

x-press

poetry

Oh Holy Moon (12/15/92)
 Oh holy moon so bright,
 Which shines down proudly in the
 night,
 I beg you please,
 Help guide me with your light.

Blindly I walk the streets,
 Hoping that with her I'll meet.
 Although it's been so long,
 I continue to hear our song.

Wanting to be kind,
 And with her in mind,
 I try to keep in touch.
 Yet for her it seems too much!

I know now it cannot be,
 But these fellings,
 They just won't flee!
 -- Marco Scappa

*Last night I missed the moment, Kent, to see
 If you were well in spirit and in time.
 Though I could plainly dream of tales to
 rhyme,
 I slept. Excuses...I have none to plea.*

*To absence I was host and company,
 And later joined by uninvited crime.
 (That's not to say, "We think ourselves
 sublime")*

The guests: young Errant, I, and Villainy.

*We lay upon the pillow soft and sweet,
 Acknowledging The Sleeper as we pass;
 Pale Ivory Gates, so true, our gaggle greet,
 An attic filled with wooden song stained
 brass.*

*I hear your voice, but find abject Intent,
 Informing me that I just missed you, Kent.*

-- Greg Matheson

SLEEP DEPRIVATION

"Night has fallen and I am without a God"

-- *Blik*

I stare blankly at a blue
 screen. blue like the ocean
 it stares blankly back at me
 I wonder if I can dive in

swim thru the blinking cursor
 extract knowledge
 shimmy down computer chips
 or swing like Tarzan from copper
 monofilaments

get to the center of it all
 as if I was Jules Verne
 I try to experiment with narcotic trance
 likeantivitamins sleep lurks around the
 corner from me

but I keep running into the brick
 wall of stimulance. I chant long
 prayers
 to the king of narcolepsy
 take me take me take me.....
 the clock only ticks on

-- *Damon*

The Importance of Being Ernest

by Oscar Wilde

Directed by: Erskine Smith

I laughed, I cried, and totally lost touch with the reality of the everyday world which is filled with very serious endeavors. This was a most enjoyable way to have spent two hours: sitting in a very comfortable theatre seat watching others being earnest. A most excellent rendition was presented.

This classic comedy was brilliantly directed by Erskine Smith. The cast were members of the Victoria Playhouse Drama Club, which I believe is a volunteer group, consisting of relatively young people. All of the cast were quite professional in their roles, which is no doubt due to fine direction and very likely a large dose of talent.

Trent Lowther as Algernon Moncrieff (a.k.a. Bunbury/Ernest) was appropriately snooty and quietly droll. Craig Blair as John Worthing J.P. (a.k.a. Jack/Ernest) was convincingly perplexed by his friend Algie; protective of his ward, Cecily Cardew (played by Emily Smith); and truly in love with Gwendolen Fairfax (played by Deirdre Smith). Deirdre Smith carried off some witty lines without a hitch; good execution. Emily Smith played Algy's love interest, Cecily, with great poise and wonderful presence.

The character of Lady Bracknell was very well played by Dee Bennett, and for those of you who didn't clue in, Dee had to cross dress in order to play this demanding part-- quite convincing, most humorous. Miss Prism, the tutor, played by Doris Matheson, was lively and well-rounded. The butlers Lane and Merriman, played by Andy Carragher and James Clement respectively, had small but hilarious parts with some zingy lines. The Rev. Canon Chasuble played by Daniel Basiletti was frightfully realistic; are you sure you weren't ordained in a past life, Daniel?

An excellent production of a play wouldn't be possible or complete without the people behind the scene(s). The sets were beautiful and didn't take away from the acting, as sometimes happens. Sets were changed quickly and quietly. Costuming was gorgeous. Lighting was great. What else can I say.....it was all fabulous. Applause. Applause. Bow. Close the curtain.



Interview With the Vampire

Directed by Neil Jordan

Starring Tom Cruise, Brad Pitt, Antonio Banderas, Christian Slater

Before I get started I should state three things. First, I am a devoted Anne Rice fan. Second, I was outraged when Tom Cruise was casted to play Lestat. Third, I promise not to make any crappy "sink your teeth into" jokes. When we first heard that the 1976 novel, *Interview With the Vampire*, would be turned into a feature film, the media was swarming with reports that Anne Rice (the author of *Interview*) was extremely upset that Tom Cruise was casted to play her beloved Lestat. Cruise said that his feelings were hurt; and that was the last we heard. About a month ago Rice said that she saw the movie and thought that Cruise was excellent. Now she has given out a number for people to call and express their view on the film. Well, this is what the commotion is about.

The movie starts off with Louis de Pointe du Lac (Pitt) being interviewed by a young boy (Slater); and Louis precedes to tell a fantastic tale that spans over 200 years. Oh ya, Louis

is a vampire. The story tells how Louis was made by Lestat, an aristocrat with a sinister smirk and cold-eyed stare, and how he became Lestat's protege. The problem is that when Louis' body died, his conscience did not. He can not kill without remorse like Lestat, and resorts to feeding off rats and chickens. This leads to a depressing time for Louis and in order to boost Louis' sprits Lestat decides to make them a daughter. Claudia (Kirsten Dunst), a child vampire, is born and has a thirst that can not be quenched.

The entire movie is about the relationships between the vampires. Lestat enjoys his immortality, while Louis wants to die and end the nightmare he has become. Claudia is unique, she enjoys her new "life" at first, but as the years pass she grows up inside a child's body and begins to resent the two who made her.

As I said earlier, I'm a fan of Anne Rice and I have read *Interview With the Vampire*. Naturally, I was curious how the movie would measure up to the novel. I found myself wanting to like the movie before I even saw it; and I did like it, I guess.

It's always tough to compare a movie to a book. The book is usually better; but it isn't confined to a time limit like a movie and can present the story better. After reading the book I can easily say the movie should have been better. Key moments from the book were left out; but Jordan does a good job in capturing the mood of the book. The talented Rice wrote the screenplay, but it seems that she was trying to make the movie so close to her book that she felt the need to stuff the film with material from the novel, even though it does not make sense in the context of the movie.

Neil Jordan does a good job directing; but when Lestat leaves halfway through the movie, it seems Jordan doesn't know what to do without his star. It feels like Jordan saved all his tricks for the first of the film where Lestat is present. The acting is strong, but there are no real great performances. Ironically, Tom Cruise probably does the best job and I'm starting to be convinced that he actually can act.

If you look at *Interview* as just another movie and not an adaptation, it is an alright flick. It keeps you entertained, and we all know how much fun it is to watch people bite each other. (B)

-- David Ramsay