

Arts & Entertainment

'Double Exposure' plays visual, poetic delights

By Eric Peterson

Two Harold Pinter plays, "Silence and Landscape," are featured this weekend in "Pinter: A Double Exposure," produced by the Nebraska Directors' Theatre. The Pinter plays will show tonight and Saturday night at 8 p.m. at 421 S. Ninth St., Suite 112. "Silence," directed by William Schutz, features a strong performance by Randy DeKlotz, who plays the bitter old Bates with a clear, strong voice.

The set of "Silence" is very simple, with three chairs in a triangle relation. Steve Johnson as

Theater Review

Rumsey, Chet Kincaid as Ellen, and DeKlotz sit isolated and look to the front during most of the production. The slight but important changes in this formation give great interest to the play.

Even listening — apart from looking or even thinking — is delightful; the Pinter plays are distinguished from much modern drama by the great beauty of the language. Poetic device and artifice is apparent in the many simple phrases repeated whole or in bits and pieces, and in beautiful descriptions of nature.

It only becomes clear after the play is well started that the characters are old. The actors are not made up to look old; only in some of their (very low key) mannerisms and in some of the later passages of "Silence" do we detect it. Then "Silence" emerges as the reflections on what happened in a love triangle years ago by the people involved. There is a very effective moment when Ellen and Rumsey appeal to each other from their chairs — she turns to her left, he to his right, and the incongruity of the position disappears with the emotion inherent in the action. DeKlotz is very good in portraying present frustration, in the sharp intonations he uses in mimicking the landlady's questions.

"Landscape," directed by Lynette Welter, depicts a complicated relation between Duff (Scott Spence) and Beth (Frankie Miller). Their moments of strong communication are fairly rare. For the most part, Duff talks at Beth, and she talks to us, or to herself. Moving around at breakfast, in a conventional kitchen, Duff reveals himself as one preoccupied with the "real" things of life, while Beth thinks of mist and sand, light and shadow. After Duff talks heartily of a garden, Beth speaks wistfully of sea and spray; even their descriptions of adultery are quite different, Duff's matter of fact and deprecating, Beth's poetic and related to images. At the end of the play, after Duff has risen to shout about making love in front of the dog, thrashing around, Beth softly speaks of tender lovemaking. Miller is especially good, joyous and serene, in the production, as she speaks of her lover on the beach.

Madmen and Englishdogs



By Dan Wondra

HOTSPOTS



Photo courtesy LAFTA

Byron Bowers will appear Sunday. See Around Town.

Television

• There are some nice movies on television this weekend. They include "For Whom the Bell Tolls," starring Gary Cooper and Ingrid Bergman (Friday at 9 p.m. on channel 12), "On a Clear Day You Can See Forever," with Barbra Streisand and Yves Montand (Saturday at 10:30 p.m. on channel 7), "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court," with Bing Crosby (Saturday at 9 p.m.) and "Watch on the Rhine," starring Bette Davis and Paul Lukas (Saturday at midnight on channel 6).

On Stage

• There are some nice plays on stage this weekend as well. At the Howell Theatre, "A Christmas Carol" continues its run with shows at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 2:30 p.m. matinees on Saturday and Sunday. At the Nebraska Directors' Theatre, 119 S. Ninth St., Suite 112 is featuring "Pinter: A Double Exposure" Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and "A Nutcracker" at the Lincoln Community Playhouse, Friday and Saturday at 7:30, and Saturday and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. Around Town

• Autoharpist Bryan Bowers will be appearing at the Joyo Theatre, 6012 Havelock Ave. Sunday at 7:30 p.m. Bowers has an international reputation as a folk musician and storyteller. Tickets are \$6 at the door, \$5 in advance.

• This is why the Zoo Bar is known around the country. Two top national acts — Magic Slim and the Teardrops and Johnny Reno and the Sax Maniacs — will be jamming Sunday for an evening of fun and fund-raising. Admission to this musical event is a donation. The fun starts at 7 p.m.

New candidate sports home-style rhetoric

"Who are you going to vote for in the '84 election, Celeste?" Harley Davidson asked his roommate.

"Myself," Celeste mumbled. "Hey, do you want to hear your horoscope for today?"

Harley stared. "You're going to vote for you? I didn't know you were in the running."

"Why shouldn't I be?" Celeste said. "Get those presses rolling, kids. Celeste Elvira Underwood is throwing her hat in the ring as the hometown girl candidate from sunny South Lincoln."

"You meet the age requirement, but what else?" Otis said with a snicker. Celeste let a plastic plate sail gracefully past his ear.



Mary Louise Knapp

"Otis, it's my duty as a citizen to save this nation from itself," Celeste said, taking on an oratorical tone. "On our left, we have the colorless Democrats, on our right, the trigger-happy incumbent. Where, among these contenders, is the middle represented?"

"You spent 15 years at a housewife, seven as a cleaning woman, and now you're in your fifth year of university studies! How is that going to help you?"

"I represent the common man," she replied, climbing onto a footstool. "I need no long years in office to tell me where the heart of America is. The people are tired of the slick talkers who come out of Washington. They're tired of the smooth operators from California, too. They need fresh blood, untainted by the political arena. They want..."

"Relax, Celeste, relax," Otis said, passing her his Thunderbird bottle. "We'll stand behind you. But just where are you figuring on getting the money to pay for this campaign? Running for office takes cash, ya know."

"I intend to prove that one does not need a large outlay of funds to conduct a successful campaign. I shall run, and spend not a penny!"

"I suppose you want free space in The Intruder," Harley said.

"Well, I was thinking of that," she said. "However, since I represent the average, poverty-stricken American, I want to campaign door-to-door. That way my visibility will be higher. People will know I'm a real person and not a creation of the media."

"Hey, while you're at it, why don't you ask for campaign contributions? Not for you, but for your long-suffering roommates," Otis said. "We deserve it, just for putting up with you."

"I was also hoping you guys could make a few phone calls," Celeste said, ignoring Otis' jibe. "Nothing long-distance, though. Maybe you could call up Gov. Kerrey and tell him what a wonderful person I am."

Otis and Harley stifled uncontrollable laughter behind their hands.

"What will your campaign promises be, Celeste?" Harley asked.

"Don't laugh, Harley, this is serious," she said. "First, I intend to see that there is a baseball field in every town. For too long, football has eclipsed that fine American pastime. Secondly, every garage should contain a Chevrolet."

"Go on, go on," said Harley, scribbling madly on a note pad.

"Also, there will be apple pies in the ovens of every American home, and hot dogs on the stoves," she continued. "And, last of all, every American who doesn't already have a mother will be provided one, free of charge."

"Baseball, hot dogs, apple pie, and Chevrolet, and the love of dear old Mom," Otis mused. "But what about the Russians?"

"I'm sure they need a mother's love, too," Celeste said.

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Terms of Endearment

Debra Winger
Shirley MacLaine
Jack Nicholson

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stuart

\$2.00 For All Seats
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\$3.50 For Adults
At 7:15 and 9:40