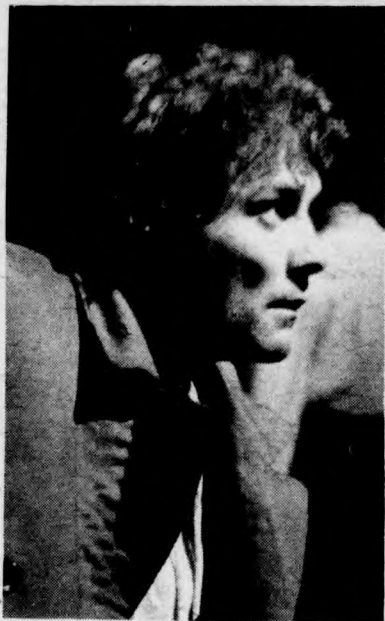


Continuity missing

Farmers' Revolt entertaining, but lacks depth

By **ROBIN BECKWITH**

Add a high level of energy, a strong current of creativity and a chunk of Ontario history to five



David Fox

talented actors and place them on wooden risers in Toronto's oldest school building and what have you got? 1837 The Farmers' Revolt, Theatre Passe Muraille's current production at Enoch Turner Schoolhouse.

There was William Lyon Mackenzie urging the farmers to go on a "Tory, excuse me, turkey shoot".

There was a farmer meeting his mail-order wife-to-be.

There was Sir Francis Bondhead, his mouth created by the outstretched arms of two kneeling men, the nose by two women's arms, his eyes by their heads, his eyebrows by their other arms, delivering a speech urging every man to vote.

There, even, was Susannah Moodie, roughing her way through mud and bog, in the person of Eric Peterson.

Eric was the only male of the three who assumed the character of a woman.

Terry Tweed and Janet Amos often assumed men's characters.

Their voices, obviously unable to register as deeply as a man's, lacked the appropriate resonating quality. Their movements as men, lacked authenticity. Since much of their performance hinged on their ability to behave as men, they came across with less depth than David Fox, Eric Peterson and Miles Potter.

Of the men, Eric Peterson shone brightest. From the firebrand Mackenzie, to a rum-loving drunk, to the hoytie-toytie Susannah Moodie, he displayed an ability to assume a great range of characters. His comic sense was of great importance in keeping the play from becoming too grim.

The other two men changed their behaviour little from one character to another. David Fox was especially inflexible, moving his facial muscles little and forcing his mouth into a perpetually grim expression.

The set and lighting were simple and appropriate, as were the costumes.

Paul Thompson, the director, had allowed the actors to develop a strong group feeling which gave each scene a well-coordinated effect.

Though the play as a whole had a jerky, discontinuous feel to it, the high energy and involvement level of the actors carried one's attention from one scene to the next.

I came from the theatre-schoolhouse with the feeling of having been well entertained on a superficial level. The overall lack of sense and cohesiveness of the play I found dissatisfying.

However, if you're looking for an evening of diversion with the air of

pre-Confederation Canada about it, you can't go wrong with this production. 1837 The Farmers' Revolt is on this week daily at 8 p.m. at Theatre Passe Muraille, Enoch Turner School. Call 961-3303 for reservations.

Sight and Sound

Shepherd whirls through Daisy

Cybill Shepherd dons a parasol for Peter Bogdanovich's Daisy Miller, from the Henry James novel. Bethune brings the show to Curtis LH-L Saturday and Sunday at 8:30 p.m. for \$1.25 general, \$1 Bethune. Next week: Last Tango in Paris.

Is it true blondes have more fun

Jeannie Berlin eats her way to semi-stardom in the hilarious comedy The Heartbreak Kid, while Charles Grodin gets hung up on Cybill Shepherd. Winters screens it Friday and Sunday at 8:30 p.m. in Curtis LH-I for \$1.25 general, \$1 Winters.

Gold-diggers Floozy rerun

Lou, the dazzling singer who captivated a million hearts with her wickedly subtle rendition of I Am a Floozy, from Gold-diggers of 1898, will stage a repeat performance tomorrow in the Central Square bearpit at 2 and 2:30 p.m. This is only a warm-up for next week's Cabaret in Vanier's Open End.

Whetstone displays 'hard edge'

A display of new paintings from the 'hard edge' school by York fine arts graduate Charles Whetstone will open Sunday, October 6 at 1 p.m. in Phase II of York's Fine Arts Centre. The show continues through Friday, October 18. Currently on display is Josef Albers' Interaction of Colour series. Regular hours from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Now Appearing:

TRAVELLING CIRCUS

Sept. 30: **PENDULUM**

Every Tuesday is **50's PARTY TIME** with CITY-TV Comic Personality **GENE TAYLOR** It's a real party! Games, prizes, dancing, fun... and many surprises!

