Two Gentlemen: one is good, one is not

Two Gentlemen of Verona
by William Shakespeare. Starring Steven Aveson, Kirsten Giroux, Catherine Rust, Henry Woroncz. Directed by William Lacey. in Repertory by the Boston Shakespeare Company.

By Joel West
Seventeenth century Verona is a rather remote time and place from contemporary America. There has been a great temptation of late to "update" Shakespeare's plays, especially the comedies. The BSC has resisted this fad in their latest production, a choice that seems well-justified with only a few adverse consequences.

Steven Aveson is first-rate in his treatment of Proteus. The pro-
tagonist is perplexingly pernicious, even for a comedy; most productions chose to pass off his contradictions under the veil of absurdity. Aveson, on the other hand, gives an interpreta-
tion of an individual who finds himself betraying his dearest friend and his betrothed over his newfound love for another woman.

In the first scene, Aveson totally dominates his companion Valentine (Henry Woroncz) in reciting his love for Julia. In subsequent scenes he similarly overshadows Antonio (Richard Moses) and Pantalio (Stacy Stein). His perfect swoon over Julia is quickly followed by his in-
troduction to Silvia (Catherine Rust), where he manifests signs of falling in love only to those looking for them. In monologue wrestling with his dilemma, his acts of treachery against his friend, in seizing upon an opportu-
unity to advance his own cause, Aveson's portrayal convincingly brings out this most difficult of characters. In Proteus's final repentance, a scene which too easily resembles an artificially happy ending, Aveson instead conveys a sense of sincere self-
realization.

Kirsten Giroux does an equally delightful job with the role of the spurned lover. Julia the Elizabethan maiden seems per-
ticularly distant in these days of women's liberation; the character borders on the absurd when she toys with the idea of falling love, or tentatively kisses her Proteus for the first time.

Giroux's first chance to display something more comes in the third act, where the maiden is determined to join her beloved, but worries about the possible damage to her reputation. When she exposits in the play it is to be crushed by the revelation of Proteus's fickle nature. She does her best to cope with this aban-
donment; in the final scene, Giroux is perfect as she attempts to divine the true Proteus.

Rust is very good at the com-
passionate and yet restrained Silvia; tender in her moments with Valentine, and showing great empathy for the problems of Julia, a woman she's never met.

Both Woroncz and Thomas Ap-
ple (as the Duke of Milan) deliver disappointingly spotty perfor-
mances. While Thurio (Douglas Overton) is supposed to be Valentine's foolish rival, director William Lacey has unfortunately decided to make the part exag-
ergated and cliché.

To round out the production, Paul Dunn and Grey Johnson bring high comic relief as the gentleman's servants; each is ideal for his respective role. Ingenious set design and appropriate period music round out a fine produc-
tion of one of Shakespeare's great comedies.

The SCC is putting on one last production for them. In monologue

on the town

Movies
Sometimes a Great Notion The MidNite Movie, Saturday in the Sala.

This Week's LSC lineup:
Julia Fri., 7 & 10, 26-100.

The Importance of Being Earnest (classic) Fri., 7:30, 10-250.

Our Man Flint Sat., 7, 26-100; 8:30, 10-250.

In Like Flint Sat., 9, 26-100; 10:30, 10-250.

It's A Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World Sun., 6 & 9:30, 26-100.

MIT
The SCC is putting on one last pre-Prohibition party. This one is a disco, Studio 84. Friday, 8:30 in the Sala.

A Reminder From
Catholics, Episcopalians and Lutherans at MIT

The annual period of Lenten reflection and rediscovery of the meaning of Jesus comes to completion in the Christian observances of Holy Week.

Please take note of the following chapel services.

Tuesday Evening, April 10. 5:05 MIT Chapel: Catholic Liturgy
Wednesday Evening, 5:10 April 11, MIT Chapel: Lutheran-Episcopal Eucharist
Wednesday Night, April 11, 8 p.m. MIT Chapel: Sacrament of Penance with opportunity for private confessions to follow

Holy Thursday, April 12, 8 p.m. MIT Chapel: Catholic Liturgy
A celebration of the Inaugural of the Lord's Supper, in obedience to Jesus' command to remember him by means of a meal

Good Friday, April 13 MIT Chapel
12 Noon Lutheran-Episcopal Service
3 p.m. Catholic Liturgy, Veneration of the Cross and Communion Service. A means of being united with Jesus as He faces the consequences of his own life choices.

First Celebration of Easter April 14, MIT Chapel
Saturday Evening 11:30 p.m. Catholic Light Service, Scripture. Renewal of Baptismal Commitment and Eucharist

Second Celebration of Easter April 15, MIT Chapel
Sunday Morning, 9:15 a.m. Catholic Liturgy with renewal of Baptismal Commitment

Third Celebration of Easter April 15, MIT Chapel
Sunday Noon, 12:15 Catholic Liturgy. Renewal of Baptismal Commitment and Eucharist

N.B. There is no Catholic Service on Easter Sunday afternoon.