

Classic deli
menu of fine
food to stay
or to go.

• Business meetings
catered

Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00
1744 Willamette • 342-5539

poppis
GREEK TAVERNA

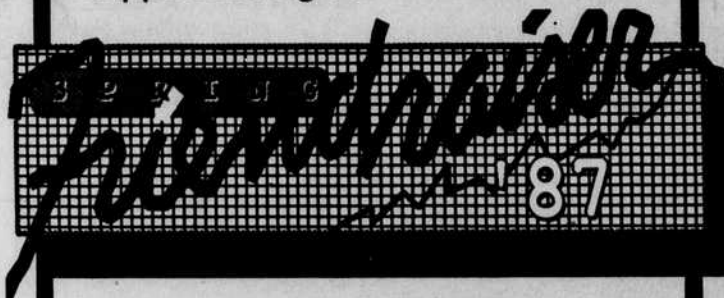
Greek Food,
Wine and Spirit

675 East 13th • Eugene, Oregon • 343-0846
Closed Tuesdays

A lot of you have
discovered KRVM
in recent years.

You tell us you like
what you hear and that
we play a part in your
life. Well, now you can
play a part in ours!

Starting this Saturday, March 7th,
we will be asking you for your
support during our



We need to know that you are
there for us the way we are here
for you all year long!

If you receive the KRVM Program
Guide, cut out the donation form
and send it in with a check!
Otherwise, tune in to **Spring
Friendraiser '87** on 91.9FM
and call in a pledge during your
favorite program.

Join us in the KRVM family!
We're the radio station
to watch....



THEATRE

The Cherry Orchard

Review by Deborah McGee

If you know someone in the cast of *The Cherry Orchard*, go see it. They need your support. Or if you want more familiarity with the great Russian writer Anton Chekhov, make your way there. If, however, you want a satisfying theater experience, you probably ought to avoid the University Theatre production. Only its sets, costumes, and one actor deserve praise.

Horace Robinson, the play's director, has taught and directed plays at the University for 53 years. Robinson Theatre, in which the play is staged, was named for him. When speaking to me of working with him, a local actor used reverential tones. Yet this production ended with that subtle split-second of silence, not out of respect but out of disappointment and confusion, before the audience politely clapped its way through curtain call.

What gives? The only explanation must be that out of great love for drama, Robinson used *The Cherry Orchard* as a lesson for all who experience it. First, he dared to select a difficult play; it's one of very little action, and Chekhov does not draw the highly developed characters Americans are used to. Also, the play has been staged most often as a tragedy, ever since its first production under Stanislavsky at the Moscow Art Theatre in 1904. Robinson chose instead to convey the playwright's own description of

his play, as a "comedy in four acts." His directorial choices teach the possibilities for looking at the classics with new eyes.

His greatest lesson, though, seems to be in showing what happens to a production when the actors' egos run rampant. Because Chekhov doesn't focus as much as other playwrights on character development, his plays require strong ensemble work. Most of the UO cast spend their time on stage either in self-absorption or attempting to reduce their boredom and alienation from the play. Both translate into way too much stage busy-ness. Although the play's characters are people unaware of each other, the actors need to transcend them and work together.

Jason Buell, as Yasha the valet, was the most extreme example of this tendency. Right away we got the idea that he was a fastidious womanizer. But Buell couldn't keep his fingers away from his nose, mouth, hair and drinking glass rim long after his character was established. It was distracting. I liked his androgenous approach to the role, but wish he had been more subtle, for he has obvious talent.

Only Wade Johnson, as Epihodo, was successful. His role was that of the stupid lummox who fell over things, nicknamed "Two and Twenty Errors." Here, as often, the fool shows the way; he was very sensitive to his character and to the others on stage. Only Thomas Hadar as Pishtchik came

close to Johnson's excellence. The rest floundered in boring characterizations no one could care a fig for.

Jerry Williams (*Guys & Dolls*, *Betrayal*) prepared a luscious set, very appropriate to the play's setting on a pre-revolutionary Russian estate. Three of the acts of the play take place in the main room of the estate's manor house. Thus, we are treated to elegance: massive, gilded Corinthian columns arches echoing within arches, and a lush, gigantic swag of exotic fabric topping it all. By contrast, Act II is set in a poplar grove near the never-visible cherry orchard. Williams gives an evanescence to the scene, with gracefully tall, white tree trunks painted upon gauzy backdrops.

Carole Nagle's costumes also delight. Her best work is the wardrobe of Mme. Ranevskaya, played by Corinne Johnson. She first appears in a delicately fringed, dark brown velvet jacket, which helps convey at once her royal stature. Another treat is her ballroom dress, formed of two subtle shades of golden-peach, one of which is eye-catching, watermark-silk taffeta. A fan-shaped rosette upon the lady's left shoulder accents the costume.

University Theatre's *The Cherry Orchard*, after all, is the product of an educational institution. One cannot expect them always to please the public, although many of their productions do so. The play runs through March 14.

University Theatre
Presents



Cherry Orchard
by Chekov
February 27, 28
March 5, 6, 7, 13, 14
Robinson Theatre
8 pm 686-4191

WE BUY FINE
BOOKS
TOP PRICES PAID

ART, ARCHITECTURE, PHOTOGRAPHY, LITERATURE, WESTERN AMERICAN, HISTORY, CHILDREN'S BOOKS, NATURAL HISTORY, EXPLORATION, TRAVEL, ETC. CONTEMPORARY, OLD & RARE SINGLE ITEMS TO ENTIRE LIBRARIES

J. MICHAELS BOOKS
160 E. BROADWAY
342-2002
M-F 10-5:30 SAT 10-5

**Car Care
with a
Conscience**

Audi • BMW
Porsche • Volkswagen
Alfa Romeo

European Automotive Specialists
687-0040

1475 W. 10th Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97402
Financing • Insurance • Repairs

Autopia

Financing • Insurance • Repairs



SPORTS FACTORY OUTLET

NEW ARRIVALS

Running Tights... \$19.95
100% Cotton Tights 14.95
Jewel Art
Sweat Shirts... from 14.95
Sweat Pants w/
Pockets 13.90
"Oregon" T-shirts... 5.99
Sweats start at 6.99
100% Cotton
Sweats Soon!
MON-SAT 949 Pearl
10 am-6 pm 343-8352



25¢ off
a double scoop
of Gelato
(Italian ice cream)

Choose from 22
gourmet flavors

Open M-F 10:30 am-11 pm
Sat-Sun noon-11 pm
2495 Hilyard 683-1417

Coupon expires 3/15/87

**Starting
Over**

New and Nearly New
Women's and Men's
Apparel & Accessories

Spring Clothes
are here
Winter Sale
now on

Consigning, buying
and trading

Appts.—call **343-1413**

1077 Willamette
(next to LCC Downtown)

10-6 Mon-Sat • 12-5 Sunday