

Chinook has first home season

by Michael MacRae

This October, the Chinook Theatre will inaugurate its first full season of alternative drama in Edmonton. Chinook's mandate includes producing educational plays for Alberta's elementary, junior high, and secondary schools.

Chinook Theatre's publicist, Bill Ashton, describes Chinook's program as "two-halves — a touring company and our Edmonton facility."

As for the touring side, Ashton believes that the Chinook is "the most successful touring company in the province." This year, Edmonton gets a chance to see Chinook's

touring plays, when both *Bombs* and *The Voyages of Sinbad* have runs in the city. "It's a first for us," Ashton proudly asserts.

Chinook's touring plays concentrate on Canadian and Albertan works. *Bombs* was written by local playwrights Kenneth Brown and Keith Thomas. *The Voyages of Sinbad* is the work of the Chinook's own artistic director, Brian Paisley.

Chinook also encourages theatrical development through its Fringe Festival and by renting out its own facilities.

This year's Fringe Festival scored a big hit with the much-acclaimed play, *Hess*. The play was so successful that it was held over for a week's run at The Chinook after the Fringe ended.

But *Hess* was only the beginning as far as the success of the Fringe went. "Over 30,000 people attended the Fringe's 100 shows," Ashton informs us. "That's more than twice the attendance of last year's Fringe, and four times the attendance of the first Fringe Festival two years ago."

Chinook is presently adapting to their new space at the old firehall at 10329-83 Ave.

Thanks to the Chinook, access to the skills and facilities of an established professional theatre company are now within reach of almost any amateur theatre group.

Chinook has a revenue-sharing arrangement with less established performing groups, and charges a straight rental fee to the more established troupes. "You can have the facility for as little as a \$50 deposit," says Ashton.

Chinook's old firehall has adapted remarkably well to drama. The auditorium can seat 175 people, "and there isn't a bad seat in the house," says Ashton.

The stage lighting and the sound system are impressive and versatile: "considering that this building was not designed as a theatre, it has perfect acoustics," says Ashton. Chinook also has hosted musical shows, such as CJSR's Hard Times Music Festival.

Chinook itself is a non-profit organization whose own goal is to become self-sufficient. Ashton is confident that Chinook will attain this goal.

Chinook's first production, *Bombs*, opens this Thursday, October 4 at 8 pm. This innovative look at the nuclear age touches upon society's responsibilities and individual psychoses. The lead character is Roger, a typical high school student.

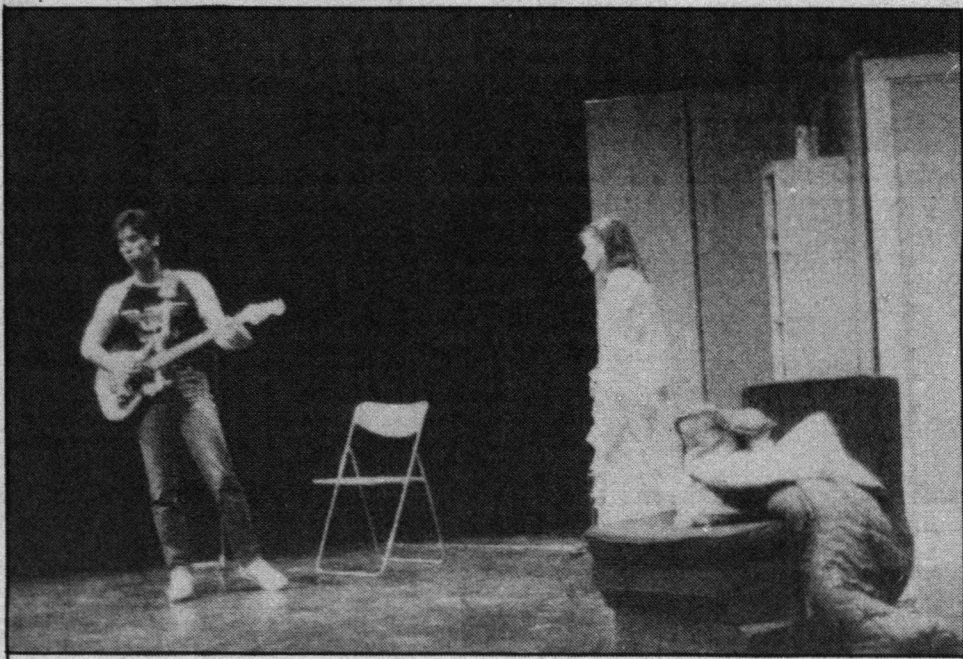
The Voyage of Sinbad, written and directed by Chinook Artistic Director Brian Paisley, is a magical fantasy for young and old alike, it plays October 6 and 7th at 2 pm.

Workshop West, another familiar name, will be bringing us two works. The Toronto hit, *Life on the Line*, is slated for October 11 to 21, with matinees on October 14 and 21.

Also, a remount of the Canadian classic and Workshop West hit *Billy Bishop Goes to War*, will run October 23 to 28.

Finally, on October 31, a unique evening of electronic music set to dark horrifying images to provide a scare for Hallowe'en, as Antoine Rouge takes the Chinook stage by storm.

Tickets for all these events can only be obtained at the door.



Bombs is in town for a week before touring

Twisted lives

Private Lives
Walterdale Theatre

review by Melanie Klimchuk

Private Lives is a great play for us closet voyeurs. It's at the Walterdale Playhouse, one of those smaller theatres where the seats rise up from the stage. So there you sit, in the dark, all smug and safe. Spying on these two honeymoon couples.

Amanda and Elyot are on their second honeymoons. They are married to Victor and Sybil, respectively, but they used to be married to each other. Between Amanda and Elyot there was always an intense chemical attraction, which never failed to result in a violent explosion. So they got a divorce.

