

Mulligan in "healthy" performance

by Alex Burton
and Allison Johnston

You may know him as "that guy on MuchMusic from Vancouver," but Terry David Mulligan is much more. An aggressive, outgoing person — although he claims to be quite shy — Mulligan is full of energy and life. He is presently playing the lead role of Mort in John Grey's *Health — the musical* as well as shooting his show, *MuchWest*, here in Halifax.

We met Mulligan, along with Alison Woolridge, who plays a number of roles in the production including Mort's wife Angela, and Simon Kendall, best known as the keyboardist for the Vancouver-based group Doug and the Slugs, at the Pub Flamingo.

Mulligan said he got involved in *MuchMusic* because he was "looking for security." Before that he had been hosting CBC's *Good Rocking Tonight*, but CBC only gives out 13-week contracts. "At the end of every contract I had to start worrying if they were going to renew," Mulligan said.

Mulligan said he was looking for a chance to produce, and the people at *MuchMusic* gave him that opportunity. "I wanted to write, produce, and host my own show." He describes *MuchWest* as "the easiest job in the world. Coming from the CBC, you do what they say. Now I have the freedom to do what I want." Said Mulligan, "the whole show is improv."

When asked about the difficulties of switching from TV to theatre Mulligan said, "I work in two different disciplines. As soon as you walk into the theatre it changes... It's an incredible charge out there (on stage)."

Mulligan studied theatre in

San Francisco and Los Angeles for two years and studied music in high school. Asked if he would like to direct a theatre production, he quickly dismissed the idea. "They pay you shit wages. I'll make more for doing a commercial than a five-week run," Mulligan said. "I do it (theatre) to improve my craft."

Mulligan described his role in *Health — the musical* as "very scary" adding he has never had to

Mulligan said, "Gee, university students would never not communicate or be weasels to their partners."

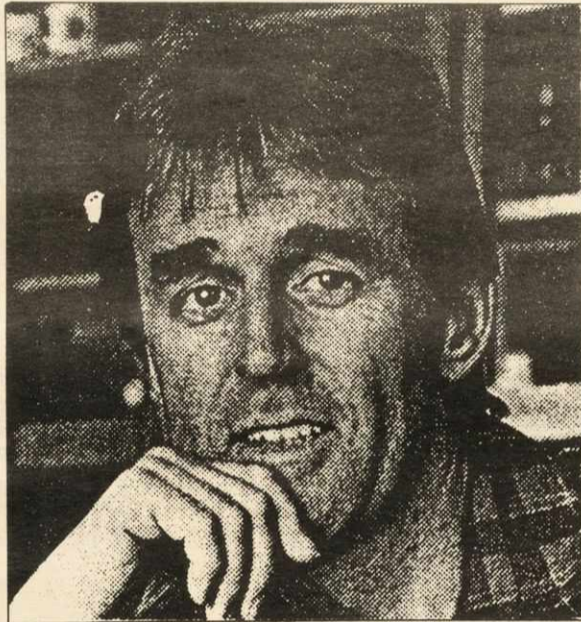
Mulligan is unsure if it is worthwhile for students to study theatre arts. "The more you mature, the more you travel, the more people you meet, the more pain you're put through, the more you love, the better you can portray that on stage. You don't have to suffer, but you have to

edged that the station's videos have a tendency to be sexist. "The network is reflective of what people want to see," he said.

Mulligan said he is not fond of the recent dance craze, but likes anything with a rhythm and blues sound. He listed Little Feat, Bob Marley, James Brown and Metallica as some of his favourite acts.

Mulligan says he is not political, but "I have spoken up for the New Democratic Party in British Columbia, and paid the price."

Mulligan will be shooting *MuchWest* in and around Halifax for a couple of weeks and promises to film on all the university campuses in the area.



MuchMusic VJ Terry David Mulligan

sing and dance before. He agreed that Mort is a yuppie and a whiner, but said "the play is about what people do to their bodies."

The play is based on the experiences of Eric Peterson, of *Street Legal* fame. Mulligan said, "Eric actually got sick and took notes about the experience, then gave them to John Grey."

Discussing students' ability to relate to the play, Mulligan said "students can definitely get satisfaction out of the play." Stressing the part of the play that deals with Mort's marriage and its collapse,

live. You have to taste things once."

Mulligan said he controls the videos he plays on *Much Music*, and that he will not play sexist material. However he acknowl-



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