

Cathartic drama

By ELLEN REYNOLDS

Neptune Theatre's Second Stage is presenting the Pulitzer Prize winning drama, *Night, Mother* at the Cunard Street Theatre.

Directed by Maryanne Goldman, the play stars Florence Paterson as Thelma Cates and Nicola Lipman as Jessie, her daughter. The setting is Thelma's typical looking house on the outskirts of a small town.

Jessie starts the plot rolling by interrupting her mother's television show to calmly announce her plan of suicide. Thelma, like the audience, is initially in a state of disbelief which gradually changes to shock when she realizes Jessie is determined and sincere.

The two women spend the evening talking about the past and raise some realistic and common family issues. The characters' diametrically different personalities are well defined by both Lipman and Paterson.

Paterson portrays Thelma as a wonderfully simple woman who

likes to deal with life one day at a time. Her emotions are easily readable on her face as she tries every idea and ploy she knows to convince Jessie that life is worth the trouble. Lipman is sincere and convincing as the determined Jessie.

There's a feeling of unreality, or at least incredulity, as Jessie calmly and systematically presents her argument "to be or not to be".

As the play continues, it becomes more tense and more involving to the point when you want to yell at or cheer on the actors. The small theatre also makes it easier to become more and more a part of the play.

Night Mother is a drama on the edge. Through believable and moving performances of Paterson and Lipman the play comes to a climactic end. After recovering from such a cathartic experience the audience and the actors are left shaking and exhausted.

Night Mother is playing until October 25 at the Cunard Street Theatre, 5527 Cunard St.



Nicola Lipman and Florence Paterson, stars of "Night, Mother" at the Cunard Street Theatre. Photo: WW/Rayworth

Chemical warfare

by Jim and Dave

Unknown to many students around campus is a project supported by 81 bars through the Halifax-Dartmouth area. The project, affectionately known as "The U.G.L.Y. Bartender" contest, assists in generating funds to help the organizations retain that "community" spirit.

Last year, Dal students put in a classic showing, ending the eleven-week campaign with a grand total of \$36,000. While we did not put on a very respectable showing, we nevertheless saved face and went to the closing banquet to watch, listen, and support the cause.

The Grawood Lounge, under the helmship of Deborah Brown and Tim Pertus, went right back after the campaign for Big Brothers/Big Sisters a few short weeks ago. While the U.G.L.Y. Bartender Contest still has a few weeks until its close, the Grawood Lounge has in fact exceeded its contribution of last year, thanks to the support of its patrons. To date, Dal's own little bar has raised close to \$400.

Dear Jim & Dave,

Earlier this year, reports came out to indicate that Dal's Arts enrollment was up and its science enrollment was declining. I've also noticed that Dal has hired a new President who is a chemist. Now, I did a little digging and found out that he was hired by a group of Dalhousie's finest academic minds, led by another chemist. Just out of curiosity, does the recent hole-digging for the chemistry addition bear any relation to the fact that our leaders at Dal are chemists?

Gramatically yours,
"Another Arts student"

Dear one of many,

We'll go out on a limb and suggest to you that if you're in need of a job, try to find someone who can understand the same principles you do. After all, how could a person with a "Classics" doctorate even hope to make any sense in an interview with a chemist??

As for the building addition, it's been planned for years. Unfortunately, like many things, its decision to build wasn't based on very good demographics.

And we also understand that someone at Dalhousie is trying to figure how far one can "overload" a classroom of Arts students. I guess Dalhousie assumes that Arts students just need to show up long enough to hand in their essays. The only time a real problem arises is when one of those Arts professors wants to have an "in-class" assignment. Ever watched 120 students try to sit in 85 chairs? If not, showings take place almost hourly in the A&A building Monday through Friday. Maybe in another five years some committee will hire a President from the even-increasing Arts and build a couple stories on the A&A building, just so students don't have to sit on the floor.

From that not-so-far-off southern location,
we remain,
Jim & Dave

Mark Watson is going to Harvard Law School on a scholarship. The scholarship is for a black applicant from Los Angeles.

There's a problem...Mark is white.

Brother, is he in for an education.

SOUL MAN



A COMEDY WITH HEART AND SOUL.

NEW WORLD PICTURES IN ASSOCIATION WITH BALCOR FILM INVESTORS PRESENTS
A STEVE TISCH PRODUCTION A STEVE MINER FILM SOUL MAN
STARRING C. THOMAS HOWELL • RAE DAWN CHONG • ARYE GROSS • JAMES B. SIKKING
LESLIE NIELSEN AND JAMES EARL JONES AS PROFESSOR BANKS • MUSIC SCORE BY TOM SCOTT
WRITTEN BY CAROL BLACK • CO-PRODUCERS CAROL BLACK AND NEAL MARLENS
PRODUCED BY STEVE TISCH • DIRECTED BY STEVE MINER

NEW WORLD PICTURES
© 1986 NEW WORLD PICTURES

ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK ON AM
DOLBY STEREO
IN SELECTED THEATRES

**"Opening Friday, October 24
at a Cineplex Odeon Theatre near you,
check local listings."**