

Unexceptional performance shortcoming of Theatre exchange

6 RMS RIV VU is Citadel Theatre's present production, being performed by Theatre Calgary under an exchange program.

Because 6 RMS RIV VU depicts two middle aged, married people considering having an affair, it stands to reason that those most likely to appreciate the play's humour are those who are middle aged, married, and have considered having an affair. The fact that I am not, (and therefore have not), could account for much of the comedy having passed me by. I noticed that the rest of the audience was more appreciative. I also noticed that a good deal of them had bald spots.

Generally speaking: I found the performance entirely unexceptional. Robert Haley's portrayal of the main character varied surprisingly little from his performance in "Wait Until Dark", which I saw almost two years ago. How he can keep the same tonal range and voice deviation in a suspense drama as in a comedy is a mystery I cannot solve. On the whole he presents an impression of forced casualty. BJ Gordon's role as Anne Miller was more striking, but both actors lacked the ability to maintain a Bronx accent throughout the play.

The production was slow at times and the action was quite limited. The script didn't call for much variation nor did it receive

any.

Richard Robert's set was a disappointing departure from his usual standard of excellence. It looked authentic, but it left a large open area which the actors failed to fill adequately; and it was visually awkward. At times the players on stage seemed lost within the vast empty whiteness of the set.

As a director Harold Baldridge seems to have certain established characteristics. The pacing and rhythm was quite identifiable as being of his molding. In places they did not fully complement the comedy of the situation.

In this I felt the play was not done justice. Bob Randall's script portrays very realistic and believable characters. At no time

did I feel the characters or situations to be falsified, exaggerated or unlikely, as so often occurs on television and film. This quality is desirable if theatre is to become more relevant to society.

Despite the production's shortcomings I consider the exchange between Edmonton and Calgary to be a valiant move towards expanding present theatrical attitudes. The concept has potential and I hope we will see more of it. But until I reach the point where I have to start worrying about 'sagging pectorals' I will continue to regard Theatre Calgary's production as a very weak and colourless representation of live theatre.

Kim St. Clair

Good start for Studio Theatre

If you go to watch Studio Theatre's current production *Sticks and Stones*, don't be surprised if you become emotionally involved in the play.

James Reaney's purgatorial afterworld play focuses on the age-old conflict between reformers and conservatives. *Sticks and Stones* tells the story of the Donnelly family which left Ireland in 1844 to escape this

societal conflict only to be confronted by it again in their new Canadian home in Ontario.

Under the direction of Thomas Peacocke, the play's cast, consisting of the graduating class in the drama program, did a very fine job, presenting all the characters in a strong dynamic way. Especially outstanding were Christine Willes as Mrs. Donnelly and Rich Stojan

portraying Will Donnelly.

The effective lighting of the show brought out various angles and set the mood most appropriately. My compliments go to Jack Hay.

The use of string puppets was a unique idea in itself. It brought humor yet suited the roles of governor and govnoress most fittingly.

In the field of music, however, there were drawbacks. The instruments of a violin and a banjo cannot be expected to fulfill a three-hour presentation. The addition of a few wind instruments would have made a good contribution to the mood of the play.

Overall, *Sticks and Stones* represents a good start to what appears to be another interesting Studio Theatre season. The play will continue to run until November 2nd with performances at 8:30 p.m.

by Elli Neitsch

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ADULT

TV Highlights

FRI. NOV. 1, 6:00 P.M.
Friday Night Movie - "Terror in the Sky" suspense-drama. 1971 starring Leif Erickson, Doug McClure, Roddy McDowall. Drama about a life-and-death emergency that develops when the pilot, co-pilot and passengers of a plane are stricken by food poisoning and a passenger and a stewardess try to fly the craft. Channel 13.

FRI. NOV. 1, 11:30 P.M.
Twinbill Theatre - 1. "On A Clear Day You Can See Forever" - com. 1970 - 103 Min. - starring Barbra Streisand, Yves Montand, Bob Newhart, Larry Blyden. Psychiatrist hypnotizes "Daisy" in an attempt to cure her chain-smoking habit and discovers she has extrasensory perception. Under hypnosis she regresses to the early 18th century and describes her life at that time.

SAT. NOV. 2
Movie - "Tora Tora Tora" - World War II events from American and Japanese viewpoints leading up to and including the Japanese aerial attack on the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbour on December 7th, 1941. Channel 13.

SAT. NOV. 2
Stardust Theatre - Exodus - 207 Min. 1960 drama with Paul Newman, Eva Marie Saint, Lee J. Cob and Al Mineo. Heroic Israeli underground leader spirits a group of Jewish refugees out of British Internment camps on Cyprus, taking them to Israel. An American nurse becomes involved in graphic portrayal of the hardships suffered in the New Israel. Channel 5.

SAT. NOV. 2
Cinema "Divorce a l'Italienne". Comedy with Marcello Mastroanni, Daniela Rocca, Stefania Sandrelli. Sicilian nobleman, charmed by young cousin, arranges for wife to be unfaithful so as to avenge honor by shooting her. Channel 11.

SUN. NOV. 3
Sunday Showcase - "Citizen Kane" - starring Orson Welles, Joseph Cotten, Ruth Warwick. The life of an eminent publisher, from poor boy to great wealth, who aspired to politics, but was ruined by personal scandal. Channel 13.

SUN. NOV. 3
Cine-Club: Tristana, drama produced by Luis Bunuel with Catherine Deneuve, Fernando Rey, Franco Nero and Lola Gaos. After her mother's death, Tristana goes to live with her uncle. Channel 11.

MON. NOV. 4
Is There Life After Youth? Part four - Growing Up at 40: In this final program in which participants in a group encounter session share with the viewer and each other their experiences during mid-life, several real crises are candidly recalled and discussed by the group. Channel 5.

TUES. NOV. 5
U.S. Mid-Term Election. From the CBC News' special facilities at CBS New York, live coverage and analysis of the U.S. Mid-Term Elections, involving one-third of the seats in the Senate, and the entire House of Representatives. Channel 5.

TUES. NOV. 5
Heritage: Italy - The second in the series, this one hour program examines and details Italian life in Canada and in Italy providing a fascinating insight into the rich cultures and traditions of the Italian immigrant whose diligence, ambition and perseverance have made an impact on Canada.

TUES. NOV. 5, 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday Night Movie - "Love Story" - starring Ali MacGraw, Ryan O'Neal. Channel 13.

TUES. NOV. 5, 11:30 P.M.
Sing a Good Song - featuring Canadian composer/singer Cliff Edwards and guest stars Francois Guy and Fraser and DeBolt. Channel 13.

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