

No Strings attached

Larger-than-life puppets invade Lied Center

By JASON HARDY
Assignment Reporter

Giant sword-wielding puppets are sure to excite any crowd. This weekend the excitement comes to the capital city.

Tonight Lincoln theater fans will be transported to ancient Scotland via the mystical imagery of Theatre Sans Fil's production of "The Crown of Destiny." The Montreal-based puppet troupe will bring about 75 of their larger-than-life puppets to the Lied Center For Performing Arts this weekend for shows at 8 tonight and 2 p.m. Saturday.

The performances are part of the Lied Center's ongoing family series, and mark the second family show this year, the first being Scholastic's "Magic School Bus Live," which played last semester.

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COURTESY PHOTO
THEATRE SANS FIL employs puppetry techniques that originated in Japan to create its unique brand of family entertainment. The group will be at the Lied Center for Performing Arts this weekend.

Theater



Satiric play mimics flaws of marriage

■ "Divorce Southern Style" uses a comedic approach to poke fun at old-money Southern culture.

By BRET SCHULTE
Senior Reporter

And people thought Michael Jackson made divorce seem funny.

This weekend, the Futz Theatre, 124 S. Ninth St., features "Divorce Southern Style," a farcical comedy poking fun at the illusions of marriage, old-money Southern culture and the comic desperation found in both.

Penned by Jennifer Jarrett in 1967, the popular play has undergone a few name changes since its off-Broadway premiere 30 years ago. Originally conceived as "Before and After," the satire was immediately embraced as a witty and light-hearted commentary on marriage and money in an era of unprecedented economic activity. Since then, the play has been performed mostly by regional companies under the name "Winter Chicken" until Jarret finally settled on "Divorce Southern Style," said director Ed Dill.

After looking through several scripts, Dill said, he picked "Divorce Southern Style" because it fit everything he was looking for.

"It was the funniest play that I read out of the 15 or 20 I was looking through," Dill said. "There were several things I took into consideration: the space, the amount of people you have to work with, props and special effects."

"Divorce Southern Style" is the story of a rich Southern woman, Eleanor, whose posh and recreant lifestyle begins to fade as she slowly runs out of money. However, her ex-husband, who was poor when they met, suddenly seems very attractive to her once again.

The husband, of course, becomes a bit suspicious when she confronts him.

"She decides to get him back by alluding their daughter is pregnant," Dill said.

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Winter Winds Festival features select students

From Staff Reports

This weekend, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will host the 1998 Winter Festival for Winds and Percussion.

Intended as a vital music-making experience as well as a recruitment opportunity, the Winter Winds Festival includes master classes and an opportunity to be coached in chamber ensembles by UNL faculty.

Sixty-five students have been chosen for the Winter Winds Festival from five states, as far away as California and as near as Nebraska. These select students will be involved in a jam-packed celebration of music making.

The Chamber Ensemble Recital is on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Kimball Recital Hall. The chamber recital will feature three woodwind quintets, a clarinet choir, a flute trio, a saxophone ensemble, two brass quintets, two brass sextets and a percussion ensemble. All groups are composed of high school students and are coached by UNL faculty members.

The Festival Finale Concert is on Sunday at 3 p.m. in Kimball Recital Hall. This concert features the Honors Wind Symphony, the Festival Symphonic Band and an appearance by the 52-piece UNL Wind Ensemble.

Admission to all events is free.