

Burn This explores love triangle

Burn This
Citadel Rice Theatre
through October 23

review by Mark D. Primmer

Burn This is about falling in love — that classic battle which more often than not wages heart against head. Anna (played by Colleen Winton) is an attractive 30 year old dancer who is about to undergo the trauma of readjustment. At a time in her career when she desperately needs the inspiration and encouragement of her dancing partner Robbie, he dies, leaving her alone and frightened.

Offering Anna security is her boyfriend Burton, a successful screenwriter of science-fiction movies. Anna could probably marry Burton and never have to worry about her future again. In fact, her friend and roommate Larry (Jeff Haslam) wants to know why she doesn't "just marry him [Burton] and buy things."

Of course, that might not happen. Stumbling into Anna's loft in the second scene is Pale, the rough and tumble brother of Robbie. Pale, played by David Ferry, is raw and powerful. Unlike the staid Burton, Pale is passionate to an extreme. When Anna asks Pale what he does for a living, Pale leans close to her and with the lustful heat of his breath replies, "I'm a water deliverer. For fires. I put out fires... I'm a roving fireman. Very healthy occupation. I'm puttin' out somebody else's fire, I'm puttin' out my own. Or sometimes you just let it burn."

Later, near the conclusion of the same scene, Pale struggles between sorrow and guilt over his brother's death and the



David Ferry and Colleen Winton fall in love in *Burn This*.

sexual arousal which the scantily clad Anna provides him. Bluntly, Pale exposes the laughable but heartfelt irony of his split feelings: "Aww, man, I'm so ----ed. My gut aches, my balls are hurtin', they're gonna take stitches on my heart. I'm f-----n grievin here and you're giving me a hard on."

Pale exposes himself (no, not that way!) and begins to feel for Anna with overwhelming honesty and passion. As the play continues, Anna must make the decision to either let herself soar in Pale's

passionate embrace, risking pain and all that might follow from loving someone with heart and soul, or continue her relationship with Burton — in reality, a sort of business arrangement whose merits are wealth and security. In one of the greatest lines of the play, Pale attacks Anna for wanting to send him out of her life: "My pants look like a pig's wearin' 'em, I got a hangover here, I'm puttin' on weight, I'm losin' my hair, and you're talkin' like that? I'm not dangerous. You don't think I'm dangerous, you think you're afraid of me is what you think..."

You're afraid you might get interested. Have to feel somethin'."

As Pale, actor David Ferry is incredible. I can't believe that it's an easy job for an actor to imitate a man so beset with passion that in one moment he is shouting with comical rage and in the next moment is lying prostrate, bemoaning with pitiful sorrow the loss of his brother. Ferry gave an entirely convincing and often upsetting portrayal of a man alive with passion. Upsetting? Yes — be warned! The language and subject matter can be offensive.

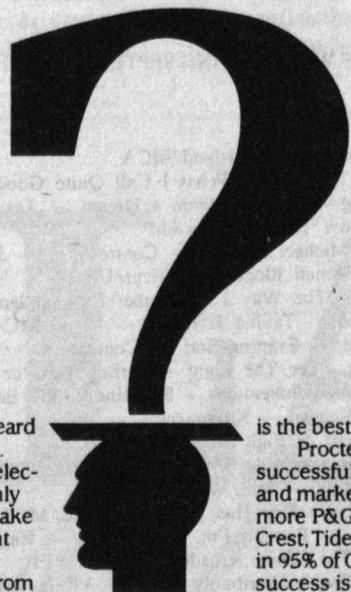
Jeff Haslam is the play's second highlight. Haslam plays Larry, Anna's gay roommate. If you remember seeing "The Odd Couple" on television years ago, you'll be apt to identify Haslam's character with Felix of that duo. The similarity between Larry and Felix comes from their shared ability to dispel the seriousness of an unpleasant situation with wit and humor. However, there are distinct limits to how far that similarity extends. Can you imagine Felix saying something like this: "Who are you? Where did you come from? What do you want? It's me isn't it? You've always wanted me. You want to have your filthy way with me in the hot desert sun. Ravage me like I've never been ravaged before." Larry does — quoting a line from the movie *Lust in the Dust*.

