

# Arts



Staff photo by Jay Graham

**OREGON ARTISTS DISCUSS** various aspects of art during the Nov. 11 Arts Symposium led by Norm Bursheim.

## Art Briefs

### Murder/Mystery in Theater

Murder, suspense and intrigue fill the college as the theater department continues rehearsals for this term's production of "Monique." The French murder/mystery is directed by Jack Shields. Jan M. Ruling is designing costumes and David Smith-English is in charge of set construction. The play will be shown December 3-6.

### Shakespearean actors to visit the college

Clackamas Community College will host a team of actors from the Oregon Shakespearean Festival in Ashland Nov. 23 as part of the Festival's 11th annual School Visit Program.

Joan Stuart-Morris and Stuart Duckworth, one of nine teams touring schools throughout the Pacific Northwest, will be presenting dramatic programs focusing on Shakespeare, American literature and world theatre to students in classrooms and school assemblies.

The visit is one of the Oregon Shakespearean Festival's for public relations and as part of its education program. It is funded, in part, by grants from the S.S. Johnson Foundation and Boise Cascade Corporation.

Performance scheduled in Clackamas Community College's McLoughlin Theater begins at 9 a.m., with an American literature assembly, followed by two class visits at 11 a.m. and noon. A reading of Shakespeare will be held at 2 p.m.

### Watercolor show at Clackamas Community College

A watercolor show by 12 Oregon artists will be displayed at Clackamas Community College's Pauling Center Nov. 19-Dec. 3.

Called "the finest in Oregon" by the CCC Art Advisory Board, sponsors of the show, the artists will be present at a reception Thursday, Nov. 19, from 7-10 p.m. to discuss and show slides of their work. The public is invited and refreshments will be served.

Participating artists include: Dee Frank, Elaine Hoffman, Willard Johnson, Fran Kemper, Bobbie Owen, Thelma Pearson, Kemper Rostad, Jean Schwalbe, John Waddingham, Gloria Webber, Sue Satsuko Hamilton, and Gene Stanley.

The paintings will remain on display for two weeks, and are available for purchase.

For more information, contact the Art Department at 657-8400, ext. 386.

### Jazz night features Dave Crow

Dave Crow, Trumpet soloist, will be appearing with the Clackamas Community College Jazz Ensemble, Wednesday evening, November 25 at 8 p.m.

Crow is a free lance trumpet player in the Portland area, working with well-known Portland big bands such as Johnny Reitz, George Reinmiller, Woody Hite, LeRoy Anderson and Bill Becker.

He has backed professional acts appearing in Portland - a few would include Suzanne Sommers, Tony Bennett, Tom Jones and the Bee Gees. He regularly plays the Ice shows and Broadway musicals appearing in Portland.

The concert will be the premiere performance of the Ron Jones Trumpet Concerto. Jones attended Clackamas Community College and received his bachelors degree in music from Seattle Pacific University.

He is currently working in the Los Angeles area as an arranger/composer. He composes music for the Hanna-Barbera Company, producers of Saturday morning cartoon shows. This concerto is unique in that it relies heavily on improvisation by the soloist.

# College artists plan mural for senior citizens

By Kristi Blackman  
Of the Print

College artists are planning a mural to be painted at the Milwaukie Convalescent Home in the coming months.

Leland John, a CCC painting and drawing instructor, received the idea from one of his students, Jill Burgess, who is currently employed at the Home. "Jill thought it would be a great idea to bring color and life to the people there," John said.

John's art students have volunteered their time to help with the organization, planning, and production of the mural.

Joanne Feltz is one of the four volunteers. Her work is described by John as "poetic

landscape style that carries a lot of sentiment."

John said of volunteer Margie Lind "her work is a bit more abstract, but modern and very powerful."

Dianne Locati, another volunteer, is not as experienced as Feltz and Lind, but "her work carries a great deal of strength," John said.