But now Noel Coward complicates their lives by putting them in neighboring suites. The honeymoons are over. Amanda and Elyot run off to Paris, with Victor and Sybil to follow.

Allan Scudamore is perfect as Elyot. He plays the oh-so-British, puffed-up teddy-bear so well that you want to pick him up and

shake the stuffing out of him.

Even for her uncomfortable situation, Christine Upright's Amanda is too strained and calculated in the first act. She loosens up enough later though, to bring Amanda to life.

Jillian Paschen-Badger's Sybil is lofty and dizzy enough to rise above the situation.

Therese Dallaire is a bumptious French maid, and Patrick McGuigan's Victor is larger than life, a cartoon character.

The entire production in fact, under Sue Lister's direction, is a great live-action cartoon.

Private Lives is the stuff dinner theatre is made of: fluffy, but filling, and not sickly sweet ilke dessert.

Noel Coward wrote *Private Lives* in 1929 when he was sick with the flu in Shanghai. He played Elyot in the original cast, with real life leading lady Gertrude Lawrence as Amanda, and Laurence Olivier as Victor.

Private Lives runs at the Walterdale until October 6.

Telephone Directory '84 CHANGES & DELETIONS

If you wish your name and address changed or deleted from the Students' Union Telephone Directory, please contact the SU Receptionist, Rm 259 SUB, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

DEADLINE:
October 9/84, 4:30 pm

CABARETS

DINWOODIE • 2nd Floor SUB • DOORS: 8 pm

Tickets are available from the SUB Box Office (2nd floor SUB) and various club members.

NOTE: These events are open to U of A students, staff, and guests. Absolutely no minors admitted!

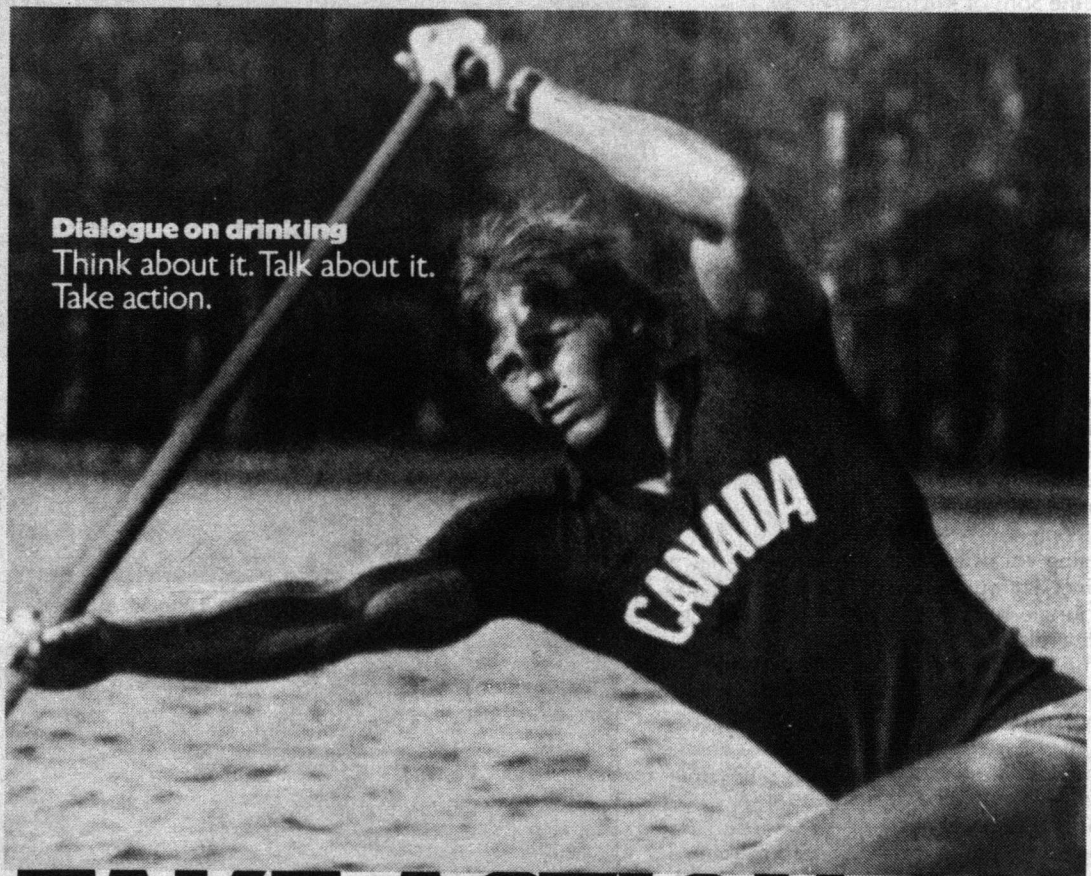
ATTIC RECORDS



Phi Delta Theta
presents
from England
katrina
and the waves
"Walking on Sunshine"
with guest
NEO A4
SATURDAY, OCT. 13

UP & COMING:

OCT. 19 THE VILLAINS • OCT. 26 Chinese Students' Assoc. Party-Dance • OCT. 27 DAVID WILCOX & Sneakers
STADIUM CARPARK CLOSED, PLEASE USE EDUCATION OR WINDSOR CAR PARKS, ZONE M OR W. SORRY FOR THE INCONVENIENCE



Dialogue on drinking

Think about it. Talk about it.
Take action.

TAKE ACTION ON OVER-DRINKING.

"I like the taste of a cold beer on a hot day, but I certainly don't think you have to get the gang together with a couple of cases of beer just to celebrate the fact you've had a bit of exercise."

JOHN WOOD
OLYMPIC SILVER MEDALLIST

Canada



Health and Welfare Canada

Santé et Bien-être social Canada