swb fheatre

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA



LAST THREE DAYS!!

LAST THREE DAYS!



8:00 pm.
SUB Theatre presents

The Decameron

Tickets: \$11.00 \$9.00 and \$7.00 Available at all BASS outlets

27

EPTEMBER

25

REDS

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8:00 pm. — REDS — 1981, USA, 200 min. Dir. Warren Beat Cast: Warren Beatty, Diane Keaton, Jack Nicholson, **Mature**

· 28



3:00 pm. — GALLIPOLI — 1981, Australia, 109 min. Dir: Pete

The Decameron

Using little more than their clothing and a few crates the performers create the decors for several dozen characters. Hausvater, the director, chose to have them perform in a commedia del'arte style, inspired by the fact that, during the 1940s, an Italian troupe, directed by Ernesto and Maria Cavale, was imprisoned for political reasons by Mussolini.

The five weakened prisoners, in their striped prison garb, perform against the desolate backdrop of barboed wire, transforming themselves into Italian peasants, playing the tales with the diminished, but still considerable, craft of their trade. A guard's harsh, amplified voice, however, constantly interrupts their play, barking out orders, forcing them to humiliate each other, ordering them to be more realistic, more brutal, more sexual. "That's the trouble with you spaghettis," he says at one point, "you're not realistic enough."

These constant defeats are both moving and resonant. The literal-mindedness of the guard reminds us of what is at the root of both pornography and propaganda: a need to control others in order to get specific gratifications and pre-determined effects.

The tales, though at times funny, are not memorable. What stays in the mind are the five prisoners who live in constant fear for their lives. They never know what to expect from one moment to the next.

Shocking, powerful, realistic. Alexander Hausvater's adaptation and direction of Boccacio's *Decameron Tales* is all of those things and more.

Students!!

Decameron — Rush Seats

2 tickets for the price of 1
at the door
for that day's performance

NOTE: Make sure you're in touch. Get the new SUB Theatre "Spotlight" calendar, free; on campus everywhere. Theatre information: 432-4764.

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October 15 (2 shows)

SUB Theatre

Tickets available at all BASS outlets and SUB Box Office. Charge-by-Phone: 488-4826. For more info: 432-4764.

