

Entertainment

Kreider signs and gives advice on vocal arts

By Loretta Carter
Staff Writer

Our College was entertained by music and a lecture from Paul Kevin Kreider a baritone opera singer. For three hours Wednesday in the music hall Kreider demonstrated his art and answered questions from the students. After his performance he then gave helpful hints to the private voice students on improving their voice abilities.

Kreider was raised in Minnesota and at seventeen he pursued his singing career in opera. At age 29, he is now one of the top baritone opera singers around. Kreider adapts his music from some of the

greatest composers of our time such as Puccini, Wagner, and Mozart. Kreider says, "My favorite composer of all is Puccini." Kreider does most of his music in their natural form which is mainly Italian. Some are also in German and French. Kreider believes to become a good opera singer you, "have" to master the languages and Music Education is a must. Music theory should be the main part of your Music Education.

Although Kreider does most of his music in foreign languages he does do American Operas too, such as "Baby Doe."

Kreider has been singing

professionally for five years. Since the age of seventeen he has been in straight theater and in musical theater. He taught voice at the University of Colorado for one year. He then started studying opera at the University of Arizona. Kreider said, "Opera is very different from any other type of music and you have to be willing to give a lot and give up a lot to become the best in your field. It will always be a challenge. Kreider will be moving to New York City next year to continue his career. In two weeks he will be performing in Vienna and then at the Minnesota Opera in, "The Postman always rings twice."



Hersch's performance varied

by Thad Kreisher
Entertainment Editor

James Hersch first started playing guitar at the age of twelve. His sister, it seems, won an acoustic six string, but never took an interest in it.

Not so for Hersch. After learning a few chords from a neighbor, he fell in love with the instrument. Little did he know that two albums and 27 years later it would lead him to a noontime performance here at the College.

Hersch, 29, holds a degree in classical guitar from Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota. However, soon after obtaining his degree, he switched to a different, more contemporary style of playing.

"I found I wasn't really in love with classical. To play classical you must be very dedicated. It is really an interesting style."

His current style is a mixture of blues, classical, easy listening, and satire. His choice of musical "heros", Bob Dylan, Cat Stevens, Leo Kotke, and "China Crisis," reflect this style.

Hersch's noontime performance was very enjoyable. His set was well mixed with a good variety of music and styles. From Johan Sabastian Bach, to Tom Lehrer's satirical "Vatican Rag," to Hersch's own touching original, "Only Lonely Sometimes," his performance was very colorful



Photos by Dan Wheeler

containing a little bit of everything.

Currently Hersch is touring the college circuit through 25 states, and trying his luck as a songwriter. He has two albums, "Audition" and "By Design," available.

Overall, the student reaction

to Hersch seemed very good. Likewise, Hersch enjoyed performing here.

"I had a good time. A real nice audience... You never know with a (noontime performance), sometimes you get thrown to the lions."

Insanity, hysterics, something for nothing

By Thad Kreisher
Entertainment Editor

Nothing; if there's one word that's worth its weight in gold, it has got to be "nothing."

Suppose you ask someone what they've been up to lately. Most likely they will reply, "Nothing."

Last week a friend of mine seemed a little distraught. I asked what the matter was. As I suspected, it was nothing. But, that's not the problem. What ever the matter was, I'm sure that my friend will manage to get over it.

The problem is "nothing." Yes, nothing itself. What is nothing? Don't try to think about it, because you can't. You just can't think about nothing. It's impossible. I know, I tried.

For twenty minutes I meditated. I did my best to visualize "nothing." The next thing I knew I was screaming "No! Please, no more! No more!" My landlady burst into the room, fraught with fright. She wanted to know why I was screaming. I told her it was nothing.

However, my brush with insanity was not in vain. Despite the hysterics, I did manage to come up with a few good "nothings."

Life is filled with vast amounts of nothing, but certain things aid in defining the term. For instance, what does water taste like? Some people would say that water just tastes like water, but it really tastes like nothing. Maybe in some areas where the water isn't so pure it tastes like something, but pure water tastes like nothing.

Then there's air. As far as the sense of smell is concerned, pure air smells like nothing. Cities smell like exhaust and concrete. The country smells like trees and grass. Ah, but these are merely aromas. Air, devoid of additives, smells like nothing.

So far so good. Now we know what nothing smells like and what it tastes like, but what does it look like?

I'm glad you asked that.

Nothing looks like a lot of things. For example, when your sitting down at home and you turn on a light, what does the light look like. Depending on your lamp, the bulb may appear to be whitish, or tinted. Yet, the bulb is only the source of our light. The light itself doesn't look like anything. I guess you could say that it looks like nothing.

Well, I began with nothing to write about, and ended up writing about nothing. Never let anyone tell you that you can't get something from nothing.

