Midsummer Night: Sweet dreams at Loeb

The American Repertory Theatre opens its first season at the Loeb Drama Center, Harvard, with a spectacular new production of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream, directed by Arvin Epstein, music from Purcell's The Fairy Queen arranged and conducted by Daniel Driver. Dream plays in repertory through May 17.

Enchantment and disbelief are the keynotes of the American Repertory Theatre's opening production, A Midsummer Night's Dream, at the Loeb Drama Center in Harvard. They have taken a very great work, and through skilled blending of words, music and movement, have given it a new freshness that makes it still greater.

As the basis of the Dream, we have splendid actors and acting. Hermia (Marianne Owen) grows with the drama-refined, and obviously made Hermia and not Helena who loves him (are you still with me?). As love her, as emotion, self-doubt, and in- dependently, the action flowed smoothly.

There is the physical embodiment of the quartet of lovers who, having lost their outer clothes in the wood, interact in the virgin-white of their underwear, and the absurdity of the craftsmen-striving to create a play about the fantastical element of the world of Oberon and Titania with their somewhat sinister fairies. The action was imperious, full of sorrow but not pathetic, piercing the hearts of all who pathetically, the ears of their audience, and the aura of sublime wisdom. The singers provide the gut, the orchestra, while appropriately unobtrusive, generated an aura of sublime wisdom. The characters of the piece were, however, the thrustful Medium, Madam Flora, sung by Belle Linda Halpern. The orchestra under Kenneth Getz was simply marvelous: it was a joy to be able to pick out the individual instruments. Creepy special effects make the trip worthwhile.

April is operatic silly month in Boston. Where else can you see a man writhing with a false medium and what happens when they intervene to see the end of the opera? The opera is performed as a hors d'oeuvre. This is a startling work about opera, opera, and opera. The the singing, beautifully performed, was sweet and pretty; the opera is performed, was sweet and pretty; all in all, the opera was simply marvelous; it was a joy to be able to pick out the individual instruments. Creepy special effects make the trip worthwhile.

Jonathan Richmond

UA ELECTIONS

UAP/UAVP CANDIDATE FORUM
— Monday, April 14th
— 7-9pm, 10-250

ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16th, 9-5:30pm

Voting Booths at:
* Lobby 10  * Baker House
* Sigma Phi Epsilon, 518 Beacon St., Boston

(Booths will be OUTSIDE, unless it rains.)

If you'd like to help, Please call Steve Forman at x3-2696 or x5-7637 (evenings)