

At the Grawood

Dirty Soap

by Matthew Dickson

Take the Grawood lounge, filled with people, and since it is hallowe'en, add a sprinkling of characters from such diverse sources as Clockwork Orange, Star Wars, and the Bible. To this add a ridiculously long lineup outside and stifling heat inside. The stage is now set for the 1978 TALENT COMPETITION.

The acts were quite varied, with a sample from the punk rock scene and serious acts such as a fiddler and guitarist combo and the muppets. All were quite good.

My contraband favourites were Contrabande, a four piece pop band with an exquisitely mellow sound and Dan Plasse, with a rather captivating technique on the piano (the muppets' theme here stimu-

lated a round of fun from Bert & Co.).

However, many students commented on a song called Fish, done by Fren Giray's Dirty Soap, which looked at waste disposal ("the solution to pollution is dilution") from the point of view of a fish. Apparently it made an impression with the judges as well, because Dirty Soap walked off with the \$100.00 first prize.

One other notable was John Roy, John Logan, Rado, etc., a jazz/rock band with some very talented musicians. The pianist alternated between dazzling the audience with his keyboard renditions and filling in the sound with a trombone. The other notable in this group was the bass player, who walked over the lower registers with a seeming ease

born of long practice and a fine ear. This group shared second place (\$50.00 prize) with the fiddler and guitarist combo of Rick Hiscott and Dan Plasse.

The spaces between the acts were filled in by the zany antics of the master of ceremonies, Gordon Neal, and for all of you trivia fans.

All in all, I would have liked to have seen more and shorter acts, less volume from the sound mixer, and a better cooling system installed in the Grawood before the next event of such magnitude. As for the talent, there seems to be no shortage of that around Dalhousie. The only thing lacking is the urge to get out and participate, and we all know that that is correctable.



Talent show M.C. Gordon Neal.

Forever yours M-L

FOREVER YOURS, MARIE-LOU, the celebrated play by Quebecois playwright Michel Tremblay, will be the first production of the Department of Theatre, Dalhousie University.

This incisive piece concerning the attitudes towards each other of members of a working class family in Montreal was first performed at the Théâtre de Quat'Sous, Montreal in 1971. It immediately drew national attention as a vivid statement about the Quebec condition.

In 1973 it was translated into English by John Van Burek and Bill Glassco and opened at the Tarragon Theatre, again to stunning reviews. This translation is the one being used for the Dalhousie production. It marks the first time the Department has selected a Quebecois script for a major production. The play is directed by Lionel Lawrence, scenography is by Peter Perina, with costumes by Robert Doyle.

Doctor Faustus, this term's production by the Dalhousie Drama Society, will open at King's Theatre on November 17th. Director Ronald Huebert has assembled "an unusually talented and diverse group of people", scenographer J.P. Camus, actor-folksinger Jim Moreira, choreographer Jennifer MacDonald, and many more. The cast of nineteen includes Ray Doucette (Mephistophilis), Helen Arneaud (Helen of Troy), and a new name for Halifax audiences, David McLeod (Faustus).

This production will be a contemporary interpretation of Marlowe's play. Costumes and decor will be blatantly modern, and musical effects will be based on today's folksong repertoire. The acting, too, will treat the script not as a classical

monument but as a living and flexible entertainment. "The actors in our company are learning to be disrespectful," says director Huebert. "That, after all, is in perfect accord with Marlowe's own tastes. A disrespectful actor is a free actor. Having lost his fear of the script, he can afford to experiment with its meaning, with the tones and colours of his character, with the vitality and humour of the poetry. In short, a disrespectful actor is

likely to be a creative actor."

Opening night is November 17th, and the play will run continuously for five nights. Tickets will be available in the Dalhousie SUB, or at the door of the theatre prior to performances. Watch for posters and announcements. Above all, set aside one evening in your calendar (between November 17th and 21st) for Marlowe's **Faustus**. You have never seen anything quite like it before.

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political: just a shrewd idea which of the two sides gonna stomp on us first. All of us—you, me, rock 'n rollers, punks, long hairs, dope smokers, squatters, students, unmarried mothers, prisoners,

gays, the jobless, immigrants, gypsies . . . to stand aside is to take sides.

"If music can ease even a tiny fraction of the prejudice and intolerance in this world, then it's worth trying. I don't call that 'unnecessary overtones of violence,' I call it standing up for your rights."

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