

Drama



On Stage

One of the things that makes "Carnival" somewhat different in the field of musicals is the fact that puppets carry part of the dramatic load. Here are two of them (the walrus bears the unlikely name of Horrible Henry) with stars Elaine Malbin and David Daniels. The meek-looking soul at left is Don Potter, who plays Daniels' assistant.

'Carnival' Comes to Eugene via BTL

The bawdy, brassy atmosphere of a carnival is the setting for the love story plot of the musical "Carnival," up next Sunday on the Broadway Theatre League's schedule of Eugene performances.

"Carnival," with Elaine Malbin, David Daniels, and a group of puppets in the lead roles, will have only one Eugene performance. Time will be 8:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20; place, South Eugene High School auditorium.

For this and the following BTL show, the league has altered its admission-by-season-ticket-membership-only policy. You can buy a ticket for Carnival—if you have \$5, and if you have a friend who holds a BTL season membership.

The league said orders for tickets to individual shows will be accepted only from present members. There is no limit to the number of additional tickets a member may order, however.

Orders may be sent to the league at P. O. Box 5164, Eugene, with Tuesday the deadline for mail orders. Tickets will be on sale at the boxoffice Sunday night—but still to members only, a spokesman said.

"Carnival" is a musical—but not of the "Oklahoma" or "My Fair Lady" variety—based on the 1953 movie "Lili." It won the New York

Drama Critics Award as the best musical of the 1961-'62 season.

The story is set in a nameless French village, visited by the Grand Imperial Cirque de Paris. Lili, a childlike waif, visits the carnival, joins it, and becomes the center of a contest for her affections between a crippled puppeteer and a magician. The puppeteer and his assistant use their four puppets to counsel Lili and make her recognize her true emotions.

Miss Malbin, playing Lili in the touring company, is a soprano who has played the title roles in "Salome," "La Traviata," and "Madame Butterfly" on the NBC Opera television productions. She also has appeared in lead roles in "Kismet" and "My Darling Aida" on Broadway, and has sung on The Voice of Firestone the past four seasons.

David Daniels, who plays Paul the crippled puppeteer, won Donaldson and Theatre World awards for his part in "Plain and Fancy" on Broadway. A baritone, he also has

sung with the Philadelphia Orchestra. TV soap opera fans may remember him from a long-running part in "From These Roots."

Michael Davis, who has a background of roles in several Broadway musicals, plays the magician. Comedienne Marge Cameron will play the part of Rosalie, the magician's paramour-assistant. Others in the cast include Don Potter, Jack Hollander, Larry Week and George Nestor.

Michael Stewart adapted the story for the stage. Bob ("How Much Is That Doggie in the Window") Merrill wrote the score, as he also did for "Take Me Along" and "New Girl in Town."

The "Carnival" company includes nine principal characters, a 24-member chorus, and a 12-man orchestra.

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UT Production

Play Portrays Irish Immigrant Family

The time is 1828. A former Irish major in the British army, disgraced and exiled to America, is now the keeper of a run-down tavern near Boston.

The ex-major, Cornelius Melody, refuses to accept his fall from glory. He keeps up the pretenses of an aristocrat and opposes his daughter's romance with the son of a rich Yankee merchant family because the family is not aristocratic.

The conflicts and problems of an Irish immigrant family trying to adjust to a new life in a new country form the plot of Eugene O'Neill's "A Touch of the Poet." The play opens Friday at University Theatre for a six-performance run—this Friday and Saturday and Jan. 23-26.

The UT box office in the theater off E. 11th Avenue will be open from 1-5 p.m. daily except Sunday to take ticket orders. The box office telephone number is DI 2-1411, Ext. 1781. Ticket price is \$1.25.

Playing the part of Melody is William A. Austin, a senior in speech at the University of Oregon. Austin played Buckmaster in UT's "Climate of Eden" last season.

Kim Frankel, a sophomore in journalism from West New York, N.J., plays the daughter, Sara. She played roles in last season's Showboat and several Carnival Theatre productions.

