylan, McGuinn fulfills the promise which was only hinted at in the much-touted but relatively low-keyed and uncharacteristic reunion album of last year, which suffered from an overemphasis on a lightweight, acoustic approach. With McGuinn comes the realization and continuation of that effort in an album full of a verve and intricate power which make it a fitting culmination to ten years' travel through the disjointed world of pop stardom.

The keynote of the album seems to be experience, quickened by the kind of enthusiasm which seems to negate the temporary, arbitrary whims of rock popularity. On I'm So Restless, McGuinn indirectly addresses the sexual, mystico-political messiahs of the sixties, and subtly points to lack of substance of the "answers" which fans found in the likes of Dylan, Lennon, and Jagger.

A compilation of the Byrds' earliest recording sessions, in 1964, Preflyte, is still a valid, and at some points enticingly fresh indication of the Byrds' very earliest efforts. Including the original version of Mr. Tambourine Man and a couple of fine, lilting Gene Clark ballads, it will probably be of interest only to affirmed Byrd fanatics, but nevertheless rates a listen as a slightly dated period piece.

Film students create Pulse

The York film students' association, formed February 4, has produced the first issue of its periodical newsletter, Pulse.

Designed to provide the reader "with a wealth of information", Pulse offers a schedule of York films to March 15, and industry news.

While most of Pulse's writing is dry, often to the point of tedium (the rationale for the association and a CRTC editorial are particularly long-winded), the information contained in the news-sheet is important and interesting.

Pulse needs writers (faculty and students) and money, and can be reached in Room 226 of the Administrative Studies building.

Corruption night

Crime and Corruption night (Winters has such a way with words) comes to the Winters junior common room Friday night, with an all-star grade-B gangster line-up. The Phoenix City Story (directed by the director of Walking Tall), Gun Crazy (the original Bonnie and Clyde), Rod Steiger as Al Capone and Samuel Fuller's Shock Corridor will while away the hours, as the gentle sound of \$2 general, \$1.50 Winters tinkles into the cashbox at the door. The show starts at 8:30 p.m.

On Campus

Events for On Campus should be sent to Dawn Cotton, Department of Information and Publications, N817 Ross. Deadline is Monday, 12 noon.

SPECIAL LECTURES

Thursday 7:30 p.m. - E.G.O. Program [Centre for Continuing Education] "T-Groups" with Herb Pollack - general admission \$6.00; \$4.00 for students - 107, Stedman

8:30 p.m. - Humanities Lecture Series (Atkinson College) "Through Dilemma into Dialogue" by York Professor William R. Coleman - Moot Court, Osgoode

Monday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Film/Lecture (Sociology and Anthropology) Gerald Gold of Glendon's Department of Sociology, will speak on "Structural Constraint to Sociability in Regional Elites: Eastern Quebec and Central Mexico" from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.; films will be shown at 1:00 p.m. - "Appeals to Santiago" and "St. Pascal" - C, Curtis

3:00 p.m. - University of Toronto-York University Joint Program in Transportation - "A New Role for Q/STOL" by Mr. T.G. Dunkin, Coordinator, Market Development, De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited - Senate Chamber (S915), Ross

4:00 p.m. - Canadian Playwright Series (Faculty of Fine Arts) featuring Len Peterson - Graduate Lounge (S783), Ross

4:30 p.m. - Biology Seminar Series - "Effects of Pesticides on Operantly Conditioned Behaviour" by Mr. P. Martinovich, York graduate student - 320, Farquharson

Tuesday 4:00 p.m. - York Poetry Series [Faculty of Fine Arts, Humanities and English] featuring Gwendolyn MacEwan, 1969 Governor-General's Award winner for poetry - Faculty Lounge (S869), Ross

8:00 p.m. - E.G.O. Program [Centre for Continuing Education] "Hypnosis and Other Altered States of Consciousness" with Howard Eisenberg - general admission \$5.00; \$3.50 for students - 107, Stedman

Wednesday 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Lecture/Demonstration (Music) featuring Dr. Robert Moog, inventor of the Moog synthesizer, who will speak on "Synthetic Sound and Real Music" - F, Curtis

