



## Banff Fine Arts photos on display in Frisco

Seventy-three prints from photography diploma program students at the Banff School of Fine Arts will be on exhibit in San Francisco's Art Institute March 1-21. This marks the first international photographic exhibition by students at the Banff Centre. A similar exhibition will be shown April 1-23 at the Artists' Gallery in Seattle, Washington and then move on to Vancouver in May.

An exchange exhibition of the students' work at the San

Francisco Art Institute has been scheduled for March in the Eric Harvie Theatre.

# The arts

## Mrs. Warren's Profession ...

### GBS no MCP at Citadel

George Bernard Shaw is not a male chauvinist pig.

Shaw's *Mrs. Warren's Profession* is a play that addressed itself directly to the social inequities imposed by the ruling elite of Victorian society. In this play, Shaw exposed the economic subjugation of women in his society as one more facet of the oppression suffered by the majority for the profit and pleasure of the few. The play then typically serves as a vehicle to communicate Shaw's deeply felt, socialist sentiments. Line by line, it devastates the refined Victorian gentility that is a contrived mask for a society that operated on a baser, more primitive level, nurturing raw, acquisitive instincts. But in deference to Victorian sensibilities, Shaw colors the earnest message in his dialogue with entertaining wit and humor. Which, justifiably for Shaw, gained him an audience. There is enough gentle laughter to relieve one from the guilt that comes of recognizing the simple truths exposed in the play.

The heightened irony that must have accompanied this play when it first opened to those genteel, refined materialists can not have diminished that much since, despite what one thinks about the changes society has un-

dergone since Shaw's time. At least this is the impression one gets from the current production of the play at the Citadel. The comic, entertaining side of the play is exploited at the expense of its biting, satirical half. Consequently, instead of a dynamic, vigorous play, we get something purely harmless - mere pabulum instead of something a little more appetizing.

Sandra Nicholls, playing Vivie Warren, the feminist daughter of Mrs. Warren, underplays the part, defusing the hostility and frustration required in her portrayal of a woman of odds against a society that attempts to exploit her. Sir George Crofts (Ivor Barry) emulating the exploiter, falls short in displaying the mercenary pragmatism that lurks behind his gentlemanly airs. Mrs. Warren (Moya Fenwick) is well cast; injecting a little passion into the play with a forceful performance as a woman whose profession (besides being the oldest) is incompatible with society's sensibilities, but yet at the same time, operates very much on

identical material principles.

Frank Gardner (Ian Deakin), similarly is a product of his own society, and delivers an impressive performance as the cheeky young fortune-seeker. Kenneth Dight, and Peter Mews both deliver performances that are impressive within the overall context of the play, but one can't help wondering how much better their performances might have been, if a more aggressive approach towards the play had been attempted.

It seems things have not changed much from Shaw's time. The Citadel's intent is apparently to feed the audience a few hearty laughs while holding back on the punches somewhat.

If this is so, then the basic intent of a good play has been undermined, and perhaps it would have been a bit wiser to have done something along the lines of another Neil Simon comedy.

*Mrs. Warren's Profession* runs until April 3rd. Tickets are available at the Citadel Box Office or at 424-2828.

by Beno John

cancel one of the dates on his current cross-Canada tour.

Cockburn is one of these rare musicians who sound just as good live (if not better) as he does with the aid of the do-it-over-till-it's-perfect process that goes into recording an album. To those unschooled in the art of guitar-playing (and perhaps to those who are), it is difficult to comprehend just how the man produced such a rich, multi-layered sound with the instrument. Even though he did falter once or twice on a run or two, Cockburn's musicianship can only be

labelled superb.

And his lyrics are a joy to hear - rolling phrases and strong imagery run and dance through all his songs.

Only one new song received less than thunderous applause. It was a new one, called *Spirits*, and consisted of Cockburn thumping on a Gaelic drum and chanting the lyrics.

Of course, he was called back for an encore, and of course, the audience left the theatre with smiling faces. And of course, he'll pack the house for two nights again the next time he comes.



Photos by Michael Amerongen

Bruce Cockburn highlighted his masterful guitar work with a few songs played on his dulcimer. Cockburn gave two concerts to full-house crowds at SUB Theatre last Tues. and Wed. nights.

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## Walterdale presents: Collaborators

What happens when a young lawyer, making a little money on the side doing freelance writing, decides to do a dissertation on marriage?

Plenty! And all of it's funny, as you'll discover when you attend Walterdale Theatre's presentation of *Collaborators*, by John Mortimer.

The play, directed by Frank Glenfield, will run March 9 - 20. To reserve your tickets for *Collaborators*, call the Bay Box Office at 424-0121.



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