



Nadia Potts as Nikiya and Frank Augustyn as Solor in The National Ballet of Canada production of Bayaderka which will be performed at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium Sept. 28 29 30

Good boys at heart

by Eric Simpson

How does one deal with a human wall composed of fifteen juvenile delinquents ready to riot? . . . besides expressing hitherto undiscovered respect for walls?

Well, those people attending the British National Youth Theatre production of Peter Terson's "Good Boys at Heart" at the Cohn Auditorium on September 22 witnessed the forces of authority twice win temporary victories over such a wall; but only just.

The play concerns two well-intentioned drama teachers who attempt to transform the gym of a reform school into a "free-expression" therapy theatre. Their first session ends when the boys try to realize their sexual fantasies at the expense of the female drama teacher. The second session ends with a stunningly realistic enactment of an acid trip during a modern day rendition of "The Rake's Progress". Les, the rake and the model monitor of the school, instigates a riot as he traumatically realizes that the school has failed to prepare him for his release. The Headmaster manages to establish a tenuous peace, but only through coercion and blackmail. His voice of authority and discipline carries the day, but the problems of such closed institutions remain unsolved.

The boisterous bantering boys, heads shaven and dressed in blue shirts and denim, create a remarkable atmosphere full of bawdy humour, and bluffing braggadocio. The smooth performance was an admirable feat for these amateurs, although there were a few problems with voice projection. Owen Whittaker was particularly praiseworthy as Horricks, the unabashed smart aleck homosexual.

This troupe, dedicated to giving British youth of all walks of life a chance to enunciate social problems through the theatre, is confronting international audiences with a fine theatrical cry for empathy.

Student health addict

After a series of infections, viruses and other maladies this fall, I came to be well known at Dal Student Health. The woman who makes appointments no longer asked my name but just when it would be convenient for me to come again. The smiling and courteous nurses produced my file as soon as I walked in. The doctor hardly needed to glance at it however—he awaited only my latest complaint.

This happy situation was soon to end. After a number of transient ailments, I received a permanent disease. The latest thing, the doctor said. My latest complaint had entailed a blood diagnosis and on its return the doctor informed me my bilirubin level was twice normal. My what, I said. He patiently explained. The disease itself involved absolutely no pain, no further consequences or complications and none of the expensive drugs associated with so many diseases. In fact, it's incurable. He said he was pretty sure I had it and that I'd better come back for some more tests.

Although this meant I could return, I asked him why it was important to know whether or not I had it. He said so other doctors would know I had this disease and not some other disease. Actually, he assured me, it was more like a condition than a disease. Like blue eyes.

I anxiously awaited the results of the test. The nurse said to phone in five days but I said I'd just drop by. With my own disease which has no further effects or available treatment, I suspected that this could be my last visit. It was.

PROSPECTIVE ANNOUNCERS

The Department of Athletics is seeking people to act as announcers at soccer, field hockey games.

Interested persons should apply to the Athletic Office, Dal Gymnasium.

Previous experience is not necessary. Prime requirement is a clear speaking voice

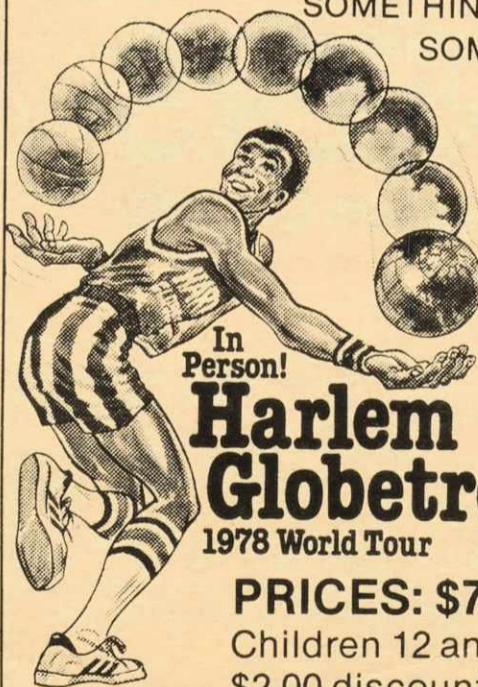
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