4:30 p.m. - Chemistry Seminar Series - "Proximity Effects in Rigid Hydrocarbons" by Professor D.N. Butler - 317, Petrie

FILMS, ENTERTAINMENT

Thursday 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Films [Film Department, Atkinson] an exposition of Ontario high school students' works - S137, Ross

7:00 p.m. & 9:30 p.m. - International Film Series [Faculty of Environmental Studies] "My Little Chickadee" and "Horse Feathers"; plus "Running, Jumping, Standing", "Lady Beware", "Two Castles" and "Lean" - admission \$1.00 - I, Curtis

7:30 p.m. - Film [Film Department] special screening of "Conrack" (note the date change); producer Martin Ritt will be present for a question/answer period - L, Curtis

8:00 p.m. - Play - "Everyman" performed by Glendon drama students - general admission \$1.00; 50¢ for students - Pipe Room, Glendon

Friday 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. - Films [Film Department, Atkinson] see Thursday's listing at 7:00 p.m. - S137, Ross

7:00 p.m. - Film [Film Department] "Kino Pravda" (1922; by Vertov) - L, Curtis

8:00 p.m. - Play - "Everyman" - Pipe Room, Glendon

8:00 p.m. - Film [Winters] "Fritz the Cat" - admission \$1.25 - I, Curtis

8:30 p.m. - Films [Winters] "The Phoenix City Story", "Al Capone", "Shock Corridor" and "Gun Crazy" - admission \$2.00 - JCR, Winters

8:30 p.m. - Play [Atkinson] Arthur Miller's "The Creation of the World and Other Business" - performed by York students - admission \$2.50 - Stong Theatre

Saturday 6:30 p.m. & 9:30 p.m. - Play [Atkinson] See Friday's listing at 8:30 p.m.

8:30 p.m. - Film [Bethune] "Walking Tall" (Joe Don Baker) - admission \$1.25 - L, Curtis

Sunday 7:30 p.m. - Films [Calumet] "Zabriskie Point" and "Mad Dogs and Englishmen" - admission 69¢ - Calumet Common Room, Atkinson.

8:00 p.m. - Film [Winters] "Fritz the Cat" - admission \$1.25 -

I, Curtis

8:30 p.m. - Film [Bethune] "Walking Tall" - admission \$1.5 - L, Curtis

Monday 8:00 p.m. - Indian Music Concert [Faculty of Fine Arts] featuring: vocalist Jon Higgins; percussionist Trichy Sankaran; violinist L. Shankar; and Helen Sentesy on the tambura - SCR, McLaughlin

Tuesday 3:00 p.m. - 5:10 p.m. - Film [Humanities 277] "Hymn to a Tired Old Man" - L, Curtis

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. - Film [Humanities 179B] "Growing Up Female" - I, Curtis

5:05 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. - Film [Humanities 171] "The Seventh Seal" - I, Curtis

7:00 p.m. - Film [Film Department] "Hymn to a Tired Man" (French, 35 mm - 1968; by Kobayashi) - L, Curtis

Wednesday 7:30 p.m. - Student Workshop [Dance] dances, studies, improvisations and demonstrations - Studio 3, Fine Arts Building

CLUBS, MEETINGS

Monday 7:00 p.m., 8:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m. - Hatha Yoga - JCR, McLaughlin

7:30 p.m. - York Bridge Club - Vanier Dining Hall

Tuesday 7:30 p.m. - Ontology Club - 118, Founders

MISCELLANEOUS

Sunday 7:30 p.m. - Roman Catholic Mass - 107, Stedman

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. - Christian Counselling & Religious Consultation - call Chaplain Judt at 661-3738 or 633-2158

9:00 a.m. - Christian Science Organization - S737, Ross

ATHLETICS AND RECREATION

Sunday 1:00 p.m. - Recreational Soccer - Tait McKenzie

2:00 p.m. - Indoor Tennis - Tait McKenzie

Monday 12:15 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. - Conditioning for Men & Women - each Mon., Wed., and Fri. - Tait McKenzie

Tuesday 7:30 p.m. - Scuba Diving Class - S203, Ross