

By Mike Koller
Of The Print

Lovely Linda creates new sounds in 'Mad Love'

The sweet country-girl image Linda Ronstadt once portrayed has apparently vanished as her new album on Asylum Records, titled "Mad Love," features the "southern belle" as the latest queen of "new wave."

Her new style may be a bit hard to take for those fans who are used to lovely Linda's sorrowful tales about the pain and heartaches of lost love. Ronstadt is still getting burned by heartless jerks, but those teary-eyed ballads have been replaced by some tough, defiant rockers.

"Mad Love" is Ronstadt's attempt at something more "contemporary" than her past albums. She appears to be trying to be "hip" to today's music scene (pardon the expression). To bring authenticity to her change, Ronstadt utilized the services of guitarist-songwriter Mark Goldenberg, leader of The Cretones, one of

Los Angeles' top punk bands, and recorded three Elvis Costello numbers for the album.

When I heard of Ronstadt's new intentions I waited patiently for this new album, which I planned to slaughter upon its arrival, with my usual skepticism, but the damned thing is, I just can't do it. "Mad Love" is one of Ronstadt's most inspired works to date.

The new single, "How Do I Make You," rocks with twice as much intensity as anything I've heard from Ronstadt in the past. Her choice of a couple of '60s oldies is also surprisingly excellent as Ronstadt and company smoke their way through a biting version of the old Hollies hit, "I Can't Let Go."

The proverbial Ronstadt tear-jerker included on "Mad Love" is powerful. Ronstadt chose a Little Anthony and the Imperials goodie, "Hurts So Bad."

The rest of the album is made up of two Goldenberg tunes, "Mad Love" and "Cost of Love," and the three Costello compositions, "Party Girl," "Girls Talk" and "Talking in the Dark." Her version of Costello's "Party Girl" is amazing, considering how badly she destroyed his song, "Alison," on the "Living in the USA" album. Ronstadt appears to have gained some necessary insight in interpreting Costello compositions.

The only regression into her former style is her limp coverage of Neil Young's "Look Out For My Love," but then every artist must have a drawback.

"Mad Love" may be an indication that Ronstadt is going to make inspired music in the future, something that has been disappointingly lacking from her since she started recording J.D. Souther songs, which, by the way, are nonexistent on "Mad Love."

Theater sees new opportunities and challenge

Excitement is in the air at the college drama department—and for good reason. Not only is that department completing "The Reluctant Debutante," but preparations for the spring play are imminent.

Not just an ordinary "spring play," the upcoming production, "Wings" has been described by its director, Jack Shields, as "A horrendous challenge, therefore very exciting." This play will have real appeal to the audience as well as to the company," he said. "The content of 'Wings' rivals other plays in social values such as 'Equus.'"

Shields feel that "Wings" will have the same significance that "Hair" had when it came out during the '60's," he continued.

"Wings" is a new play. In fact, the college performance will be the Oregon debut. A right to Shields received after he had "Wings" in a play-off month club, to which he had become "very ex-

cited" about it and applied for the Oregon rights, which the College eventually received.

"Wings" is a creation of Arthur Kopit, whom Shields called "a significant contemporary playwright."

According to Shields, "Wings" describes the feelings of an individual "just before a deep train stroke up through a sizable portion of recovery." Kopit wrote "Wings" after three years of medical research.

"I think we can do it justice," he said, "and if we can, this is an important show." "It is technically challenging. The sound, fragmented images, and special effects will be very difficult, but I believe we can do it."

"In this last show (The Reluctant Debutante), this year's department demonstrated strengths that will be challenged," he summarized.

The spring production will take place May 15, 16, and 17 at 8 p.m. and the 18 at 2:30 p.m. in the McLoughlin theater. On May 23, "Wings" will be performed for the

Oregon Community College theater festival at Oregon State University. The location of that

performance is as yet unknown.

Auditions for "Wings" will

take place today in the McLoughlin theater, from 3-6 p.m.

Class examines holocaust

"Holocaust: An Examination of Genocide" is the subject of a spring term history course to be taught at the College by Donald Epstein.

The class will use authentic film and documents captured from the Germans at the close of World War II. Among the collection of footage to be shown during the class will be the films "Night and Fog," "Genocide" and "Warsaw Ghetto."

The course will also feature concentration camp survivors as guest speakers.

Epstein also will examine modern day examples of

genocide and neo-Nazism, including the mass extermination practices occurring in Cambodia and Uganda. The film, "The California Reich," a documentary on neo-Nazism in California, will be shown.

"The class will not only historically prove that the extermination of the Jews by the Nazis actually happened, because there are still people who believe it didn't, but it will also look at the psychological and social causes of genocide," said Epstein.

The class will discuss the effects of the World War II holocaust on the world today, for example, the Israeli point of

view toward the Middle East, according to Epstein.

"An interesting part of the whole question is the role that Christians played in helping the Jews during the Nazi campaign against them," Epstein said.

The Avenue of the Just is a pathway in Israel paved with stones, with each stone bearing the name of a Christian who risked his or her life to save a Jew, explained Epstein.

The class will be offered Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 2 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Barlow Hall, room 151, starting March 24.

Step-parenting explored

The problems and rewards of being a stepmother will be explored at a Focus on Women seminar Thursday, entitled, "Stepmothers: The Myth and the Reality."

To be presented by two stepmothers, Annette Unwin, College English instructor, and Sandy Carter, a College sophomore, the seminar will begin with a film on the subject of stepparenting, and go on to include audience feedback and the presentation of a questionnaire. Participation in the questionnaire survey will be voluntary.

Contrary to the title of the seminar, men will be welcome.

The seminar will be held in CC 117, from 7-10 p.m. Participants may pre-register

through the Community Education office, or register at the door. Registration is \$2.

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