

THEATER

Characters remove masks in 'Black Comedy'

By Nicole Krueger
Entertainment Editor

When the lights are out and no one is looking, people often behave as they never would in bright daylight. They frequently mask their true selves in the presence of others, removing these masks only in the obscurity of darkness.

Imagine watching a group of individuals who, believing themselves to be hidden by darkness, cast aside their masks and reveal their true selves.

Those who see the British farce *Black Comedy* March 6-9 and 14-16 will experience this.

"This play explores the idea that people reveal their true selves in the dark; that darkness can become a metaphor for truth as people give in to baser instincts when no one is watching," director Skye Fitzgerald, a graduate student in theater arts, said.

The play adopts a convention from the Peking Opera in which the visual order of light and dark is reversed so that when a scene is set at night or in the dark, the stage is lit. When the action occurs during the day or in a normally lit setting, the stage is enveloped in darkness.

This allows the audience to observe the characters as they reveal qualities that they conceal from each other.

"This shows the tension between who we're trying to be and who we really are," Fitzgerald said. As a British farce, *Black*



Black Comedy begins March 6 at 8 p.m. in the Arena Theatre. Student tickets are \$3.

Comedy presents a highly physical form of British comedy. "It's exaggerated, topsyturvy and physically based," he said. "It makes no pretense to be intellectual."

Black Comedy was written by British playwright Peter Shaffer in the mid 1960s.

One of the challenges Fitzgerald has faced is getting the actors to look and move as if they are in the dark, when the stage is actu-

ally lit. "They can see but are playing characters who can't. I had to get them to rely on their other senses," he said.

The play will take place in the Arena Theatre in Villard Hall, and performances will begin at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$3 for University students; \$4 for the senior citizens, University faculty and staff and non-University students; and \$5 for the general public.

COMPUTERS

New Web site offers education, entertainment

By Amy Fast
Freelance Reporter

There's a new university in town, and students can visit its campus without ever leaving their chairs.

The new Internet University on the World Wide Web brings academic and entertainment resources to University students in one Web site. Using the vast offerings of online businesses and services, the Internet University combines links to various sites in a stimulating graphic format.

For educational purposes, the Internet University connects college resource search engines and Web sites on financial aid and graduate school rankings. There are also links to library directories and on-line encyclopedias.

In addition to these connections, the Internet University offers some entertainment. There are 12

"departments," including Money, Travel, Career Finding and Arts and Entertainment.

For students looking for amusement, the Web site presents sub-departments such as "Fifteen-minute recipes made with ingredients from 7-11," including a "Tequila Oreo Sunrise Dip."

Students can also custom-make an "electronic pizza" and send it online to anyone in the world. Another feature of the web site allows students to enter to win a free spring break beach trip.

One of the most recent additions is Net Vote 1996, which provides links to presidential candidates' home pages, to unofficial or "joke" home pages and to topics of discussion such as the balanced budget amendment, gun control and abortion.

You can visit Internet University at <http://www.internetuniv.com>.



Concert to feature computer music

Computer music by composer Allen Strange will be featured in a concert of the School of Music March 4 at 8 p.m.

The concert will take place in room 198 of the music school. Tickets are \$2 for University students and seniors and \$4 for the general public.

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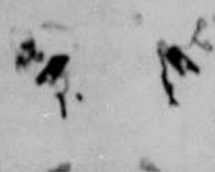
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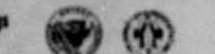
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