

An Odd Couple

by Brent Kostyniuk
Photos: Pat Lozinski

After the Tuesday evening Cheech and Chong concert, I made my way backstage to the Green Room of the Jubilee Auditorium. There, armed with tape recorder and a list of questions, I was ready to do an interview for the Gateway. After a short time, Cheech came in and proceeded to station himself directly behind the bar. The atmosphere in the Green Room was very relaxed, so I walked up and introduced myself. First someone handed me a styrofoam cup of Blue Nun wine, and then a funny little yellow cigarette that was making the rounds. The things reporters have to go through to get a story.

Sometime later, Cheech sat down with me and I tried to ask him some questions. (Tom Chong came in a little later). The results follow, and if sometimes they lack coherence, you can figure out why for yourself.

Do you know exactly what you are doing before you start a show?

CHEECH: Sometimes, sometimes we have no idea. How much of tonight's show did you have planned?

CHEECH: Most of it. Down to exact words?

CHEECH: No just to an idea of what we want to do. How long did it take until you knew each other well enough to work together like this?

CHEECH: Lets see, its Tuesday today. A longtime, it's always in the process.

Do you have favorite comedians from the past?

CHEECH: ya. Who? Can I ask?

CHEECH: Ya sure, I won't answer you. I like Richard Prior. Who do you like, Tommy? (Who had entered the room by this time.)

CHONG: I like Maureen (the well built blonde model standing in the corner).

CHEECH: I imitate the Japanese comedian, Mohitsi Wonahonalo. He's been my main inspiration.

Do you know how to spell his last name?

CHEECH: Sure, MUNUHNGL O W.

What do you guys plan to do?

CHEECH: I think we are going to become Buddhist monks. We've been thinking about it for a long time.

Any particular order of monks you will join?

CHEECH: The kind that does night clubs.

Obviously this isn't work to you.

CHEECH: Hey ya man. They take taxes man, it best be something like work. Its work and fun but I love my work. If I was a ditch digger I probably wouldn't be happy all the time, so I'm not.

Are you happy all the time?

CHEECH: No, but I'm not a ditch digger either. Do you get it. That's convoluted logic. I took it in college. You take Convolute 150. It's a heavy course, you don't even have to show up.

CHEECH: So what else?

I don't know, give me a question to ask you.

CHEECH: How much wood could a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood. Now it's on tape!!

What are you guys going to do in the future?

CHEECH: Oh, we're probably going to die, at one time or another.

This isn't going to be a straight article.

CHEECH: Jeez, I don't really care to tell you the truth. I'd like to make movies. I'd like to make *Gone With The Wind* as a gay porno movie. There's only been a couple.

CHONG: (Sitting down) Let's have a picture together. (Photographer gets ready) Do that and we can see up your dress, eh.

CHEECH: Jeez it's pink today eh? (Photographer Ms. Lozinski's dress). Must be Tuesday. Kawasaki lets the good times roll. You want us to lick our lips, alright. This tape will probably make the Canadian archives. What do you report for?

The University newspaper.

CHEECH: Do they pay you for doing this. No. I didn't think so. That's why I have to smoke your dope.

CHEECH: You go to university. Yah. (pauses) Probably be voting for you someday.

Tell me about going to university.

CHEECH: I learned a whole lot of real important facts.

Like what?

CHEECH: Like ... I don't remember any of them. I learned how to make pottery. That was pretty hip. That is what I devoted my life to. What do you take, journalism? Radio broadcasting?

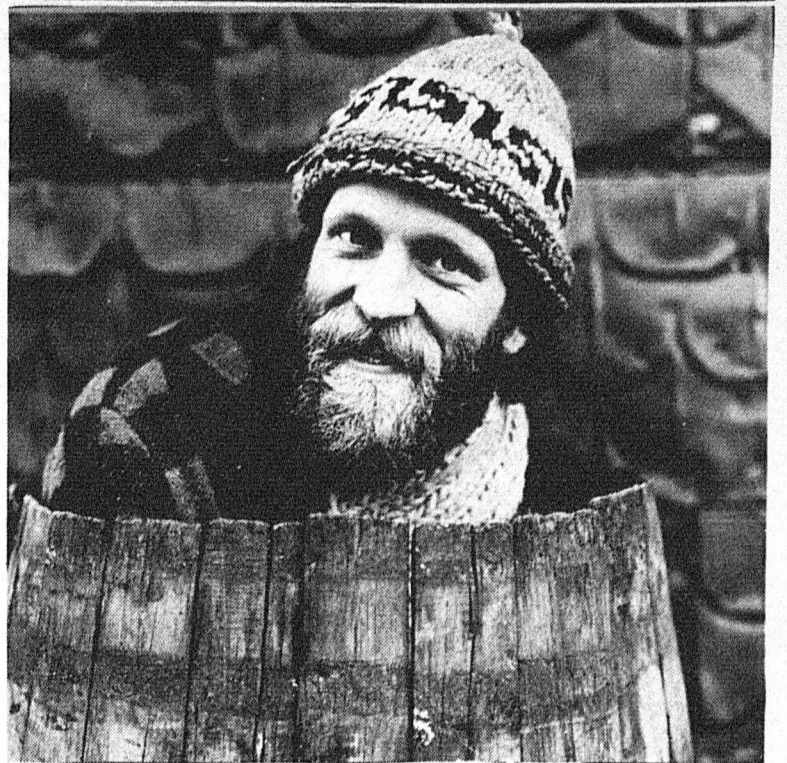
Arts.

