



The Medium, Studio Theatre

photo by W. C. Stenton

Studio Theatre

One of the most exiting aspects of the University is it's Drama Division. A variety of plays, ranging from the classics to the modern Absurdist School of writers, present the students with a challenge in understanding today's society.

In the past the Drama department has had a major season of five major productions, several experimental workshop evenings, and a series of special events. Designers, directors and a visiting professor each year have added a new element of different ideas, originality, and versatility.

A new venture last year was the production of a new Canadian play. This aspect has been carried over by the institution of a school for playwrights under the auspices of the English and Drama departments.

The Summer Session also has it's theatre season. "The Torches," an outdoor theatre presents several plays as well as dramatic readings of plays and poetry. The stage is behind the Education Building and the evening twilight gives the plays an aura of fantasy and warmth.

The Studio Theatre Players, an all-student organization, carries on the work of the theatre and creates opportunities for acting. An executive directs the Players. It also sponsors speakers in related fields; films, movement classes and fencing are also sponsored by the Players and the Drama division with little or no cost to the student.

Studio Theatre hopes to expand it's activities to the extent that all students will find some appreciation of drama and an understanding of Canadian literature.

University Symphony

To those with a musical instrument and two nights a week, the University Symphony, under the direction of Prof. Crighton, offers the unique experience and enjoyment of playing in a concert orchestra.

The highlight of the Symphony's years are the concerts in Con Hall, this year being held Feb. 21 and 22. (Musically-minded varsity guests should be sure to attend this weekend.)

The U of A Symphony Orchestra has a membership of 65. They like to make music, in the company of musicians.



University is much more than classes, and rightly so. Carefully chosen extra-curricular activities not only provide relaxation and enjoyment, but can be a means of learning and gaining a broader appreciation which will make life richer—both during and after university.

The following campus organizations offer just such benefits...

Drama Society

The U of A Drama Society is essentially a club for people interested in drama but unable to take drama courses. However, it is not restricted to non-drama students.

Sponsored by the Students' Union, the Drama Society has activities for members interested in any phase of theatre. These activities include: plays, both stage and radio, in which members participate in acting, directing, and technical; talks by invited authorities; sponsorship of the Inter-Faculty Play Festival; and the annual costume party, the Gala Arts Ball.

Each year the club prepares a one act play for entry in the Alberta One Act Play Festival. In 1960 they carried away the awards for the best play and best actor. In 1961, in the Northern Alberta Festival, they won the best play award.

Mixed Chorus

"We have fun! We have fun!"

Who?

Mixed Chorus, of course. This is their Tuck and travelling chant.

But the U of A Mixed Chorus is even better known for its singing. Besides giving the traditional winter concert in Con Hall, the 150-voice group goes on a weekend winter tour and a longer spring tour, to out-of-town points each year. (This Spring they'll be visiting the northern towns.)

Under the paternal goading and guidance of Professor R. S. Eaton, the Mixed Choristers prepare each year a large program of music running the gamut from classical to light, from the compositions of the old masters to those of modern composers. The music lovers of Edmonton can tell you all about that.

But only a chorister could tell you about the after-chorus times in Tuck, the bustle and billots of tours, the parties, the friends that make alumni say, "University was great, but I think I miss Chorus most of all."



Drawing & Painting

The U of A Art Club was formed only this year. Interest in drawing and painting are the only requirements for participants.

The Art Club meets once a week to sketch, paint, listen to special lectures or see films. The group also sponsor exhibits on campus. One of their most important functions is simply to provide the means of interested students to discuss and criticize each others' work.

Male Chorus

"The desire to make good music and the willingness to work," are the criteria for membership cited by a member of the University Male Chorus.

The U of A Male Chorus, although established only last year, is already well-known on campus. Its activities include two winter concerts, a concert on Varsity Guest Weekend, and this year a weekend trip to Southern Alberta.

The chorus, this year conducted by David Peterkin, supervisor of music for the province of Alberta, sings music both serious and popular.

Priding themselves of their comparatively informal format, the group would probably rather call themselves a glee club rather than "just another chorus."

"We sing for the love of it."



Prof. R. S. Eaton, directing Mixed Choristers.