

Rhythm *Reviews*

Oregon Daily Emerald
April 7, 1995



Story by
Trista
Noel

Marisol
(Katherine
Spencer) and
her guardian
angel (Lesley
Roth) discuss
the future.

Heaven sent

The University's Mainstage Season continues with its production of 'Marisol'

Urging society to find a way to recover its compassion for all people, the University Theatre presents its third Mainstage Season production, *Marisol*.

Written by Jose Rivera, in the style of "magical realism," *Marisol* is the story of Marisol Perez (Katherine Spencer), a young Latina woman who is a copy editor for a Manhattan publisher. She is visited by her guardian angel after barely escaping an attack on the subway.

The angel tells Marisol that she can no longer watch over Marisol, as she has been summoned to join the revolution to save the world. This heavenly war runs over into New York City, turning the city to a smoldering urban wasteland.

Marisol journeys alone into this new war

zone, where angels have replaced their wings with Uzis and motorcycle jackets. Eventually, the homeless and displaced people of New York City join the angels in the attempt to save the universe.

Marisol has received rave reviews from *The Village Voice* and *New York Newsday*, among others. It also was the winner of 1993 Obie Award for Best Play Off-Broadway. Rivera is also the author of *The House of Ramon Iglesia*, *The Promise* and *Each Day Dies with Sleep*.

Director Elizabeth C. Ramirez, a professor in theatre arts and director of Ethnic Studies, believes *Marisol* is an important production, as it brings a different cultural perspective to the stage.

"It brings new faces, particularly people of color, to the Robinson stage,"

Ramirez said.

Rivera, the playwright, is Puerto Rican, and he also brings a level of diversity to the theatre with his play.

The University Theatre cast includes Spencer as Marisol, Autumn Madrano as June, Christopher H. Curtis as Lenny, Lesley Ann Roth as the Angel, and an ensemble consisting of Jessica McNamara, Kirsten May, Kara Wenham, Stacia Jensen, Amy Soter, Dezbah Lousia Stumpff, Arvin V. Entena, Kristen Miles and Lakshmi Narayan Kaur Khalsa.

The design staff is made up of Jeff, scenery; Alexandra Bonds, costumes; Kolyn Greenwell, lights; and Robert Henson, sound. Janet Rose is the technical director, and David Hess is the production stage manager.

Marisol is the third of four shows in the University's Mainstage Season and will be performed April 7-8, 13-15 and 21-22. All performances will begin at 8 p.m., with no late seating. The April 9 matinee performance at 2 p.m. will benefit Adelante Si, sponsors of the Fiesta Latina. Tickets for all seats at the benefit performance are \$10.

Ticket prices for the evening performances are \$8 general admission, \$6 for senior citizens, University staff and non-University students, and \$4.50 for University students.

The Robinson Theatre is located in Villard Hall, 1109 Old Campus Lane.

For more information or to order tickets, call the University Theatre Box Office at 346-4191.

'Bye Bye Love' got a 'Bye Bye' from audiences this spring

Movie studios hope summer releases fare better at box office

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — Here's one way to see how poorly today's movies are performing: Duck into a local theater. At a prime-time showing of *Tank Girl* four days after its debut, two people bought tickets.

This adaptation of a futuristic comic book, which earned a pitiful \$2 million in its debut weekend, isn't the only new movie that's bombing. March admissions were the worst of the 1990s, and Hollywood can't wait for summer — and its big-budgeted blockbusters — to arrive.

Only two recent movies — Warner Bros.' *Outbreak* and Paramount's *The Brady Bunch Movie* — have done moderately well at the ticket window so far this year.

The new Warner Bros. gorilla movie *Born to Be Wild* played worse than *Tank Girl*. Other recent washouts include Fox's *Bye Bye*

Love; Disney's *Tall Tale: The Unbelievable Adventures of Pecos Bill*, and *Roommates*; Paramount's *Losing Isaiah*, and TriStar's *Hideaway*.

North American ticket sales for March were \$301.3 million, a five-year low and an 11 percent decrease from last March. Year-to-date revenues are \$957 million, down more than 10 percent from last year's \$1.07 billion.

Studio executives have looked everywhere to explain the business. The answer always comes back home: They're making bad movies.

Specifically, Hollywood is making bad, cheap movies. The films aren't simply poorly plotted and acted, they look bad, too. Most of the failing movies are aimed at narrow audiences — horror flicks, joke comedies, and action-adventure macho movies.



Bye Bye Love is just one of several spring releases that flopped in theaters