Swiss student Lydia Luthi, a beginner, is described by John as "a poetic artist with a creative imagination."

The students idea for the mural is a "frieze" of trees. Between each tree will be a scene of outdoor activities. The change of seasons will be incorporated in the design.

The strong design will allow the Home residents to

assist in painting the mural. "The drawing is set so the viewer can get lost in it. Other words to inspire contemplations," John said.

By working on the mural, John feels that all involved will have a broadening experience. "It offers the students a chance to do a public service, which is a part of the College's philosophy," he explained.

John and artists are now in the process of measuring and scaling for the mural. "We don't want to rush it, it will take us quite a while to get it ready for painting," John said.

Volunteer artists gather every Thursday noon at the Arts Center to prepare for the upcoming project which probably won't begin until late December or early January.

## A play review

# "Short Eyes" daring and powerful

By J.L. Rose  
For the Print

I am continually awed at the scope and daring that Storefront Actors Theatre employs in the production of their plays.

Admittedly, they may go too far at times and might be accused of violating the sanctions of "polite" society, but they can never be accused of brown-nosing to public taste, nor can they be accused of poor theatrical quality.

They say what they want to say and they say it well. Their production of Miguel Pinero's "Short Eyes" is a clear and powerful statement. If you can get a ticket, go see it.

The play is placed in the day-room of a state penitentiary. The set towers over the audience, grey cinder block walls and steel bars reaching to the ceiling. The room contains two tables, four benches, a t.v. that doesn't work, and, for the most part, eight convicts.

The first half hour of the production deals with the complex relationships of these men and the manner in which they cope with their incarceration.

Three of the men are black, four are Hispanic, and one is white-an ironic reversal of the dominating structure of "outside" society. Or, in Murphy's own bitter words, "We're the minority here, so watch your back...."

Homosexuality is treated with unrestrained honesty; it

exists, it happens-whether out of need, comfort, or revenge, it is a part of prison life. To the inmates who aren't "stuff" or "bandidos", the best defense is a masculine offense.

Into this vault of unvented bitterness is thrust Clark Davis, a faltering young white man accused of child molesting; a "short eyes" in prison slang, the lowest of criminal offenders. There is no one who will watch his back-even the prison guards have no reason to provide protection. The perilousness of his situation and the eventual outcome is the crux of the play.

"Short Eyes" is a play that confronts the audience with troublesome questions, questions that have no easy answers. It is a play that riddles about the darker side of human passion.

Storefront's handling of the complexities of this play are admirable. The actors are well-rehearsed, spontaneous and unrestrained. There are no gaping holes in the fabric of this theatrical piece.

The young man who played Clark Davis was excellent and handled the difficulty of his role with a fine touch. The only other white man (besides the guards) was "Shoe" Murphy, convincingly played by Peter Fornara. Murphy's contrasting moments of seething hostility and temporary comradery with Davis gave dimension to the play that was skillfully brought to an ex-

plosive climax.

El Rajim was a study in Black Idealism and his "Brothers"-Iceman and Omar provide the internal conflict of their unity in moments of opposition and unquestioning support. The "Spics", Paco and Julio, gave portrayals as tense and itchy as a hot city night. They were the electric current that powered the play to its finale.

Only Juan, the one member of the block who seemed to be in possession of his identity, provided us with the necessary control element to the situation-preventing us from being swept away by the heat of the conflict.

The play wasn't all heavy drama and tension. Julio, called "Cupcakes" by his fellow inmates, provided a great deal of light entertainment to his companions as well as to the audience, and Iceman gave a masterfully delivered soliloquy on the joys of a Jane Fonda pin-up that had the audience kicking with laughter.

If anything stopped me from total involvement in the play, it was only that the slang was unfamiliar to my white, middle-class ear and sped by too quickly for me to decipher. A small adjustment in line delivery would have improved my perceptions considerably.

"Short Eyes" will continue Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, 8:00 p.m. through Dec. 12. Call 224-4001 for reservations.

