

## Entertainment

## Trip to Bountiful

## Movie Review

John Adam

Director Peter Masterson has captured many themes in the 1985 production of Trip to Bountiful. However, the overriding theme of the film is more of a social commentary than anything else. Through this medium, Masterson shows that the question of old age is timeless. The film

also shows how disastrous the idea of extended families are in a modern society.

Ultimately, Trip to Bountiful is a film about an old woman, and her desire to return to her hometown before she dies. She is living in Houston, under cramped conditions, with her son and daughter-in-law. First judgements of the old woman make her seem

senile. As the film progresses, one cannot help feeling that the old woman is merely frustrated and lonely. Both women do things to provoke each other: The daughter-in-law, Jessie Mae, nags incessantly. The old woman, Mother Watts, makes Jessie Mae nervous by constantly singing hymns. The son, Ludie, spends much of his

time in the film bouncing around the two-room apartment trying to keep Jessie Mae and his mother from fighting with each other. As one watches Ludie, one must feel that he should take a stand, against both of these women and stop their bickering. When the mother makes it to Bountiful, both she and Ludie come to separate

realizations. Mother Watts realizes that all that is left of Bountiful is a storage of memories that she alone can keep. Ludie realizes, by his own standards, he is a failure. Ludie's enlightenment in Bountiful provokes him into finally taking a stand against both his mother and his wife.

Geraldine Page should be noted for her acting in Trip to Bountiful. One cannot help but like this old lady. Also after learning about her situation, and seeing her plight, one cannot help but feel sad.

This film also has the capacity to make you feel happy, as the three agree to try and live in peace, back in Houston.

Trip to Bountiful is only one of the fine films in line for this term. The Film Society is coming on stronger than ever this term. With a list of films for winter 87 that are worthwhile seeing, attendance should be on the rise. Watch around the campus for posters that advertise this term's line-up.

## Amnesty Jazz Night

Steve Griffiths

I must admit to being a little wary of being sent to review an evening of Jazz. Suffice it to say that my limited experience with this medium consists of a few half remembered pieces by Coltrane, Ellington, the stamp and grind of late 30s Chicago scene and that music they use in the background of Charlie Brown cartoons. Nevertheless, a brief chat with pianist Tony Hanson curbed my apprehension somewhat when he informed me that tonight was a performance for 'people who don't really

like jazz - sometimes' Further he described their style as 'past be-bop' and largely accessible to the untrained ear. I might have a chance after all.

The ensemble drew a large audience despite evening air cold enough to chew on. Soon the Faculty Club, decked out in Bobak originals consisting of miserable nudes and even more miserable children brutally slapped onto cruel backdrops of blue and grey, was throbbing with relaxed conversation.

How High the Moon kicked off the evening which was to prove to be an extremely pleasant one.

I gave up taking the order of the songs after the first hour but all the selections were professionally performed including the sleazy swing and bang of Gillespie's Birk's Works, the balmily lilting I Can't Get Started and a great version of the Bill Evan's standard Emily.

The evening passed without any demonstration of the grating tendency musicians of this ilk seem to have, plodding off on length self congratulatory bursts of interpretation before returning to the fold and continuing with the piece at hand. Mr. Hanson was right. It was all very ac-

cessible and really enjoyable.

The first gig then for this quartet and I am informed that soon a horn player will be added to the ranks which is certainly something to look forward to.

Be sure to catch them next time around because as a group of blokes that cite their devotion in terms of practice as 'an alternative poker evening' and 'just a bunch of professors playing jazz' they are actually bloody good.

Carol Fraser Exhibit at BAG  
Shari Goodfellow

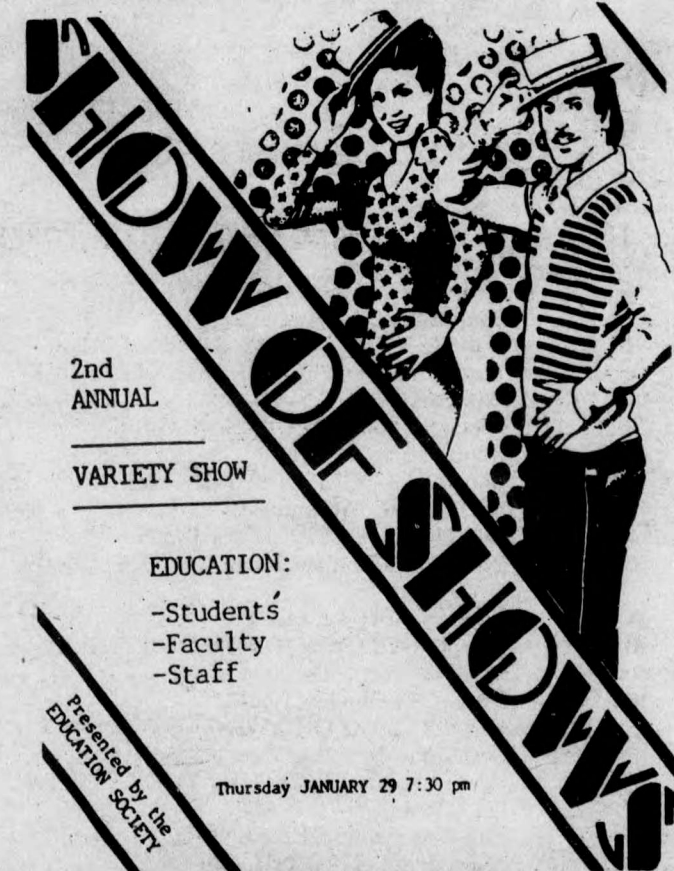
Last Friday I had the opportunity to attend the official opening of the Beaverbrook Art Gallery's exhibition, Drawings by Carol Fraser 1948 - 1986. The art gallery has for the past six years been organizing and funding this particular exhibition. A guest speaker at the opening was Mimi Cazort, (curator of prints and drawings, Canadian Centre for architecture in Mtl.) Cazort is a close friend and enthusiast of Frasers.

Carol Fraser has often been compared to Van Gogh because of her similar artistic style. Fraser is somewhat unorthodox in her style and method. She frequently uses ink, stick, seaweed wash on paper, coloured pencil and oil pastel. I found Fraser's work somewhat portentous. Her harsh style let loose forbidden thoughts. "Gloomy Days in Halifax" and "Mother's Morphine Dream," were two prints that I felt depicted this mood. The artist plays about on paper with pen or stick, dipped in ink to create this frightening image. Dr. Mimi Cazort summed up Fraser's work in an "analogy that

seems to symbolize Carol's use of drawing, an analogy suggested by her own imagery, drawing as a sharp tool used to peel away the layers of things in the world out there, all the way down to bare bones, to see what makes the things tick. "Cazort's analogy aptly describes Fraser's drawings. Her prints have a mesmerizing effect, to the point where I wondered what was going through her mind when she was drawing certain prints.

Nude sketches, self-portraits, atlantic scenes, Mexican landscapes and bizarre dreams, were some of the topics which her work covered. I particularly liked "The Geology of Fear," "Backyards of Queen Street (Fredericton)" and "Tidal Rocks at GreenBay I."

Fraser is different. She's not your usual run of the mill artist. If you happen to drop by the art gallery, check it out - especially "Mother's Morphine Dream" - Whew ☆



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