

Love's Labours Lost worthwhile

Love's Labours Lost
Studio Theatre
til Feb. 8

review by Rosa Jackson

Studio Theatre's production of *Love's Labours Lost* leaves one wondering why, until recently, this play has been overlooked by so many acting companies.

This play's strength lies not in plot or in character, but rather in comic dialogue and situation.

One of Shakespeare's early comedies, this play tells of three young lords who swear to deprive themselves of worldly pleasures (including women) for three years upon entering Ferdinand, the King of Navarre's Academy.

The moment the vow is taken, they are faced with three beautiful women, attendants to the Princess of France, who together with their mistress come to stay at the palace.

Predictably, each lord falls hopelessly in love with one of the attendants. To make matters worse the King, also sworn to celibacy, can't resist the charms of the Princess.

The high point of the play occurs when the men disguise themselves as Cossacks and attempt to seduce the ladies who retaliate by masking themselves and confusing their hopeful suitors.

Despite a lack of depth in some of the characters, the actors' interpretations are convincing and well-defined.

Deserving special mentions are Jeff Haslam as the oily Berowne and Gordon Portman who portrays the "fantastical Spaniard",

Don Adriano de Armado as an extremely self-possessed lunatic. Michael Davis gives a strong performance as the King although at times he speaks too quickly to be entirely understood. Jeff Haslam and James MacDonald as Berowne and Langeville are charming as eager young men who fall so easily from their promises.

The women in this play are willful, devious, even cynical; but at the same time, very likeable. They are flattered by the favours bestowed on them by the men, but if anything see less sincerity in them than is actually present, therefore, they plot to embarrass them: "So shall we stay, mocking intended game, / And they, well mocked, depart away with shame." Although these women are well-played, especially by Davina Stewart as the Princess and Pat Darbasie as Rosaline, their voices are occasionally shrill and there is a need for greater development of their characters.

Sound direction is given by Bernard Hopkins, making the potentially confusing word play distinct and the plot clear. Each scene stands well on its own as a unit which, if taken out of its context, would retain almost the same dramatic value. The puns were well-timed and raised appreciative laughs from the audience.

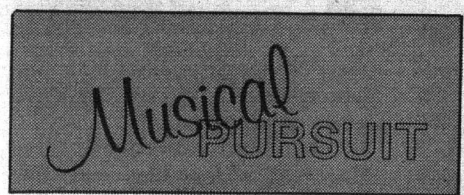
The choice of costumes and scenery is unusual, reflecting early twentieth century styles, but succeeds even adding, at times, to the humour of the play. The atmosphere was enhanced by the classical music chosen to accompany some scenes, and the lighting was consistent so as not to be a distraction.



Princess of France (Davina Stewart) and Boyet (Michael McManus) in *Love's Labours Lost*. WHEN IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA VISIT **UNIVERSAL STUDIOS TOUR** AN MCA COMPANY

Photo Tim Hellum

The boys in the band



by Don Teplyske

Congratulatory salutations to Garth Campbell, the winner of last week's competition. For his outstanding effort (he only missed Crystal Gayle), Garth receives a highly regarded Auracle Records token worth five dollars. Garth, how am I supposed to get a hold of you?

You could be the next grand prize winner if you can correctly answer the majority of the questions which follow. It was suggested by a high ranking Pursuer that I focus attention on the people behind the stars — the backup band. I promise no Bob Dylan questions... this time.

Entries can be dropped off at Room 282, SUB until Saturday. If no Gateway persons are about, slip it under the door. If you have a suggestion, include it with your answers.

Thanks for all the entries:

1. Everybody knows who Elvis Costello and the Attractions are. But, on his first album, Elvis was fronting Clover. By what name are

Clover known today?

2. What soulster, who lives in America, was backed by The Famous Flames and later, by The JB's?

3. The Heartbreakers play with Tom Petty, but who cares? The real Heartbreakers backed up what ex-New York Doll?

4. The Modern Romance supported what former beau of Nina Hagen's?

5. Australia's (so what if he was born in Malta) Jo Jo Zep was backed up by what high flying group?

6. Sue Saad fronted what?

7. The Belvederes, including future Culture Clubber Jon Moss, were fronted by Pete Briquette's Akron born wife. By what name is Jane Briquette better known?

8. On "96 Tears", the Mysterians were playing behind who?

9. During the early seventies, Eric Burdon sang with what already established black band?

Last Week's Answers

1. Vikki sang on *St. Elmos Fire* 2. *Goonies* died 3. Bob Dylan performed the *Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid* soundtrack 4. *Merry Christmas, Mr. Lawrence* 5. Paul Williams 6. *Heavy Metal* 7. Peter Gabriel composed *Birdy* 8. Tom Waits and Crystal Gayle sang the *One From The Heart* OST 9. Ron Wood and Ronnie Lane composed *Mahoney's Last Stand*.



