Oscars break away from sentimentality

By Drew Blakeman

Well, I somehow managed to sit through it without becoming physically ill, although I almost died several times. "It," the fiftieth Academy Awards show, was a virtual shoo-in for best film, and old hippies were sitting around singing "What can be done about this show?" when the show was on. Anything to avoid watching that worthless ceremony.

Since the year began, I have been musing about the Oscars. As it is now, it is merely a yearly special about movies and the movie industry. As it is now, it is merely a romance for the fans of the past. I called it the "absolutest." I almost did several times. "It," the fiftieth Academy Awards show, was a virtual shoo-in for best film, and old hippies were sitting around singing "What can be done about this show?" when the show was on. Anything to avoid watching that worthless ceremony.

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What can be done about this show? There is little incentive to change it for most people - people will watch it no matter how awful it is because they are compelled to know who all the winners are as they are announced. People who watch the show to gauge at the stars or for the entertainment deserve better. Most of the live segments of the show should be scrapped, including all of the entertainment and acceptance speeches.

The Academy is supposed to be honoring achievements in motion pictures. It should let cinema be the medium of its prizes. Extensive use of film clips of both currently nominated films and older classics should be used. All demonstrations of content, songs, etc., should be through the use of film clips - the movies are being judged on their merits, and the same audience should see the films, not imitations. Most people don't see very many of the nominated movies and this would be a way of giving the films greater exposure, possibly whetting the public's appetite enough to cause them to sit down and watch the actual movies. Anything to avoid watching that worthless ceremony.

happenings

AROUND MIT

Gus and Dolls, The Musical Theatre Guild's spring production will play Fri., Sat. and Sun., April 7 & 8 at 8 pm. Sun., April 9 at 4 pm. Tickets $3.50 and $2.50 with MIT ID D & Sat., April 8 at 8pm. Sun., April 9, at 7:30, sponsored by Radcliffe Women's Concert Series. Sanders Theater. Harvard, tickets $7.50-$9.50. Visit 50 Apple Hill (Chamber Orchestra, directed by Ari Yar). The Boston Repertory Theatre, One Boylston Place, Boston. Tickets $5.50-$7.25.; call 422-6560.

The Importance of Being Earnest, presented by the Emerson College Theatre Company, 130 Beacon St., Boston, Thur., Sat., March 30-April 2 & Tues-Sun. Apr. 4-9, Performance $8.30, tickets $2.50; call 336-8862.


Turkey Soup, at the Charles Playhouse, 14 Warren St., Boston. (Stage 3), Performances Thur., Sat., April 6-24, 7:30. For tickets call 227-7707.

Ruddigore, presented by the Harvard Gilbert & Sullivan Players, at the Agassiz Theatre, Rindge Hall, April 13-29. Thu., Fri. & Sat., 8:30 and Sunday 2:30. Tickets at Boylston center. tickets $3-$5.

--- Leigh J. Pownon

in theatre

IN TOWN

Pete Seeger, Fri., April 7, 8 pm at Symphony Hall; tickets $2.50-$5. The Tubes, 2 shows, April 8, 7 & 10 pm at the Orpheum. Tickets $7.50-$8.50. Apple Hill Chamber Players, Cambridge Concert Series, Sanders Theatre, Harvard, Sat., April 8, 9 pm. Tickets $2.50-$5. faucet Studios tour, Boston's oldest art studio. Sun., April 9, 10 am. 3:15 pm in the Bush Rm. (10-105. tickets $6.50-$7.50.

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