

Amazing Kreskin enjoyable

By D. Robinson

On television his show is called the "Amazing World Of Kreskin" and his personal appearance in the McInnes Room on Oct. 21 made the adjective a little more believable. That's not to say the show was entirely believable on the contrary, to a sceptic like myself many of his acts, remain puzzling mysteries even after you've tried to figure them out.

Kreskin strode on stage and an aura of dynamic energy was immediately emanated to the audience. His brief verbal introduction was followed by a most incredulous act of "mind over matter", or that's the explanation we were given for the "miracle" of the joined rings. Taking 3 men's rings from 3 men in the audience (the choice was not entirely at random as he excluded a few volunteers and asked for the rings other than school and wide banded ones) Kreskin linked the rings in a chain, had their owners check and also a few audience members of whom I was one. Handling the linked chain for a few select seconds afforded me no answers to this feat and only caused me a little

more amazement. I still remain sceptical but a reasonable, scientific explanation escapes me and I know that I'm not the only audience member who'd like to know the how of the feat.

Kreskin proved to be very energetic and entertaining performer, making amusing quips in between his talk on the fakes and frauds in his field and other aspects of E.S.P. He was even fast and witty when the microphone fell for the third time - a minor event that he kept in stride with. He had after all wanted an easily removable microphone!

Kreskin explained that he used scientific and natural means in all his action as he showed off his talents by guessing the cards 2 volunteers held, only missing 2 out of 25 and then by having the audience picture what he had repeatedly been drawing on his hidden paper. Forty per cent imagined Kreskin's object and one who did, sitting near me, had his thought "apple crisp" spoken by Kreskin as he apparently picked out this man's thought of what he'd had for dessert. Many methods have been suggested as explanations for

this random thought developed by Kreskin for members in the audience but unfortunately they seem quite irrational, especially when one is confronted in person with the actual fact of Kreskin successfully revealing small bits of a supposedly random audience member. His other example of mind reading was while in contact with one member of a volunteer committee Kreskin successfully discovered the hiding place of his check for the evening's show. Though you might not believe him when you see him Kreskin definitely does something right as a telepathist.

After intermission Kreskin talked about hypnotism being a phony word for the simpler term of auto suggestion. He explained that brain wave tests showed no more alterations during a "hypnotic trance" than during a normal state. With this as an introduction Kreskin received innumerable volunteers upon stage and proceeded to demonstrate a person's "ability to respond to suggestion" by suggesting his volunteers' reaction to his voice and very often getting it. A few people were superb subjects and everything suggested to them by Kreskin was successfully carried out, to the amusement of the audience. One suggestion to cigarette smokers failed but was quickly dismissed by the tensely energetic showman. It was quite funny to actually see people forget their names, to feel extreme cold then heat, to feel their chair pinching them.

The show that Kreskin put on was very professional, interesting, amusing and intriguing. A disap-

pointment was that it was a show meant to dazzle and amuse, which it did, but not explain which it didn't. Seeing Kreskin perform in person rather than on television we weren't given any more grounds to believe in him. I think an even more interesting show would have been one with less dazzle and more thought provoking facts or suggestions from Kreskin as to why what he does works so well. I think Kreskin could easily do this if he slowed down his pace somewhat and gave us a little more information on process behind the fun and talents.

So for the sceptical this show wouldn't have made you any less suspicious but for the person wanting pure entertainment, Kreskin definitely provided an "amazing" and enjoyable show.

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their parts either well or competently, with the exception of Haemon. The acting for that part was simply not on the same level as that of the rest of the play.

In the preview last week Ms. MacKenzie said that the set was "clunky and overdone"; I have to agree. Though parts of the set were used ingeniously (for example the placing of the guards above and around the stage) the set was conspicuously clumsy; the two metal stairs leading high up the sides were the perfect example of that. It would be nice to see an understated set for a change; last year the sets rather than supporting the play actually weighed most of the plays down (remember Break of Noon).

In conclusion one has to consider Antigone a fine success. It did not only hold one's attention for the full running time (which was without an intermission) but did it in fine style.



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