

Brooklyn life brought to LIGHT

Arthur Miller's 1950s play "A View From the Bridge" explores themes of **trust** and **loyalty**, which Miller struggled with during the **McCarthy era**

BY JOSH L'INTEREUR
DAILY EMERALD FREELANCE REPORTER

Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Arthur Miller, who died Feb. 10, once told New York Times critic Mel Gussow he thought he'd be remembered most for having created "some good parts for actors."

Pushed by Gussow to offer a more definitive statement on what separated him from his peers, Miller said, "My plays are dealing with essential dilemmas of what it means to be human."

Miller's penchant for creating potent characters who probe the predicaments of the human condition was cemented over time by two of his most well-known plays, "Death of a Salesman" and "The Crucible." In "A View From the Bridge," which opens this Friday at the Robinson Theatre, Miller's notable dexterity reached similar heights.

Set in a mid-1950s tenement of Brooklyn, the play tells the story of an Italian longshoreman with incestuous desires for his niece. Desire quickly turns into jealousy, causing him to betray his family



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PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY BRET FURTWANGLER

■ In my opinion



AMY LICHTY
POP ROCKS

Talentless twits get all the attention

Magazines such as Us Weekly and television shows such as VH1's "It's Good to Be..." showcase the lives of celebrities, from the expensive couture jeans they wear shopping to how much they pay for their flawless skin. Celebrities such as Jessica and Ashlee Simpson, Lindsay Lohan and the Hilton sisters are plastered all over the pages of the tabloids every week and have become such a huge part of pop culture that you can't even turn on the TV, radio or go into a grocery store without being bombarded with some aspect of their "private" lives. What I don't understand is why society puts these talentless people on pedestals.

I'll be brutally honest: I cannot stand Jessica

LICHTY, page 9

PULSEMUSIC PULSEMUSIC

American Hi-Fi, "Hearts on Parade": American Hi-Fi's third release, "Hearts on Parade," borders on cheesy but contains enough thoughtful lyrics and catchy rhythms to make it a keeper. Some moments create flashbacks of the bubbly '60s-style title track from the film "That Thing You Do!" while others have the quality of Weezer's first album.

Romantic disdain and frustration is a common theme in the songs. "The Geeks Get the Girls," a cute tune about a perfect world where all the losers and freaks are the ladies' men, is soon to be the theme song for Ashton Kutcher's new MTV show "You've Got a Friend." "We Can't Be Friends" and "Where Did We Go Wrong?" are about breaking up, but the drumbeats and guitar and bass notes keep bumping along, which gives the songs an upbeat feel. "Something Real" is a bit slower, yet has a catchy back beat. More serious and poetic, it's a song that evokes the emotions of lost love.

"Hearts on Parade" will remind you of carefree days full of surfing in the sun or gallivanting in the car with friends at night. Some songs will make you want to get up and dance, others will want to make you sit back and listen, but each one has a rocking, rolling beat.

American Hi-Fi is currently premiering its new tunes on its national Bowling For Soup tour, which continues until mid-April. The album hits stores March 29.

— Natasha Chilingirian

INSIDE PULSE



The Strand brings together a disparate group of businesses to create a hip night spot.



Check out the latest installment of Cat Baldwin's "Heads up Penny."



Local hair salons offer new styles for the upcoming spring season.

EVENTS MOVIES BOOKS MUSIC

s	m	t	w	t	f	s

Thursday

Kelly Thibadeaux and David Brock Duo
Sam Bond's Garage
9 p.m., \$3 to \$5
Cajun fiddle music

Friday

Americanistan
Café Paradiso
8:30 p.m., \$5
Mediterranean and Middle Eastern style music

Saturday

CultureClash
WOW Hall
8 p.m., \$12 advance, \$15 at the door
Native American hip-hop and reggae festival

Sunday

Academy Awards Ceremony
Bijou Art Cinemas
5 p.m., \$10 advance, \$12 at the door
Event sponsoring Muscular Dystrophy Association and Darfur relief



TOP 5 MOVIES

- 1: "Hitch"
- 2: "Constantine"
- 3: "Because of Winn-Dixie"
- 4: "Son of the Mask"
- 5: "Million Dollar Baby"



NEW YORK TIMES BEST-SELLERS

- 1: John Grisham, "The Broker"
- 2: Dan Brown, "The DaVinci Code"
- 3: Mitch Albom, "The Five People You Meet in Heaven"
- 4: J.D. Robb, "Survivor in Death"
- 5: Michael Crichton, "State of Fear"



BILLBOARD TOP 5

- 1: 3 Doors Down, "Seventeen Days"
- 2: The Game, "The Documentary"
- 3: Green Day, "American Idiot"
- 4: Brian McKnight, "Gemini"
- 5: Various Artists, "Totally Country Vol. 4"