

Outlet for theatre students

Student Project Week starts this Saturday

by SHIRA BERNHOLTZ

In 1971-72, a proposal made to the Faculty of Fine Arts by Bob Benedetti, Director of the Program in Theatre, for a Student Project Week was accepted. Annually the Theatre department would set aside a ten day period when formal classes would be suspended and all facilities turned over to the students. Faculty members would be available for consultation only.

During the last few days of Student Project Week, the student-directed, student-chosen plays are presented free of charge to the public at large on a first come, first served seating basis. These per-

formances are not evaluated, and participation by students is purely voluntary.

One of the aims of SPW is to provide students with the opportunity to direct and act in pieces which they personally enjoy, and thus be able to put theories learned in class to a practical application. Also, it is hoped that students enrolled in any one of the three sections of the department (Performance, Drama Studies, Production) will be able to participate in areas other than their particular concentration. For example, a Performance student may wish to design a set, or a

Production student may wish to perform.

In the original proposal, Bob Benedetti suggested that the week of suspended classes should follow Reading Week in February. Any students who wished to participate would be required to submit a "brief description of their material and their proposed concept" to the faculty. Based only on technical feasibility, the professors would choose those shows which could be done, possibly accepting them all.

However, SPW has, for the last few years, been scheduled during late November, and there is no faculty discussion of the projects. This year it will take place between November 27th and December 5th inclusive, although the actual public presentations will not begin until Thursday, December 2. Each night's program will be different, despite the fact that a number of the pieces will be presented more than once. This year fifteen pieces have been registered.

This year's activities in preparation for the Week have raised certain problems, such as



Danny Lam photo

the scheduling of the program at the end of a term. SPW organizers are still trying to find a proper format for the presentation which will alleviate these problems. With this in mind, the coordinators would appreciate any comment or criticisms from any of the audience members.

Despite the trials and tribulations involved in the organization of the program, all those involved are

enthusiastic and hope for large audiences.

This year's fare includes "The House of Bernarda Alba", "The Blind", an original play by a fourth year writing student entitled "Rasputin is Dead", and a revue style original script written, directed, and acted by first year theatre students. Details and schedules will appear in next week's Cheap Shots.

Cheap Shots

Toronto Free Theatre has recently done a mass mailing, soliciting subscriptions. The subscription entitles the bearer to see all three of the plays downstairs (Me?, Brecht's Baal, and Gossip), a choice of one of three plays upstairs, as well as evenings of poetry and discussion. The first play starts Jan. 6. Prices are \$9-12, depending on whether or not you prefer weekends.

IN TOWN . . . a Dramatic Dance performance in Stong's JCR tomorrow night . . . at IDA Gallery next week, works by Helena van Hunten . . . for you masochists out there, Patti Smith and Sparks will be at MLG December 19 . . . at the Palmerston, Saturday at 7:30, Griffith's Birth of a Nation, in the uncut, hand painted version . . . at Ryerson this weekend, Animal Crackers, Duck Soup, and Horsefeathers, all starring the Marx Brothers. For information, phone SURPI (597-0723) . . . Tuesday and Wednesday, the Toronto Symphony present a concert of McMillan, Brahms, Sibelius, and Berg. Soloist is Nathan Milstein . . . Starting Wednesday for four nights, "Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo", at Seneca's Minkler Auditorium . . . An exhibit of art from New Guinea, Indonesia, and Australia, will be at Glendon's Art Gallery until Dec. 5 . . . Tuesday two concerts in complex two: Eugene Kash (violin) Kyla Crowcroft (piano) play Sylvester's at Stong at 8:30, and the Bernie Senesky Trio are in the Bethune JCR at noon. . . . Tamahnous Theatre Workshop comes to the Tarragon this week, and begin the first of two runs there on Saturday. It seems that Tamahnous (a west coast indian word for marijuana) has been upsetting all kinds of people in Vancouver over a show called "84 Acres". The first Tarragon show is called "The final performance of Vадislav Nijinsky. . . . At the Art Gallery of Ontario until Jan. 2, an exhibit and sale of unusual Christmas gifts, called Artful Giving. . . . also at the AG of O, Christmas decorations, of the 1830s cards, and toys from the nineteenth century, and Sunday at two, de Sica's "Bicycle Thief" . . . Desmond McHenry plays at the Open End this weekend.

E.L.



Vancouver's Tamahnous Theatre Workshop

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Prière de faire parvenir un curriculum vitae, accompagné de textes rédigés par vous, à :



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