

Arts & Entertainment

Former student produces 'City Circles' fashion show

Review By
Lorraine Kennedy
Staff Reporter

Music, painting and film helped create an atmosphere stimulating to all the senses at a multi-media fashion show Saturday in Omaha.

"City Circles" was produced and directed by Britta Wheeler, a December 1984 UNL graduate.

Wheeler designed and made the clothing, which she said represents a modern lifestyle through color, pattern, line and shape.

Similar expressions of emotion and goals, as sought by Wheeler's clothing themes, also were displayed in her paintings and her original musical compositions. Color, an important element in her work, could be seen in her paintings and was expressed in her melodies and lyrics, which portrayed diverse images.

Another element of the presentation was 8mm film. The films were shot at various locations with local models and were shown between modeling segments.

An integral aspect of the presentation was the lack of narration. By failing to define the experience to

the audience, Wheeler said she created "the mystery element, letting people form their own feelings about the elements around them."

In an interview after the show, Wheeler said she was pleased with the show.

"Everyone really pulled together, like a family. The support of family and friends played a major role," she said. "I knew the people here, and without their help, I couldn't have done it."

Wheeler said that in the first number, the clothing and choreography were designed to create a mesmerizing effect to get the audience prepared for the visual entertainment to come. The idea was to engulf the audience with the light, movement and clothing before their eyes, she said.

The repetition of the clothing, colors and patterns helped achieve a calming effect, but the bright atmosphere counteracted the calm, creating two simultaneous emotions, Wheeler said.

The effect was powerful. The audience was "in a trance" through various sequences, which included a misty musical instrument series, city prints, knits and graffiti prints.

The models, moving to the music, weaved about the audience. Sophisticated lighting techniques complimented the clothing and models, creating the overall visual effect.

Wheeler plans to move to Minneapolis in April. She said the first step is to get acquainted with and talk to people in the fashion business. She said she would like to produce another show, perhaps similar to "City Circles."

She said she sees Minneapolis as a stepping stone in her career.

"It's still Midwestern enough that I could get my foot in the door," Wheeler said.

Wheeler said she thinks Lincoln is a good city for developing ideas. She said printing and painting classes at UNL especially influenced her work.

"A major part of my clothing is based on hand-printed fabric, which helps translate fashion into art," she said.

Referring to her painting, she said, "My paintings are a better expression of how I feel about my life than my fashion."

Wheeler received her degree in textile and clothing design from the UNL College of Home Economics.



Left: Jolene Weygant

Jolene Weygant models fashions designed by Britta Wheeler in the City Circles Fashion Show Saturday night at the Metro Arts Council Building in Omaha.

Cards & Letters

Nazi comparison shows closed mind

In response to Dr. Thomas Radecki's comments in the March 8 Daily Nebraskan story "Deaths related to fantasy games":

I've played Dungeons and Dragons for more than three years now and never have I felt this overpowering urge to kill myself or to go plead to my parents for more money so I could buy more gaming equipment. My parents have more money invested in their own hobbies than I will ever be able to spend on D & D.

To compare a game to a social-political movement such as the Nazis is sheer brilliance. I can see such strong ties between the two — I mean they both stated that what they were doing was not unhealthy. You can't find a much stronger correlation. In fact, it's such a broad generalization that in stating it, Radecki, obviously a fine humanitarian, has shown what a nar-

row and unintelligent mind can produce.

I suggest he play the game and broaden his mind and maybe, after using his brain for something other than earth-shattering statements like the Nazi comparison, he will be able to think and understand that these teenagers already had problems and playing D & D wasn't the reason for their death.

Mike Watson
senior
home economics

Tome review leaves bad taste

I regret that Bill Allen (Daily Nebraskan, March 5) could find no book to review of interest to university students except one that glorifies a particularly mindless form of alcohol consumption.

Frederick M. Link
Chairman
UNL Department of English

Philanthropist says Bruce fans care

I realize this response is somewhat outdated, but I just received the articles concerning the Bruce Springsteen concert in Lincoln Nov. 19. I am currently a Peace Corps volunteer living in Costa Rica and working with dairy farmers. I was living here when Springsteen made his appearance in Nebraska, a tragic day in my life. But I was pleased and delighted when my family and friends told me of the overwhelming turnout for his concert. I also thought the press coverage he received in the Daily Nebraskan, the Lincoln papers and the Omaha World-Herald was fantastic.

However, I did not receive the letters written by Sam Umland or the articles by Liz Burden and Kema Soderberg in which they condemned the Springsteen fans who were waiting in line to buy tickets. From the other articles I read, I got the impression that Umland, Burden

and Soderberg criticized the Springsteen fans for disrupting campus life.

I resent the fact that these three people think they have a right to say that just because a person would stand in line for three days for a ticket that they obviously aren't concerned about world affairs. Actually, I don't see the connection myself. I am a devoted Springsteen fan and had I been in Nebraska for his concert I would have stood and slept in line if necessary to get a ticket.

Umland, Burden and Soderberg might be surprised to find devoted Springsteen fans like myself who are extremely concerned about world affairs, especially those happening in Central America. The town I live in is 50 miles from the Nicaraguan border.

Springsteen was right when he said Americans need to be watchful of their government and how they handle the situation in Central America. We could easily get into an explosive situation, which I think the American people

don't need or want at this time.

Blind faith, as Springsteen said, is a dangerous thing, but I see and hear it every day when I speak to Costa Ricans about the U.S. government.

Obviously those people who criticize Springsteen and his fans have never listened carefully to his songs and gotten the true meaning he is trying to relate to the American public. I wake up every morning and take my freezing cold shower (hot water is a luxury down here) jamming to "Born In The U.S.A." At night I fall asleep to him telling me I have a reason to believe.

I've found my reason to believe. It is trying to do something worthwhile with the people I'll be working with for the next two years. I know as long as I have faith, not blind faith mind you, in myself, my work and my country, I'll always have a reason to believe.

Theresa Soeman
1983 graduate
animal science

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Shorts

Meredith Monk, currently celebrating her 20th anniversary as one of America's most innovative performing and creative artists, will present a special Retrospective Music Concert with Film at 8 tonight at Kimball Hall, 11th and R Streets.

Monk's songs do not have words, her dances rarely use conventional steps, and her films do not depend on plot for meaning. Instead they communicate through their compelling visual and aural imagery.

Tickets are still available.

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