

1984

By Chad Ball

"Power is tearing human minds apart and putting them back together again" - O'Brien

Unless you've missed the last few weeks of school, you've most likely seen a collection of menacing yellow posters tacked to walls and posts around our otherwise lovely campus. These posters quoted the genius of Frank Zappa and the foreboding of "Big Brother" — the ominous force behind George Orwell's 1984.

From March 29 until April 1, Theatre UNB and Scandalous Productions are performing a stage adaptation of Orwell's apocalyptic book. *1984* is the story of a modern society dominated by military forces. In this society, hatred is the only allowable emotion. Children who turn over their parents to authorities are hailed as "child heroes," and "comrades" gather for "two minute hates". It is a world where constitutional rights are destroyed and independent, random thoughts against Big Brother (a sort of quasi-Hitler) could land your rebellious mind in Room 101 — a mental torture chamber. In short, it is the most depressing play I have ever seen (For the benefit of those who have seen it — double plus depressing.)

First of all, I must commend the cast for even performing this play in the first place. Militaristic craziness is a pretty hot topic to handle, especially on a university, where political opinions run rampant. In a play as dark and unnerving as this, keeping in character must have been a challenge. Although the acting was, for the most part, uninspired, certain moments were quite good. Greg Tucker was convincing in the role of Winston, a man who has been mentally destroyed by his revolutionary society. Greg helped keep the play from becoming morose, even in its darkest moments and I thank him for that. Other memorable actors include Tony Kennedy, who played a very inspired soldier ("Tony hopes to pursue a career subjecting Third World countries to the U.S. Marine Corps"), and Tanya Doten, who played Julia.

1984 runs until tomorrow night. It is also the last play of the UNB season, so if you haven't been sufficiently disturbed lately I suggest you take a break from your essays and get to Memorial Hall at 8 p.m. It may also give you a reason to go drink afterwards.



Tanya Doten as Julia and Greg Tucker as Winston in George Orwell's *1984*.
(Photo by Bones)

Talent And Personal Stories at the Art Centre

by Jethelo E. Cabilete

Art reflects many aspects of life, from the sublime to the imaginative; from the historical to the mythical; from the past to the present. The theme of past and present is mirrored in this month's exhibition at the UNB Art Centre, with *Personal Stories*, by Julie McIntyre and the UNB/STU Talent '95. Both exhibitions contain some impressive works; a tribute to the wealth of Canadian talent we have.

Personal Stories can be perceived as a vivid, historical overview of the heroes of the past that serve as "...models, and stir us with the ambition to act on our dreams." As a prior note, the artist presents each of the series of works through several categories indicative of a particular hero and symbolizing society and individuality. The categories of martyr, prophet, warrior, artist and overall context, is reminiscent of the archetypal forms of human nature; that of warrior, crone, priest, maiden and king just to name a few. She has constructed each series through the eyes of social history and her own memories of each work, conveying a sense of purpose and richness that tell their own stories; hence the title of this exhibition.

The works themselves, are startlingly rich in detail and expression. McIntyre has woven various motifs among the heroes of legend and history; evocative of their part in the story of the "hero's" life. For example, the "World War II" series is domi-

nated by the heroine Anne Frank, superimposed upon a background of historical imagery. "*W W II: The Warriors*" not only displays the soldiers of battles, but the civilians who also were caught up in the war; the warriors who tried to continue on with their lives despite the calamities that occurred. In a different vein, "*W W II: The Propbets*" presents rather similar scenes and motifs, yet the impressions symbolize the augury that people were given during this very significant point of human history. In terms of the mythical heroes of this exhibit, "*The Little Mermaid*" series portrays the legend through the four categories. In "*The Little Mermaid: As Martyr*", the image of the little mermaid of Copenhagen, is superimposed over various images that evoke the self-sacrificing action of this heroine. My personal favourite is the "*Sacred Circle*" series, exploring the various heroes of native North Americans and the history behind them. "*Sacred Circle: The Context*" represents the rich culture of the native peoples, while "*Sacred Circle: The Propbets*" calls to mind the nature-based religion of the various tribes. The entire exhibit is a powerful presentation of memory and stories; an historical account of human lives and events.

The other exhibit, the UNB/STU Talent '95, is a compilation of the talent of UNB/STU students across a wide assortment of media; visual arts, music and written material. Each year I am always impressed by the talent displayed in this exhibition. Though smaller than previous years, the works presented by the students demonstrates the potpourri of artistic expression that each artist takes. Each

category of music, visual arts, short fiction and poetry contained 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes and Honourable Mention. Within the categories, the top artists were: Music-1st: Kevin McGraw and Pat McCarthy for "*Hear Angels Cry*", an harmonic array of really beautiful music. Visual Arts-1st: Mariecke Reinders for "*Sinead*", a starkly simple depiction of singer/songwriter Sinead O'Connor. 2nd: Marie Turley for "*A Captured Tear*", an evocative and unique abstract. 3rd: Angela O'Donnell for "*Venus of the Sea*", an expressive, colourful sculpture. Honourable Mention: Dave McCluskey for "*Eddie Kirkland/Harvest Jazz '94*", a colourful example of photography. Short Fiction-1st: Shantell Powell for "*Going Away*". 2nd: Rhona Sawlor for "*Kitchens*". 3rd: Mark Ireland for "*Les*". Honourable Mention: Andy McNamara for "*Dark Night/Day Light*". Poetry-1st: Rhona Sawlor for "*Homage*". 2nd: Alan Wong for "*Mnemonic Harvest*". 3rd: Shantell Powell for "*Morning*". Honourable Mention: Sherry A. Morin for "*From See to See*". Other artists were: Chris Donnett ("*Untitled*"), Erle Mundle-writer/director and Corey White-actor ("*It must be Monday*"), P. Chris Doiron ("*The God That Fell*"), Joey Moore ("*Standing in the Doorway*") and Andrew Dunphy ("*A Country not of This Earth*"). Overall, the works were well done, with a lot of time and creativity put into them.

Personal Stories continues until April 30, while the UNB/STU Talent '95 continues until April 9. Both exhibits can be viewed at Memorial Hall during the weekdays from 9:00-4:30 and Sundays from 2:00-4:00.