Nora Melody, wife and mother, is played by Jacquie McClure, a Eugene housewife. Mrs. McClure played Lola in UT's

"Come Back Little Sheba" last season and has appeared in Very Little Theatre and summer stock productions.

Deborah Harford, mother of the man with whom Sara is in love, is played by Sandra Wiley, a freshman in history from North Eugene High School, who played Ismene in "Antigone" for UT last year. William Hall, a former U of O student who has appeared in several UT and Carnival productions, plays Cregan, an old crony of Melody's.

Others in the cast include Steve Cannell, Pasadena, Calif., junior, as Maloy; Domenic Polifrone, language arts freshman from New Jersey, as Gadsby; Richard Guske, freshman from South Eugene High School; Terry Jones, graduate student in theater from Dublin, Ireland, and Boyd Brougner, Goshen junior.

David Scanlan, instructor in speech, is directing his first UT production with "A Touch of the Poet." Jones is doubling as assistant director. Clemen Peck is doing sets and lights.

"A Touch of the Poet" is the fifth in a projected series of nine plays O'Neill planned to write portraying segments of American history. But his death in 1953 cut short the plans.

The play, written in 1940, was first produced in Stockholm, Sweden in 1937. Later that year it was presented on Broadway with Helen Hayes, Eric Portman and Kim Stanley in the lead roles.

UT to Preview O'Neill Play

Free entertainment—in the form of a scene from a play and variety acts—is the bill of fare being offered by the University Theatre for its open house tonight.

Time is 7:30 p.m. at the theater on the University of Oregon campus, off E. 11th

Avenue. Admission is free to anyone interested in attending.

The play scene will be from the next UT production, Eugene O'Neill's "A Touch of the Poet," which opens Friday.

NEHS Play Re-Creates Salem Witch-Hunt Days

"Some of these kids will be playing the most demanding roles they'll play in their lives."

That's the way Director William Quesinberry describes "The Crucible," which opens Tuesday on the North Eugene High School stage. The show will run Tuesday through Friday, with an 8 p.m. curtain.

Tickets, priced at \$1.25, may be ordered by calling the North High box office, DI 3-0842, between 9 and 5 p.m. daily except Sunday.

The Arthur Miller drama is set in the witch-hunting atmosphere of early Salem, Mass. A group of children and teenagers suddenly become "possessed" and accuse innocent townspeople of being witches.

Through the play Miller—"In the words of one critic—"makes by implication an eloquent case on the universal subject of intolerance using trumped-up hysteria for its evil purposes."

Heavy drama such as "The

Crucible" is a large dramatic undertaking for high school actors and actresses to attempt. Quesinberry hopes to prove they are equal to it.

In the lead role of John Proctor—the man whose personal tragedy is the center of the play's plot—is Dan Neubaum. Marjorie Brooks plays his wife Elizabeth. Abigail Williams, the teenager who sets off the accusations, is played by Peggy Kepner.

Gordon Scott takes the role of Deputy Governor Danforth. Ron Fee plays The Rev. Parris, the priggish minister of Salem. Bill Luvaas is the Rev. John Hale, a witchcraft "specialist" called into the Salem "case."

Evan Neuschwander plays Giles Corey, Mike Brooks plays Ezekiel Cheever, Loren Peterson plays Judge Hawthorne, Bill Stauffer plays Thomas Putnam, and Gail Quimby takes the part of his wife Ann.

Others in the cast include Linda Prim, Saundry Bostrup, Linda Reynolds, Diane Briggs, Merry Brennan, Larry Reece, Jerry Koffler, John Lyman, Sherron Murchy and Gale Thompson.

UT Wants Student Art For Posters

Students with an artistic flair are needed to submit designs for posters advertising University of Oregon University Theatre productions. Winona Cheatham, UT business manager, has announced.

Any student wishing to submit entries, must do so about six weeks prior to the opening of a play, said Mrs. Cheatham. Entries may be sketches with colors indicated.

Silk screening supplies and other materials will be provided the winning entrant who also will be paid for his work. The UT production of "The Bacchae" is scheduled in late February.

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