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Lied performance a foot-'stomp'ing musical success

By Paula Lavigne
Music Critic

Got some garbage? Make some music.



Trash can lids, brooms, buckets, wooden poles and other stuff that might come from a cluttered garage or overfilled garbage bin made it on the stage Thursday night at the Lied Center for Performing Arts.

STOMP, a troupe of 11 performers, proved to a near sell-out crowd that a musical group doesn't need an orchestra to be truly musical.

STOMP amazed the audience with objects that one wouldn't normally think would make good music, but the brooms swished, the trash cans clanked and the bins boomed.

Although the "instruments" were unorthodox, the music wasn't chaotic. As one vocal little girl remarked,

"That was like real music that instruments make."

Her comment came during what was a truly amazing performance with hollow tubes. By plonking the tubes of different sizes on the ground, the performers made sounds that might have otherwise come from a synthesizer.

Besides the unique musical aspect, the performers put on quite a visual show — especially with their suspended drum set, which was a wall of lids and street signs.

With a comedian, a Bob Marley look-alike and an Anthony Kiedis wannabe, the troop created a comic a cappella of body music and incredible rhythm.

They had everything — plus the kitchen sink. Yes, four performers came out with overflowing kitchen sinks suspended from their necks as if they were hot dog vendors.

And after their electric performance, the audience offered up some hand music of its own.

Lincoln entertainment more than just football

By Gerry Beltz
Senior Reporter

It's the beginning of a long string of home games for the Huskers, but what do you do the night before the game? Or how about after the (certain) victory? Here are a few ideas:

• The Hurricane, 1118 O St., will be a happening place this weekend. Mojo Nixon does a show for the 19 and above crowd tonight. Doors open

at 8 p.m., with a show time of 9. Tickets are \$7.

Saturday night will feature a performance of Secret Skin at 10, with a \$3 cover charge, but 21 and over only, please.

Sunday night is the premiere of a new college night with a DJ, open to anyone 18 and above. Cover charge is \$3. The action starts at 9, and the night is alcohol-free.

• Mueller Planetarium offers another stellar set of laser shows this weekend with a Nine Inch Nails show three times tonight and Saturday night (8, 9:30 and 11). The cost is \$5 a seat, \$4 with student ID.

Sunday, the Planetarium shows

"Laser Country" at 3:30 p.m., and the cost is \$5 for adults, \$4 with student ID, and \$2 for kids.

• For the crowd looking to do some dancing, toddle on out to the Pla-Mor Ballroom, 6600 West O St. (about five miles west of downtown Lincoln), to enjoy the Sammy Jensen Orchestra on Saturday night. It's open to all ages, costs \$6 per person, and runs 8:30 to midnight.

Sunday night, head out to the Pla-Mor to catch the Sandy Creek Band and Black Water. They'll play from 8 to midnight. Again, the show is open to all ages, and the cost is \$5 per person.

• Tonight at Knickerbockers, 901 O Street, local band Orange3 and Minneapolis band Slide Coaster hit the stage.

Tomorrow night, local band Throttle and another Minneapolis band Six Day Lane, are the featured entertainment at Knickerbockers.

Shows start between 10 and 10:30 p.m. and there is a \$3 cover charge each evening.

• Smokin' Joe Kubek featuring Bnois King will play for patrons at the Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14 St., tonight and Saturday night.

Shows are at 9:30 both nights. The band will perform two 75-minute sets each night, and the charge is \$5.

Sheldon exhibit parades Precisionist interpretation

By John Fulwider
Staff Reporter

A new exhibition at Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery and Sculpture Garden shows how a loosely linked group of artists viewed post-World War I America.

"Precisionism in America 1915-1941: Reordering Reality" presents paintings by some of the foremost Precisionist artists: Georgia O'Keeffe, Charles Sheeler, Alfred Stieglitz and more.

George Neubert, Sheldon director, said the Precisionists were artists who observed American imagery — industrial, rural and urban — and simplified the images, giving a precise, hard-edged vision of them.

Precisionist paintings "bring honor and respect to American experience," Neubert said, "and put it on a high artistic plane."

The Precisionists addressed the impact of factories, machines, planes

and skyscrapers on the United States as it became the leader of the industrial age. They also romanticized rural imagery.

Photography was close to the heart of many Precisionist artists; many Precisionists were also famous photographers.

Sheeler's "Barns Red" is an example of the photorealistic quality of many Precisionist paintings. It is so precisely painted as to be nearly indistinguishable from a photograph. On one level, Neubert said, it is sophisticated art. But on another level, it is an everyday view of a farm.

"My Egypt" by Charles Demuth shows how the Precisionists, well-educated in international culture and events, managed to create a uniquely American statement. The painting is a picture of grain silos — as important to rural American culture as the Pyramids were to the Egyptians.

"Precisionism in America" runs through Nov. 5. Admission is free.