

For all to see

Dal Theatre lets it all hang out

Review: Lilli Ju Photo: Mike Devonport

"Hi, honey. I'm homo!"
As soon as we were escorted to our seats, I knew *Unidentified Human Remains and the True Nature of Love* wasn't going to be a typical production. Stage, stands and walls were black and most of the audience was seated around a catwalk overlooking three sides of the stage.

Directed by Patrick Christopher, assisted by Jean Morpurgo, students of Dal's theatre department present a Canadian play by Brad Fraser that is both challenging to watch and interesting to take in.

So what is the play about? Well, without spilling out the whole plot and giving away the ending, I guess you can say in a few words that it's about: finding love, serial murders, Generation X, exploring sexuality, getting laid and friends. And if that's not spicy enough for you, there's also a bit of fellatio, couples getting to-

gether of all orientations, lots of naked butts and even some full-frontal male nudity. I guess you had to be there.

After saying all that, we don't want you to think the play is just about sex, 'cuz it's not.

This play is about love — but it's definitely not your traditional love story.

It's about David, a gay man in his late 20s, who's jaded with love. He doesn't believe in love, nor does he think he needs it. His roommate, on the other hand, Candy, is absorbed in her search for true love.

As an audience member, you are made to feel like a voyeur, peeping into the lives of these two, as they try to find themselves, establish their identities and deal with some of the problems facing this generation. The storyline contains some great one-liners and is scattered with urban myths and answering machine messages thrown in with quirky effec-



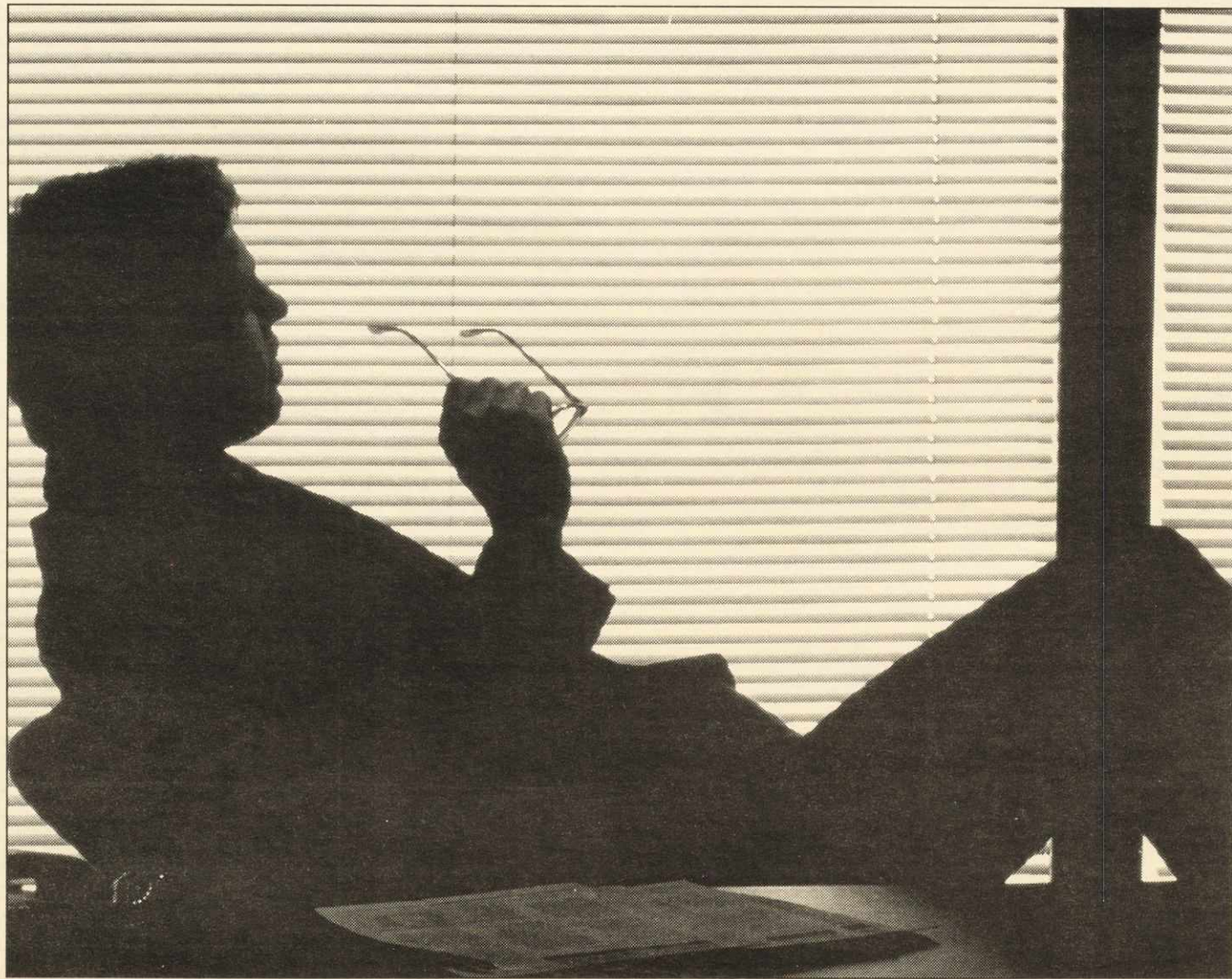
tiveness to heighten the intensity of the plot.

On a technical level, I thought the set was effectively simple, maintaining the focus of attention on the development of the characters and their relationships. The use of light-

ing to emphasize the transition from one scene to another was also done well and unobtrusively.

It is a play that is definitely worth seeing. The play does contain explicit material and very frank language, intended for a mature audi-

ence. *Unidentified Human Remains and the True Nature of Love* is being shown in the David Mack. Murray Theatre, Dal Arts Centre, Oct. 26 to 29 and Nov. 2 to 5 at 8 p.m. Matinée on Oct. 29 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$14/adult and \$12/students and senior citizens, available at the Cohn Box Office, 494-3820.



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Khyber busk

by James Beddington

Last Wednesday local buskers, Albert and Dave, performed a collection of eclectic folk songs at the Khyber Café.



Albert August and Dave McConnell
Performance Review
Oct 19, Khyber Café

The show was free; however donations were readily accepted in the poor box. The show had an atmosphere of a coffee house performance. The large crowd that came out to watch Albert and Dave play was friendly and warm.

The two performers joked and mingled with the audience. Everyone seemed to enjoy the show which was divided into two sets of about ten or twelve songs each.

The performance was entirely acoustic as Albert sang and played guitar while Dave accompanied him on guitar and mouth harp. All but one of the tunes was written by Albert who will be the host for the Khyber's open mic nights.

The songs reflective and well-constructed. Albert is very capable as a song writer. He comfortably mixes humour and sorrow. His material has a mature, well-developed edge that is rare in these times.

The open mic nights will start in early November on Wednesday evenings. The Khyber (located at 1588 Barrington Street) is open noon until 5 p.m., Monday to Friday. For more information, call 422-9668.