Lastly, I'd like to report that I had some difficulties in detecting the attraction between actress Colleen Winton and her powerful opposite, David Ferry. In his initial appearance, Pale is aggressive and rude. As such, it's difficult to understand Anna's attraction towards him. Whether it be Winton's failure to communicate a growing feeling of attraction towards Pale, or the playwright's (Landford Wilson) failure to include it in his writing, the fact that Anna and Pale end up having sex with one another at the end of the second scene does not lend itself to easy comprehension or explanation.

BUT, I did enjoy it.

P&G.

Is it everything they say it is



A lot of things you may have heard about Procter & Gamble are true.

They say we have a tough selection process. True. Because we only hire at entry level, we have to make sure we get the right people, right from the start.

They say we promote only from within. True. At P&G, you can go as far and as fast as your abilities will take you. It's up to you. All our senior managers started at entry level.

They say we'll throw you right into the thick of things. True. At P&G, we believe in on-the-job training. You'll get meaningful responsibility right from the start. You'll also get a great deal of support. There are other things you may not have heard. Like the fact that P&G pays competitively. And we believe our benefits package

is the best in the country.

Procter & Gamble is the most successful packaged goods developer and marketer in the world. One or more P&G products, such as Ivory, Crest, Tide and Pampers are used in 95% of Canadian homes today. Our success is due to the high calibre of men and women we employ in all

areas of technical and business management. And we need more.

We're looking for outstanding graduates in all disciplines with a track record of achievement, leadership and people skills. If this describes you, come and talk to us.

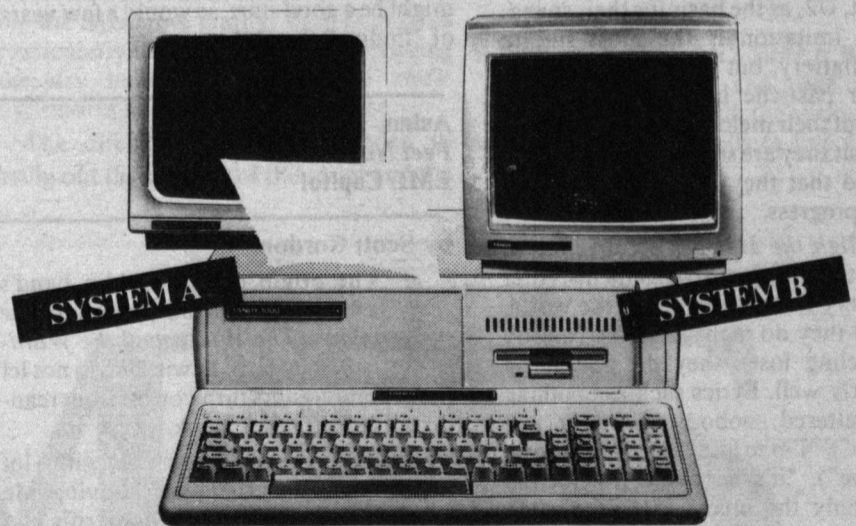
Your placement office has more information or write to: Procter & Gamble Inc., Corporate Recruiting Manager, P.O. Box 355, Station "A", Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5W 1C5.

STUDENT • TEACHER APPRECIATION DAYS

SEPTEMBER 28 — OCTOBER 8, 1988

CLASS 286

Choose between two class act systems for home or school



80286 Tandy 1000 TX offers professional computing at home or school. It's over six times faster than a standard PC XT™. Features 640K memory, built-in 3½" disk drive stores 720,000 characters, and it's expandable with a second 3½" or 5¼" disk drive. MS-DOS 3.2

GW-BASIC and Personal DeskMate 2 software let you start computing right away. And now you can buy the 1000 TX with your choice of VM-4 monochrome monitor (25-1020) or CM-5 colour monitor (25-1043) at incredible savings. Speak to your local store manager today for details. 25-1600

SYSTEM A

1349⁰⁰ Tandy 1000 TX MS-DOS computer with VM-4 monochrome monitor. Reg. separate items 1938.00

SYSTEM B

1549⁰⁰ Tandy 1000 TX MS-DOS computer and CM-5 colour monitor. Reg. separate items 2198.00

BONUS!

Buy any accessory, peripheral or software at the same time you purchase your Tandy 1000 TX and get 10% off the regular or sale price. Offer open to students and teachers only, upon presentation of qualifying identification at all Radio Shack stores, Tandy Computer Centres and participating authorized dealers. Offer in effect from September 28 — October 8, 1988.

TANDY/Radio Shack
DIVISION OF INTERTECH CANADA LTD.