

Cabaret : an excellent performance

Christina Mueller
Co-Feature Editor

The opening of "Cabaret" was a success.

Set in Berlin, Germany, an American man is forced to make choices that will affect his life.

The following program notes are by Dr. Donald B. Epstein, Social Sciences instructor.

"It was both an exciting place to be in the world of the arts and a frightening place to be in the worlds of politics and economics."

"The government of the Weimar Republic was, for the first time in German history, truly democratic. As a result, artists, intellectuals and film makers flourished in a newly creative atmosphere for plays and movies. But most Germans hated their government because they associated the German democracy with defeat in World War I and the hated Versailles Treaty, which blamed Germany for causing World War I and made it pay reparations to France and Belgium."

"In this troubled political climate, most people had no faith in a democratic government. They preferred dictatorships either of the Left (the Communists) or the Right (the Nazis)."

"Both extreme political parties sought to blame poor economic conditions on 'enemies' and the 'enemy' was often a small (less than 1%) minority group—the Jews. The Nazis were the chief

haters of Jews, but the Left also contributed to this negative stereotype by denouncing 'capitalists' who were often portrayed as Jews in the popular mind."

The play encompasses scenes that range from humorous to shocking, leaving the audience experiencing an array of emotions.

The performance consists of 20 scenes, which makes for a two-and-a-half hour show.

The casting of "Cabaret" is well done, leaving the actors with great characterization and teamwork.

Emcee Joseph John Keller is a bundle of laughs as the entertainment of the Kit Kat Club. From dressing as a woman to describing their loveliness, Keller demonstrates his many talents in acting and singing.

Keller loves directing and designing; he directed *The Wiz*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and a cultural joint venture with The Peoples' Republic of China in 1993. Keller has acted in many plays outside Clackamas, including *Amahl and*

the Night Visitors, *Guys and Dolls*, *Oklahoma* and *Cinderella*.

Kelly Broadway gives a dramatic performance as Fraulein Schneider, a widowed landlord who is faced with a question re-

ographer at the Lake Oswego Academy of Dance. Some of her favorite rolls have been Cinderella in *Cinderella*, Mary Magdalene in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Hydrangea in *Beauty and the Beast* and

Zelda Zanders in *Singin' in the Rain*. Weisbecker has also been a singer/dancer in *Reflections* for Six Flags Theme Parks.

Travis Nodurft plays the serious Clifford Bradshaw, a man faced with life choices. Nodurft demonstrates good acting and does a great job of portraying his character.

He has been in many Clackamas plays, including *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Beyond Therapy*. At West Linn High School he played Simon Jenkins in *Room Service* and Little Gray Man in *Story Theatre*. Nodurft also played Weasel in *Wind in the Willows* for Barclay Community Theatre.

The college band has the tough job of accompanying the musical

numbers. They do a great job and complement the play with their music.

Performances of Cabaret will be at 8p.m. on Feb. 20, 21, 22, and at 2:30p.m. on Feb. 23.

Overall, "Cabaret" is an excellent performance, well worth the time and money. Congratulations to the cast and behind-the-scenes workers for a job well done.



Photo by Brad Zimmerman

Cabaret Director and Clackamas Drama Instructor David Smith-English relaxes after Friday night's performance.

volving around justice and death.

Broadway has not been in any plays recently but has been singing jazz at Atwaters on a regular basis. Her CD, "Kelly Broadway in Concert," was released last year.

Energetic Sally Bowles is portrayed by Kathleen Weisbecker. This part takes enthusiasm, but Weisbecker was able to keep the smile on her face throughout the show.

Weisbecker is a dance/ chore-

Let's Dance
Back by popular demand
Clackamas ASG presents ADS Professional DJ's of Milwaukie for a dance. The dance is a fund-raiser so the ASG can send students to Washington, D.C. to lobby for more Federal student aid. This is a trial run. "If this is successful, then that will set a pattern for years to come," said ASG member and dance coordinator Tiffany Fine. The dance will be held this Friday in the Gregory Forum from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. The cost is \$3.50 for singles and \$5 for couples.

Authors' Night showcases writers

Karin Redston
Co-Feature Editor

Three mystery authors read from their published works at the Gregory Forum during the winter term Authors' Night.

The featured authors were Cherry Hartman from Portland, G.M. Ford and Mary Daheim, both from Seattle.

Portland author Cherry Hartman read first from her novel *The Well Heeled Murders*. She was followed by G.M. Ford reading from *Cast in Stone*. Mary Daheim rounded out the evening by reading a chapter from a book in progress from her "Bed and Breakfast" detective series.

The readings were interesting and the audience was entertained by each author's wit and humor. Each writer showed his/her individual styles well.

Afterward, a question-and-answer period began. When asked when they decided to become writers, all agreed they had always wanted to write.

"I started writing when I was eight years old," said Daheim. "There was never anything else I ever wanted to do. But I was realistic enough to know that you have got to earn yourself a living, so I got a journalism degree and worked in the newspapers and in public relations."

Then an audience member

asked how they entered into detective fiction.

"I started reading the Hardy Boys when I was 10 years old. Then I locked myself in the bedroom and read Nancy Drew so nobody would know. Then I worked myself up through Nero Wolfe when I was 12 years old and that was the end of it for me. It was very hard to read Beowulf after that," replied Ford.

Each writer described how he/she wrote. Deheim, coming from a journalist background, tends to write fast and does very little rewriting. Hartman hates to rewrite. "What is probably the worst problem for me is I hate to edit," said Hartman. "I hate to rewrite. When it's done the first time, it's done, it's perfect. I don't have any problem with it. However, my editor looks at it and says 'by the by' and I have to do a lot of things about that."

Ford described his writing as being two steps forward and one step back. He writes one chapter and looks at it. Then he writes another chapter and goes back and looks at everything he did before.

The evening ended with questions about agents and publishing.

After the readings the authors talked individually with audience members and signed autographs.

Go ahead

Go dancing on a school night

Take a road trip to San Francisco this weekend

Out-step aerobicize your perky roommate for once



Climb a mountain if you want to

Western States Chiropractic College
Community Clinics
help you get back to good health:

**FREE
LOW BACK SCREENINGS
IN FEBRUARY!**

To make an appointment, please contact:

**King Road Clinic:
659 - 9448 4404 SE King Road**