

Fall '67

'Milk Wood' Delightful

By Maurice Snively

"Under the Milk Wood," presented by the theatre arts department last weekend, took a dive into the dreams and days of the people of a Welsh seaport village.

The audience learned of Mr. Waldo's sex life, Willy Nilly Postman's busy steam kettle and Captain Cat's lust for his sexy sweetheart.

FROM THE BEGINNING, Joe Conaway, director, and his cast had a lot going for them. First, and most obvious, is the indescribably delightful script by Dylan Thomas.

His way with words is unmatched in modern rhetoric. And most assuredly, the cast handled those words well.

"Listen," we heard at the opening, "and you shall see behind the sleep of our city's characters," characters like Polly Garter and Mrs. Ogmores-Pritchard, who orders her husbands out of their pajamas.

OR LIKE CAPTAIN Cat, who has his lover's name on his stomach, and Organ Morgan, who would rather play with his church organ than his wife.

Outstanding performances were given by Carol Spoon, who was especially good as Polly; Don Pritchard, who was a wise old Captain Cat; Dan File, who trickled the keys as Organ Morgan; and Rick Bayles, who cast a wicked prayer as Rev. Eli Jenkins.

However, some good lines were lost with the actors' impatience with the audience's laughter, which came frequently, for some of Thomas' language is delightfully funny (though not for children).

THE STAGING, the scenery, the lighting were all Ed Pisoni, technical director, at his best. From sunrise to sunset, the audience was aware of the set that was supporting the actors, done meticulously even to the flaring of the planks on the docks.

All in all, the show was one of the best I've seen on this campus. If you missed it, you missed a well done performance, which only proved that not only was Dylan Thomas "no damn fool," but neither is the theatre arts department.

9-5-67

Theatre Arts Gets New Director

Joseph Conaway, assistant professor in the theatre arts department, joins the faculty this quarter as director in charge of Reader's Theatre and 5 O'Clock Theatre productions, according to E. Glendon Gabbard, head of the theatre arts department.

The first play Conaway is planning is a Reader's Theatre drama "About the Young," according to Gabbard.

Five O'Clock Presents Charleston High Play

Today's Five O'Clock production is Ionesco's "The Bald Soprano," to be presented in the Fine Arts Theatre.

It will be performed by a group from Charleston High School—many of whom competed in final acting competitions at the state level this past weekend in Bloomington.

The plot involves Mr. and Mrs. Smith (Krin Gabbard and Mary Boyd), who, during an evening at home are visited by the Martins (Glen Gabbard and Bekki White) and the Fireman (Mary Reigel).

Fine Arts, movies

ART: Beaux Arts Ball benefit 9-12 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24 at Charleston Elks Club sponsored by Charleston Art Association. Tickets available at Stillpoint Gallery and art department.

MUSIC: Collegium Musicum, 7 p.m. Thurs. in Fine Arts Theatre.

Royal Choral Society concert 8 p.m. Oct. 26 in McAfee.

THEATRE: "A Sound of Music," 5 O'clock theatre directed by Anne Jenkins, 5 p.m. Wednesday in Fine Arts Theatre.

FILM: "Assembly Line" sponsored by UCM and Newman Community 10 a.m. Thursday in Booth Library Lecture Room.

WILL ROGERS THEATRE: "Heironymous Murkin" through Wednesday. "True Grit" with John Wayne and Glen Campbell Wednesday through Tuesday, Oct. 28.

MATTOON THEATRE: "Medium Cool" tonight and Friday starring Robert Foster (restricted to adults). "Dr. Dolittle" with Rex Harrison Sunday through Wednesday.

TIMES THEATRE (MATTOON): "Midnight Cowboy" with Dustin Hoffman tonight through Thursday, Oct. 30.

10-17-69