



LET THOSE DEMONS COME OUT!!! Miles (Jesse Clark), The Governess (Kathleen Brett), and Flora (Valerie Gonzalez) in Benjamin's Britten's adaptation of *The Turn of the Screw*.

Screw: repressed sexuality

By KEN KEOBKE

He changed the way we eat bananas. Sigmund Freud's influence on the 20th century can't be confined to psychology textbooks and, despite the controversy surrounding Freudian, Neo-Freudian and Post-Freudian schools of thought, his observations have gone beyond human sexuality and made us rethink the secret lives of fictional characters.

Extremely ripe for analysis are the characters of the Henry James gothic novella *The Turn of the Screw*. A governess is sent to the country estate of a gentleman to teach his niece Flora and nephew Miles. She goes with a sense of foreboding and the warning not to disturb their uncle with details. After seeing the ghost of the former groom, Peter Quint, she is told by the housekeeper that before his violent death he had exerted an unhealthy influence over the household, including having had his way with both Miles and the previous governess, Miss Jessel. Much of what follows is a contest for the souls of the two children, ending with Miles' rejection of Quint and death in the arms of the Governess.

As a story, *The Turn of the Screw* is fairly shallow, even by operatic standards. James himself described it as merely an atmospheric pot-boiler. But Benjamin Britten has

turned it into an operetta of considerable force through haunting melodies from a 21-piece orchestra and a *chorusless* cast of six. The small orchestra perfectly complements the piece with instrumental solos, and small arrangements featuring tympani, celeste and harp.

But in this production, the orchestra frequently drew visual focus from the lust red stage, particularly during two key scenes, unnecessarily set high above the rear of the raked stage; the bedroom confrontation between the Governess and Miles, and Quint's speech from the tower.

The reason for Quint's distance and the side staging of the appearances of the ghost of Miss Jessel, seems to have been a lack of willingness to trust the music and the stage presence of the singers to create the eerie mood. When Quint and Jessel finally do appear front and centre, having lured the children from their beds, endless clouds of mist surround them.

But back to Freud. What would he say! Are the ghosts a reflection of repressed sexuality—the previous governess's unhappy spirit mirroring the self-conscious sexual timidity of the present governess? Is Miles' strange behaviour and expulsion from school a manifestation of his having been molested by Quint? Although Freud gave us the vocabu-

lary to raise such questions, conclusions are more elusive. Britten went beyond James, by giving the mute ghosts words to say; but the ambiguity remains and, as a liquid metaphor, we leave the theatre wondering and reflecting on our own lives.

The Turn of the Screw continues in repertoire with a second cast until March 5 in the intimate Texaco Opera Centre at 8 p.m., at a very affordable and worthwhile \$10 for students.



TAXI!!! The governess and Miles in a dramatic moment.

A R T S C A L E N D A R

GALLERIES

The Diary Exhibition/Journaux Intimes, an exhibition of diaristic works by 16 contemporary artists. AGYU (RS137), until March 18.

Alumni Homecoming Show, an exhibition of works from graduates of the York Visual Arts Dept. IDA Gallery (Fine Arts Bldg.) until March 11.

Poesis, a display of Founders College student's poetry, sculpture, music and paintings as part of an art competition. Founders Gallery, until March 11 with an opening on March 9 at 3 p.m.

THEATRE

Camille, a third-year theatre performance of a play by Alexandre Dumas, directed by our own *Excal* extraordinaire, Ken Keobke. Atkinson Theatre, Thursday-Saturday at 7 p.m. Free.

Adam At Work, a one-man, continuous play by Adam Kardash, depicting his own life in complete detail, as it happens. 111 Central Square, showtimes sporadic. Phone for details.

LECTURES

Prime Time Series, a lecture by British theatre critic, Robert Cushman. Atkinson Theatre, Friday from 10:30.

Dancers' Forum, a lecture demonstration by Ginette Laurin, Artistic Director of O'Vertigo, Montreal. Studio 1 (Fine Arts Bldg.), Friday, 2 p.m.

Women in Art, a lecture demonstration about women in music, given by York students Jennifer Moore and Sheila James. Purple Lounge (Third Floor, Fine Arts Bldg.), Tuesday, March 8 at 12 p.m.

Graduate Programme Seminar, a lecture given by York author and poet, bpNichol. Purple Lounge (third floor, Fine Arts Bldg.), Wednesday, March 9, 2 p.m.

MUSIC

Student Chamber Series, a varied programme featuring student soloists and chamber ensembles. McLaughlin Hall, Friday at noon.

Lunch-time Jazz, Tom Forsyth Quartet performs in part of CHRY's ongoing jazz series. Vanier Junior

Common Room, Tuesday, March 8 at noon.

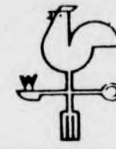
Student Recital Series, features guitarist Vincenzo Pace. McLaughlin Hall, Tuesday, March 8 at 3 p.m.

Student Concert Series, a performance by Julie Shier and Carolyn Lockhart on bassoon with Nancy Berman on piano. McLaughlin Hall, Thursday, March 10 at 12:15 p.m.

ATTENTION ALL EXCAL HACKS:

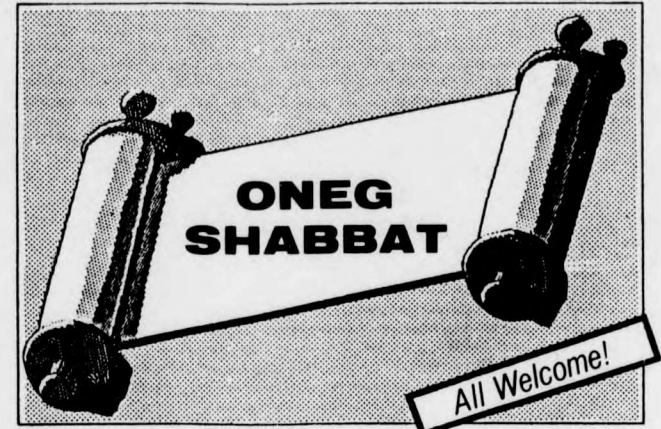
There will be an important staff meeting today at 4:00 p.m. during which your fate on this planet may be decided. Attendance is mandatory.

順來風飯店 小菜、粥、粉、麵、飯、堂食、外賣 THE WINDS RESTAURANT



SUPERB CHINESE FOOD
DINING, TAKE-OUT & HOME DELIVERY
UNIVERSITY CITY PLAZA
59 FOUR WINDS DR., DOWNSVIEW, ONT.
PHONE: 736-4646
SUN-THURS, 11:30 a.m.-12:00 midnight
FRI & SAT, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 a.m.

Oneg Shabbat Friday, March 4th Rescheduled



Informal Shabbat Service with *Oneg* and discussion

Friday, March 11, 1988
7:30 p.m. in the
Scott Religious Centre,
Ross Building



Sponsored by the Jewish Student Federation
For more information 736-5178

NURSES ARE IN DEMAND

Help meet the need for skilled nurses — consider the Nursing program offered by Centennial College.

We're looking for candidates with a strong science, math and English background for our three-year, full-time program.

Applications are being accepted **NOW** for classes starting September 1988.

Act Quickly!

Call the School Liaison Office at (416) 694-3241, ext. 3312 or 1-800-268-4419. Or, complete the form below and mail to:

CENTENNIAL COLLEGE
CareerInfo
P.O. Box 631, Station "A"
Scarborough, Ontario M1K 5E9

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: () _____

Yes, I'd like more information on Nursing at Centennial.