

## Telefest '90 winners

by Letitia Tendentious

Filmmakers sit nervously around tables, the celebratory meals sitting uncomfortably in their stomachs as the person on the stage is handed the fateful envelope. Everybody smiles nervously as the envelope is gently torn open. And the winner is ... Rajen Solanki?

Yes. Solanki, a fourth year York University film and video major, was a winner in the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's Telefest'90. Other York winners were Yariv Kohn and Frank Chan, both of whom graduated last spring.

Telefest'90 is an annual film, video and animation competition open to students of colleges and universities in Ontario. Celebrating its tenth anniversary, Telefest attracted 145 entries from 23 post-secondary institutions across the province.

Each entry was judged by a panel of professionals and academics. Winners in the ten categories had their film or video shown on the CBC in August.

"I was surprised," said Solanki, whose *Love and/or Death* won in the Film Long Non-documentary category, of his win. Solanki felt the film, about a man contemplating suicide, contained "too many things," and didn't turn out quite as he had originally envisioned it.

Solanki, who ultimately hopes to direct his own films, proclaimed, "Woody Allen is god," when asked about his influences. There is more than a little hint of this in *Love and/or Death*, including the following exchange:

"As a kid, how would you have liked to know you were going to kill yourself?"  
"I would have taken up smoking."

Kohn won the Film Short Documentary category with *Dutch Dreams*, about an ice cream shop and the man who created it; Chan won the Video Short Non-documentary category with *The Demise of Cockroach X*, in which a relationship between two common, usually unrelated objects is established.

According to George Robinson, administrative assistant in York's faculty of film and video, "It's been a good year for York," which had been shut out of the awards for the previous two years. Robinson pointed out Telefest'90 gave students the chance to have their work seen by professionals as well as a wider audience; "It's a start for the kids," he said.

Besides, he jokingly added, the May deadline for submissions "prompts the students to finish their films on time."



Jim Mezon (Pale) and Chick Reid (Anna) in Lanford Wilson's incendiary *Burn This*.

## Burn This assesses values

by Suzanne Crnic

*Burn This*  
written by Lanford Wilson  
Theatre Plus Toronto

Anna is like a lot of people in modern society who lead sophisticated, but empty, lives.

Actress Chick Reid wonderfully portrays Anna in Lanford Wilson's Broadway hit *Burn This*, a contemporary drama about a rela-

tionship between two people who are savagely attracted to each other. It's a love story where both characters must confront the unwelcome element of passion that enters their lives.

*Burn This* begins in the Manhattan loft of choreographer and dancer Anna and her homosexual roommate, Larry. Both are mourning the loss of their deceased, gay roommate, Robbie.

This is where Anna first exhibits her need for control, where she represses her pain even after her long term boyfriend, Burton, returns from Canada and offers her his support.

It is not until Pale, a cursive and overworked manager of a seafood restaurant, bangs at her door in the middle of the night, drunk and angry over his brother's death, that Anna is forced to deal with her pain. As the play slowly unfolds, Pale replaces his brother in Anna's life.

The comedy-coated play relieves the audience of the disturbing loneliness of each character. All four characters are aware that passion is missing from their lives, yet when it enters they fear it.

Anna struggles between the two worlds of sensuality and passion. Her relationship with Burton is convenient and "safe," but emotionally boring. Pale, however, upsets her well-ordered life by revealing her emptiness and emotional depth. Anna, vexed, later says to Pale, "You're dangerous!"

The power of the play lies with Anna's decision as to which world she must choose, and how she comes to terms with her passion for Pale.

*Burn This* is an assessment of the values of a whole generation, a humorous and tragic story of emotional survival in a chaotic world where the ultimate fear is that of death.

Although the audience does not learn anything new about the male/female relationship, they will have been entertained.

*Burn This* plays at Theatre Plus Toronto until September 1.

# Billy Barroo's

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CORNER OF DUFFERIN AND STEELES

hoping to become everyone's favourite "let's crank it up" spot, wishes all York Students good luck, good fun, happy feet, and a thirst for cheap beer in 1990/91

We look forward to seeing everybody over here at Dufferin and Steeles as soon as school starts to drag — tomorrow would be good

As well, we at Billy Barroo's would like to reiterate, for all those that may have forgotten over the long summer, three basic concepts for a responsible and civilized NIGHT OUT!!

1. Be secure in the knowledge that "Bahama Mamas," "Pina Colodas" and their ilk are consumed in Nassau. Period.
2. The necessity of a working relationship with Jack Daniels, Johnny Walker, or at the very least, John Labatt.
3. Although they bring you everything you ask for, waiters are NOT Santa Claus for drunks

If you follow these concepts, you will discover a more fulfilling experience on those nights you choose to "crank it."

Also, you'll discover you'll need a cab.

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