CHEECH: Oh, like crayons. No? Oh, a liberal education.

CHONG: Let's get out of here. Whatever he (Cheech) said is all right.

CHEECH: Goodbye.

And so there you have it. Two very funny, friendly guys who made this university newspaper interviewer feel right at home.



He calls himself "just a farmer who likes to sing," but to his fans he's much more than that. Valdy has built up his following just by doing what comes most naturally to him, travelling from coast to coast in Canada, singing for anyone who cares to listen. And if you do care to listen, he will appear in concert at the Jubilee on Feb. 29 at 8:30 p.m., backed by the Hometown band.

World Premiere: Broken Globe at Theatre 3

Continuing its policy of developing and premiering new Alberta plays, Theatre 3 is now conducting rehearsals for the world premiere production of *The Broken Globe*, to open Feb. 24 at the Edmonton Art Gallery Theatre.

Based on a story by Edmonton novelist Henry Kreisel and adapted to the stage by local playwright Frank Moher, *The Broken Globe* is a powerful and moving one-act study of an aging Ukrainian settler in post WWII Alberta.

Kreisel's story, first published in 1955 in the Alberta Golden Jubilee Anthology, has become a modern classic; reprinted and translated internationally. In 1976, more than twenty years after its initial publication, *The Broken Globe's* study of a fathers Old Country faith clashing with his son's New World education proves as powerful onstage as it is in print.

Kreisel recalls a letter published in The Edmonton Bulletin in the late 1940s, in which an immigrant Ukrainian farmer passionately defended his belief that the world was flat. Intrigued by this bit of prairie gothic, Kreisel kept the clipping for a number of years before using it as the basis for *The Broken Globe*.

The Broken Globe opens Feb. 24 limited run through Feb. 28, with a 12:10 p.m. lunch-hour performance scheduled for Feb. 26, and a 5 p.m. matinee scheduled for Feb. 28. Patrons are reminded that this production will be staged in the Edmonton Art Gallery Theatre, not in Theatre 3's regular space at the Centennial Library. (As a result, the Edmonton Plaza - Theatre 3 dinner-theatre package is not available this month.) Tickets are limited, available at all Bay outlets, or by phoning the Theatre 3 box office at 426-6870.



Cheech and Chong at the Jubilee Tuesday night: "Anyone offended by overt sexual innuendos should take the index finger of each hand and stick them where they will do the most good."

Free more concerts

Upcoming concerts at the Edmonton Art Gallery are The Edmonton Saxophone Quartet at 8 p.m. on Feb. 19; The P.J. Perry Quintet (jazz) at 2:30 p.m. on Feb. 28 and Rust (experimental classical music) at 8 p.m. on March 4. All the concerts, sponsored by the Edmonton Musicians Association, are free and open to the public.

Marnie's Wedding Shop

10305 - 80 AVENUE, EDMONTON, ALBERTA

"Everything for a Beautiful Wedding"



A TRIP FOR 2 TO HAWAII

Enter the draw when you order your invitations. Draw May 1, 1976

INVITATIONS
REPLY CARDS 10%
NAPKINS OFF
MATCHES

433-1622



Special Events Director

The Students' Union requires a Special Events Director to co-ordinate and organize forums and social events.

Qualifications include minimum Grade XII and experience in the entertainment industry. This is a 10-month term appointment.

Salary range up to \$8,000 depending on qualifications and experience.

Please apply in writing to the General Manager, Room 256, Students' Union Building.

Ernie's STEAK PIT LTD

For Elegant Dining
Licensed Lounge
Open 'til Midnight
FREE PARKING

reservations: 469-7149

40 Bonnie Door Shopping Centre