Ionesco, please clean up your mess!

A Hell of a Mess at the Cambridge Ensemble, 1551 Mari Ave., Thurs., Fri., Sat. at 8 (through June 11. For information: 874-2546)

By Jim Walker

A Hell of a Mess is just that, and the ensemble has placed it in practice where the play itself drags down.

The script tells the story of an ordinary guy who has snuck it rich and learned his job to live in, supported by his own, despite Ms. Green's competence, his pride, and despite Ms. Green's competence, his pride. 1151 Mass Ave.

The Cambridge Ensemble does what it can to salvage the material, but it just isn't there. In some areas they lack the talent required to salvage the material. In others the play itself drags them down.

The play is not entertaining. It ultimately has to rely on someone knocking all the furniture over in an apartment to get its laughs, even to generate interest from its audience. Twenty years ago this might have been considered innovative of Mr. Ionesco, but Theater of the Absurd has grown since the days of The Bald Soprano. Ionesco should pay more attention to Pinter, Beckett, and the other absurdist authors around him. For, like the characters who constantly catch such an article in the doorway of the Character's apartment, Ionesco's tricks have gotten old.

Ian Thomas Here to stay

The Ian Thomas Band is a rarity on today's music scene — it is a new group whose album isn't a compendium of insipid oldies. Instead, Still Here is a collection of brilliant new songs that are tuneful and memorable.

The first thing that strikes you about this album is that it is well produced without being slick. The band's confidence shows in its musical arrangements, but some of his tunes need a little bit more. Still Here doesn't have its flaws, however — the band's energy and its wit make up for any weaknesses.

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