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JAZZ AND FOLK

ANTHONY BRAXTON QUARTET

Monday, October 7

Winner of **Downbeat** and **Melody Maker** International Critics Poll in 1973, Braxton also has been awarded the 1973 Prix du Oscar by the French Jazz Academy and the 1972 and 1973 Gold Disque by **Swing Journal**.

FRASER AND DEBOLT

Tuesday, November 5

"Fraser and DeBolt" is a rainbow of human emotions... equally magical is their music...they are omnidirectional, carrying you to the interstellar wander of the great jazzmen, wrapping you in the deep folk cloth from which rock was cut, and rocking you like vintage Lennon and McCartney..." (Lichtenberg, N.Y. Times).

BILL EVANS TRIO

On bass will be Eddie Gomez and Marty Morell on drums.

Wednesday, March 5

"Bill Evans is the most influential stylist in jazz piano." (Gleason, S.F. Chronicle)

MUSIC

WAVERLY CONSORT

Wednesday, November 20

Performing "Las Cantigas de Santa Maria", a collection of 13th century Spanish songs and verses, the Waverly Consort features a sextet of authentically costumed musicians, singing or playing medieval instruments.

FESTIVAL SINGERS OF CANADA

Wednesday, February 12

Canada's world-renowned choir in a special concert examining the development of Canadian choral music.

CATHY BERBERIAN

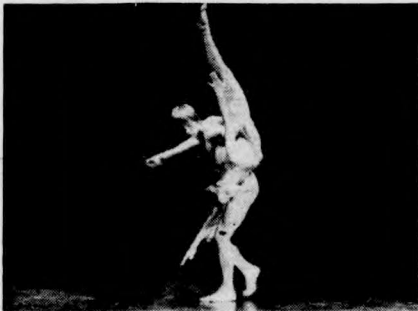
mezzo-soprano

Thursday, March 13

Miss Berberian's recital will include works by Monteverdi, Cage, Debussy, Joyce, Berio, Weill, and Lennon and McCartney. "She is the most extraordinary singer of this generation..." (Dwyer, Buffalo Evening News).

DANCE

These performances mark the Toronto debut for all four distinguished Canadian and American dance companies.



LE GROUPE DE LA PLACE ROYALE

Wednesday, October 2

"It is unchallengeable that this company is bursting with ideas on dance and it's presentation..." (Lanken, Montreal Gazette)

MURRAY LOUIS DANCE COMPANY

Monday, December 9

"...the Louis Dance Company put on a staggering display, getting a spontaneous standing ovation which was as richly deserved as it was rare." (Steele, Minneapolis Tribune).

LAURA DEAN AND DANCE COMPANY

Thursday, January 16

"The beautiful and meditative "Circle Dance"... had a hypnotic allure that drummed its orderly way peacefully into the mind." (McDonagh, N.Y. Times).

ANNA WYMAN DANCE THEATRE

Monday, February 24

"A tightly-knit, technically-impressive company with a distinctive style." (Dafoe, Vancouver Sun).

THEATRE

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

featuring **Richard Todd**

Friday, October 18 "The Hollow Crown"

Saturday, October 19 "Pleasure and Repentance"

"(The Hollow Crown) delights in the eccentricities of all rulers, the ironies of their lives, and the sly irreverence with which they are often regarded by their subjects...humor is abundant." (Richards, Washington Star-News).

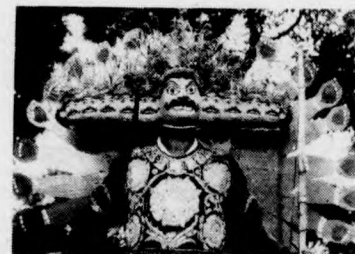
"(Pleasure and Repentance) is a refreshing evening partly because of the wide-ranging choice of extracts and partly because of the total absence of solemnity in the presentation..." (M.B., The Times, London).

LE TRETEAU DE PARIS

Monday, November 18

Tréteau returns to the York campus performing in French one of the most important plays written in our time. Clive Barnes of the New York Times commented: "It is a tremendous, moving and also very funny play."

SPECIAL EVENTS



CHHAU, THE MASKED DANCE OF BENGAL

Wednesday, January 29

This ritualistic dance-drama is performed on the occasion of the annual sun festival in West Bengal. Themes are taken from the Ramayana: the movements of the dancers are vigorous and bold. Unlike other Indian dance, it includes acrobatics.

NEW MUSIC FROM QUEBEC

Thursday, March 20

A look at the vibrant contemporary music scene in Quebec. New work and Toronto premieres of compositions by Gilles Tremblay, Bruce Mather and others. Musicians include flautist Robert Aitken, Robin Engleman, percussion, John Hawkins, piano, Mary Morrison, soprano.

Prices: \$7.00
Staff: \$5.50
Students: \$3.50

Master Ticket For 14 Events:
\$77.00
Staff: \$56.00; Students: \$28.00

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