

first MacLaughlin art show Etchings by Bartram

by Sandy Souchotte

McLaughlin College is opening their first art exhibition with a group of etchings by a Canadian artist, Ted Bartram.

Mr. Bartram was born in 1938 in London, Ontario. He received his BA from Western University and his MA from the University of Toronto's department of

Intermedia
And in Founders art gallery, called Intermedia, John McEwen's collection of modern sculptured phallic symbols continues until March 28. Room 011, Founders Basement, Monday to Friday from 11 to 4. Saturday 12 till 4.

Fine Arts and has been teaching art in a city high school for six years.

He has exhibited his work with the Canadian society of Graphic Art, the Society of Canadian Painter-Etchers and Engravers, among others.

Mr. Bartram's work has a non-objective tone but many of the compositions

were worked out in Georgian Bay and reflect this natural influence. The etchings contain a texture of non-specific organic form relating to rocks, mosses and other primitive scenic materials.

The display starts Friday, March 22, in the area just off the Junior Common Room and will be exhibited until the end of March.

"The Killing of Sister George" DEAD AGES AGO

Somewhere, somehow, I thought The Killing Of Sister George was going to be an important play, with unique insight into a former taboo theme. Forget it. Regardless of the implications of the title, the play is a comedy,

which would be fine if it were funny.

Some people may laugh at one lesbian being forced to drink the other's bath water, but not this boy.

The play is concerned with June

Buckridge who plays Sister George in a BBC serial on the radio. She's to be dropped off the show, killed, because of a decline in the ratings of both the show and Sister George. The play is really about a future has-been, just a bit of a drag. English drama at times presents a nostalgic look at the past, which the playwrights expect civilized people to share. Osborne wistfully saw the demise of the music hall representing the old England, with its Edwardian tradition, in The Entertainer, and I saw that it was good. With Frank Marcus' Sister George we sense that this writer is about ten years late.

Also Frank Liebeck reviews the St. Michael's College midnight production of Electra.

The fall of radio just doesn't grab me.

The relationship between Sister George and Alice McNaught is devoid of the strong devotion that would be needed to keep the two together for seven years. The dialogue at times does have its own life, and Dawn Greenhaugh as George uses it to its best advantage. Her masculine walk, dominating manner and voice that

cuts razor deep produce a fine performance of decling George. Barbara Bryne as Alice is a good partner to her, timid and childish. Rita Howell plays the only Jewish - Italian - Hungarian gypsy in captivity. She reminded me of Ruth Gordon as the chocolate mouseloving neighbour in Rosemary's Baby. Amelia Hall as Mercy Croft (get that subtly) merely proves the theory that the BBC not unlike our own CBC is full of queers.

The director, Timothy Bond, who directed Ubu Roi at York some years back, did a competent job, at times lacking originality in presenting the characters. He could have made more of the moments that did exist. The cigarette scene and the ending had no strength whatsoever. It's at the Royal Alex for a while.

ELECTRA

In the same evening I got dragged to St. Michael's College to watch a midnight showing of Sophocles' 'Electra'. After almost three hours previously of tedious lesbianism my enthusiasm had somewhat dwindled to acute pain. But Sophocles is good no matter what.

I will only review the first half of the show, because after that the production broke down. It broke down because the director felt a stylized show must also be static, and after an hour, a static show, with its repetitious blocking, crumbles. Other than that, it was more enjoyable than George and her hang-ups.

It was the acting of its female cast that resulted in a fine production. Eleanor Lindo has the stage presence of a professional. She knows how to move, her voice has an oratorical quality that was a pleasure to watch. She commanded respect as Electra, and as an actress. Also Mary Warner as her sister had a fine cutting tone. The mother as performed by Gale Gibson, was the most human performance given that evening. When she swept her arm, it was with style, and with a persuasive motive attached. One more point, and that is that white bras and black leotards don't mix.

We'll leave it at that.



Sister George and friend

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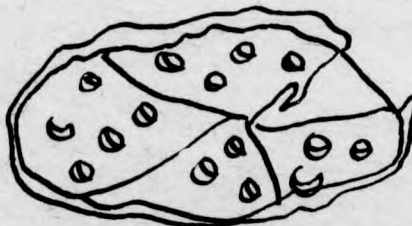
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