



Travis Heying/DN

Paul Steinke and Sarah Hyberger run through a dress rehearsal Tuesday night for the opera "A Room With a View". The Opera will be performed Saturday night at 8 p.m. in Kimball Recital Hall.

## Audience agonizes over opera

By Jeff Randall  
Theater Critic

After two and a half hours of opera Thursday night, the one image that stuck out in my mind the most was the walk outside Kimball Recital Hall.

### Theater Review

It was there that I heard one man simplify "A Room With a View" in probably the best possible way: he said "It brings a new meaning to the word 'eternity.'"

A harsh indictment indeed. But, in this case, it was deserved. "A Room With a View" ultimately fell prey to the most deadly of operatic beasts — boredom.

Good opera should contain all of those classic elements that no fan of good music and good theater can re-

sist: passion, death, revenge and lust, just to name a few.

But "A Room With a View" falls flat on the majority of these subjects, instead wallowing in an overwrought musical accompaniment and, given the strength of E.M. Forster's novel (on which the opera is based), a bland libretto.

The players seemed to share this sentiment, holding back the extra push that is the result of truly inspiring material — the extra push that was so evident in productions such as last year's "Marriage of Figaro." And without the full backing of a cast, even the strongest opera would have a hard time succeeding.

This is not to say that the opera was without its bright points. Brett Hyberger was especially inspiring as Mr. Emerson, a brash and realistic man who serves as catalyst for most of the positive things that emerged from this production. Sarah Amanda Hyberger, who played Mrs.

### The Facts

**Opera:** "A Room With a View"  
**Stage Director:** William Shomos  
**Conductor:** Tyler White  
**Stars:** Karen Kness, Kenneth Floyd, Rebecca Kouma Shane  
**Company:** UNL School of Music  
**Grade:** D  
**Five Words:** Not a very good 'view'

Honeychurch, also provided a rare spark that seemingly ignited the players who surrounded her.

But two players alone — and minor players at that — cannot make good entertainment. Unless the School of Music is able to recapture the energy it so effectively utilized in past productions, the students and opera in Lincoln will suffer for it.

## Rumble

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little slowly, it doesn't slow down once the action starts. One fight scene flows to the next, with a brilliantly staged fight in a warehouse against the motorcycle gang as the highlight

of the film.

In between fights, Tong lets the plot line fill in the edges (though no one ever mentions his job as a Hong Kong cop).

No Academy Awards for acting, but the action in "Rumble In The Bronx" makes it a surefire winner.

### The Facts

**Film:** "Rumble In The Bronx"  
**Stars:** Jackie Chan, Anita Mui, Francoise Yip  
**Director:** Stanley Tong  
**Rating:** R (violence, language)  
**Grade:** B+  
**Five Words:** Physical comedy meets martial arts

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## TGIF

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