The Album Playlist is based on Airplay — a combination of programmer preference and listeners' requests. Tune in every Sunday at 12:00 for the Alternative Countdown — the favorite albums, EP's singles and tapes.

Albums

1. *Queen Ida & Her Zydeco Band* — Caught In The Act (GNP Crescendo (US))
2. *I, Braineater* — Artist Poet Thief (Independent (Canada))
3. *Various Artists* — Force Of The Blade Anthology (Banzai/Polygram)
4. *MOE* — Dusk And Desire (Profile (US))
5. *Albert Collins, Johnny Copeland & Robert Cray* — Showdown (Alligator/WEA)
6. *Fair Warning* — You Are The Scene (F.W. (Canada))
7. *The Waiting* — Self-titled (The Waiting (Canada))
8. *Various Artists* — Questionalbe (Compilation) (Jonestown (Canada))
9. *Thomas Mapfumo & The Blacks Unlimited* — Mr. Music (Eathworks/Rough Trade/WEA)
10. *Living Proof* — This Trip Is For Real (100% (Canada))

Singles, EP's and Tapes

1. *Wartogs* — Go From Here (demo)
2. *David Sylvian* — words With The Shaman (Virgin/A & M)
3. *Slow* — Against The Glass (Zulu (Canada))
4. *Night Twisters* — Self-titled (Tango (Canada))
5. *Unwarranted Trust* — Honour's Calling (from Dementia 5 tape)
6. *Severed Heads* — Dead Eyes Opened (Nettwerk (Canada))
7. *Emily* — Propaganda (demo)
8. *Psyche* — Thundershowers In Ivory Towers (Mass Production (Canada))
9. *The Mix* — Break Up Shake Up (Zoinks (Canada))
10. *Full Time Men* — Self-titled (Coyote/Twintone (US))

BEST PICTURE

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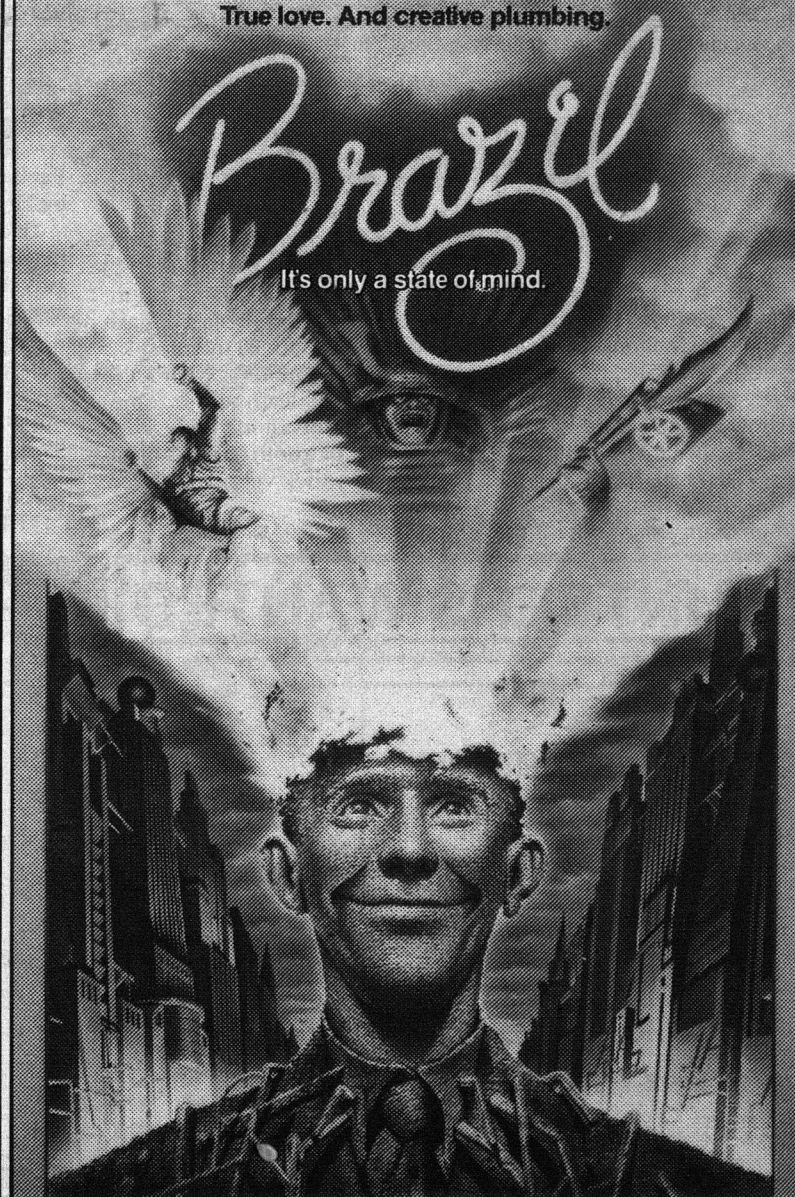
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AA - Adult Accompaniment
Not suitable for children

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Check local listings for times.