



When good fellows get together

What happens when a couple of college professors and their wives get together for an evening at home? Well, it's not all Shakespeare and crumpets. At least, not in Edward Albee's famed drama, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" which the Curtain Club will be doing from May 20 to

June 4. Shown communicating in their own way here, are, left to right, David Phillips (Nick), Jimmi Hunt (Martha), Patty Cross (Honey), and Keith Melville (George). Because of its length, the play will get underway at 8 p.m. each night.

Entertainment



Woolf call

Set your clocks half an hour ahead when you go to see Richmond Hill Curtain Club's final play of the year, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf." The curtain will go up at 8 p.m., 30 minutes earlier than usual for club

productions, because of its three-hour running time.

Mark it on your calendar now: Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? The Curtain Club, May 20 to June 4, starting at 8 p.m. Call 884-2638 for tickets.

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All-day program on famed psychic

A day-long program devoted to the work of famed psychic, Edgar Cayce, and featuring his grandson, Charles Thomas Cayce, will be held May 14, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at West Park Secondary School, 1515 Bloor St. W., Toronto. Cayce and three other speakers will lecture on ESP in a program called "Be your own psychic."

Other speakers include Gina Cerminara, author of Many Mansions, a best seller on reincarnation; Violet Shelley, co-author of Be Your Own Psychic; and Harmon Bro, author of Religious and Psychic Experiences.

Admission at the door is \$15. Students with identity cards will be admitted for half price. For more information, call 964-9600 or 895-1747.

Poetry night

A "May Night of Poetry and Music" will be held at Bakerwood Auditorium, 1929 Bayview Ave., May 17 at 8 p.m.

Mary Frances Haws, who has often given readings in schools in York Region, will read from her own works, as well as introduce her first record of poetry, "When I Remember You." Appearing with her will be pianist George Patrick, and soprano Vivian Ducharme. Admission is free.

5 for Barrie

Gryphon Theatre Company in Barrie will stage five plays this summer, starting July 4 and ending Sept. 3 at Georgian College Theatre.

They are: The Fourposter, by Jan deHartog, July 4-9; People are Living There, by Athol Fugard, July 18-23; The Daughter-in-Law, by D.H. Lawrence, Aug. 1-6; Luv, by Murray Shisgal, or Candida, by George Bernard Shaw, Aug. 15-20; How the Other Half Loves, by Alan Ayckbourn, Aug. 29-Sept. 3. For more information, call 728-4613.

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Musical has highs, lows

By Jim Irving

When the Sleep-Tite Pajama Factory finds itself at odds with management, its workers alternate between slowing down and speeding up, and eventually go on strike.

Unfortunately, that also sets the pace for the musical production of Pajama Game at Aurora's Factory Theatre, which continues this week from the 12th to 14th.

And, although the performance never comes to a complete halt, there are just enough "slow downs" to keep it from maintaining the fine, toe-tapping pace set by Jim Patterson as Vernon Hines, and the chorus at the start.

There are just too many lines blown by the principles, enough missed beats from the dancers, plus enough non-dancers trying out their footwork, to keep it from attaining the high, professional gloss one comes to expect from the Aurora group.

It doesn't help, either, to have the inter-com intrude in the action, or to have two cast members blithely leave the stage at one point to sit in with the band off-stage.

The whole thing is much too long, as well, and one wonders why it wasn't cut down. Even splitting that 90-minute first act would have helped.

Those are all the bad things, and are stated right off the bat, because it is difficult to write about the overall production without being reminded of them throughout.

For instance, there is the "Her Is" number with Prez (Ron Gibson) and Gladys (Julie Wood), which doesn't quite come off, although both are competent performers. It is only when Mae (Eleanore Warren) does it later on, one realizes why.

Mae's bit is definitely her kind of number, as she bumps, grinds, struts, chews her gum and wiggles her hips in equal time, making even the slow-moving Gibson look better in the bargain.

She is provocative, funny and highly competent — one wonders why she was hidden in the back row in "Steam Heat" — and the performance would have gained much-needed tempo by eliminating the first version.

Gladys has her other moments, though, one of them coming as the slightly, squiffy partner of the plant superintendent at Hernando's Hideaway.

The musical is full of such fine cameo per-

formances, it is only when the whole thing is put together that it falls apart, to mix a metaphor or two.

Top notch
The duet between "Babe," (Gwen Duchesne) who also handled the musical direction, and "Sid," (Arnold Falusi) is top notch, delivered at the kind of pace and pitch that the rest of the show constantly strives for, but only occasionally reaches.

Babe's rendition of "Hey There" sung standing in a spotlight, just in front of the silhouetted figures of her father and her boyfriend, is truly beautiful, both in performance and presentation.

Full marks to Falusi and directors too, for his Hey There duet sung into a tape recorder and then played back.

A good example of ingenuity and artistry. Babe's efforts to convince herself that she was "Not at all in love," was another highlight, as was Patterson's low-keyed "Think of the Time I Save." He also made a pretty good knife thrower.

Prez gave an energetic performance — maybe a bit too much arm waving to get the point of his eager, woman-chasing, self across.

"Joe" (Art Rossiter) could have used more voice when singing with the chorus, but came through on his own.

Just right
"Mabel" (Joan Paul), was just right as the efficient, don't-get-involved secretary, and also did her small dance number to perfection.

Cy Buck was certainly Mr. Hasler, the company boss, although one doubts Mr. Hasler would have had so much trouble remembering what he was going to say.

Gary Hubbard, Lee Henry, Jo-Anne Spitzer, Don Wilson and Alan Mitchell all carried out their small roles with aplomb.

And if the dancers seem to have been written off at the beginning, they weren't meant to be. There would have been no show without them, and their every appearance was looked forward to with anticipation.

They were especially fine in their jazz ballet numbers, and while such moments as Steam Heat, truly sizzled, a little more rehearsal time would have made them even that much better, and the dancers able to cope with such things as fallen hats and other exigencies.

Pajama Game requires a momentous production; Factory Theatre was still working on the moment on opening night.

CALENDAR

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? — Richmond Hill Curtain Club, May 20 — June 4; Call 884-2638. Starting time: 8 p.m.
Pajama Game — Factory Theatre, Aurora; May 12-14, 8:15 p.m.
Exhibition of Paintings — Alvin H. Jewell, resident artist at Pickering College; York Fine Art Gallery, Snowball Village; to May 15.
Charles's Aunt — Newmarket Theatre Centre; May 13-15. Call 898-1921.
Arsenic and Old Lace — Herongate Barn Theatre; May 13-14, 20-21, 27-28, June 3-4. Call 294-0426 or 649-2641.
The Killing of Sister George — Toronto Truck Theatre; to June 11. Call 922-0084.
Gossip — by George F. Walker; Toronto Free Theatre, to May 22.
The Nimble Neutron in Nuclear Medicine — Prof. Kenneth G. McNeill, U. of T.; Ontario Science Centre, May 15 at 3 p.m.
Art from Zaire — Ontario Art Gallery; to May 22.
Gisela Depkat — cello recital; St. Lawrence Centre, tonight (May 11) at 8:45 p.m. Thomas Wong, pianist, 6:15 p.m. Call 366-1656.
Rummage Sale — North York Theatre for Performing Arts; North York Memorial Community Hall, 5090 Yonge St., Willowdale, May 14, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Be your Own Psychic — a day-long program devoted to works of psychic Edgar Cayce; lecturers include his grandson, Charles Thomas Cayce and others; West Park Secondary School, Toronto. Call 964-9600 or 895-1747. Admission \$15.

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