

Free Theatre's uphill battle

Brendan Behan loved anything that made beer stronger, women looser, old men warmer in summer and cooler in winter, and everyone happy.

Free Theatre will be presenting Behan's music-hall play, *The Hostage*, Friday, Saturday and Sunday in the Hungry Id at 8 p.m.

According to Paul Baker, co-director with his wife Jo, the play takes place in a seedy whorehouse and shows what is happening in Ireland today, and during the past 800 years.

UNL campus where it put on its first show, *FDR-LSD Freakout*.

Since that time Free Theatre has put on a large number of productions, always for free, but asking for donations if the audience could spare the change.

Free Theatre has expanded. It, more than any other organization on the campus, has given directors, actors and technicians a chance to widen their theatrical experiences. At the same time it has provided entertainment for the college

larry kubert what can I say?

Behan spent eight years in prison for his Irish Republican Army activities, and he shows his dissatisfaction through *The Hostage*. The play is about loyalties and shows that no matter what side a person is on, he'll lose.

Free Theatre was formed about two and a half years ago and has been fighting an uphill battle since then. Evicted from its original theater-home because of restrictive Lincoln building codes, Free Theatre moved to the

audience. According to Baker, Free Theatre is in the process of incorporating. By incorporating, it hopes to receive government grants which will help financially.

Free Theatre has been around for a while and it's progressed simply by having the energy, devotion and guts to try something new and make it work. It's time people recognized its hard work and paid Free Theatre some attention. It deserves it.

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