

Slapdash Babes cavort in Cape Cod comedy

MIT Musical Theatre Guild performs *Babes in Arms* by Rogers and Hart, directed by Melinda Fennell W '85, Sala de Puerto Rico, January 30 - February 2.

Babes in Arms, in common with much musical comedy, is excusably short on plot. What story there is revolves around the travails of a struggling musical theatre group on Cape Cod. It is therefore usually performed by a highly accomplished professional company in a big, fancy playhouse masquerading as a stage in the sticks.

Last week's Musical Theatre Guild production was a delightful change, as it was actually performed on a slapdash stage in the Sala de Puerto Rico. Fortunately, the highly accomplished company was still present.

They were led by Denise Cormier and

Steve Schroko G, a pair of young lovers with all the usual troubles of young lovers, and talent as well. Cormier had the best singing voice of the company, as well as a full stock of emotions. She was called upon to carry the one truly funny scene of the show — in which she adds a dressing gown to her already abundant wardrobe — and, after a quick costume change, to reappear for the most touching interaction between the lovers. Schroko complemented her well, both in action and in voice.

The secondary pair of lovers was played by Cindy Millington W '86 and Scott Ramsay '89. Millington, the best dancer of the bunch, played a character forever complaining about her looks and being overlooked by talent spotters, which is a little hard to take. Ramsay is much better shaped for his role as troupe clown, taking

full advantage of his ungainliness. Perhaps he does trip around the stage a little much, but he was at his best when hanging from the top of the set without a ladder. Together, Millington and Ramsay achieved a broad humour which nicely set off the more serious lovers.

Debra Wheeler W '85 played Bunny, the theater owner, to good effect. She did get

turns in the spotlight. Hoi Man Siu '87 provided some stellar acrobatics.

Although the production numbers were carefully choreographed and for the most part carried off evenly, the best moments belonged to the lovers when they were left alone to perform duets. "I Wish I Were in Love Again" and "All at Once" were particularly lively numbers, vibrant action —



Back Row: Rina Cerulli '86, Cindy Millington W '86, Leslie Melcer '88, Steven Schroko G, Lynn Hineman G, Scott Ramsey '89, Denise Cormier G, Kent Borg, Bobby Fonacier G.
Front Row: Hoi Man Siu '87, Debbie Wheeler W '85, Mary Louise Ravese '88.



Mark Meister '86, Bobby Fonacier G, Steven Schroles G, Hoi Man Siu '87, Mary Louise Ravese '88, Kent Borg, Debra Wheeler W '85, David Krakauer, Lynn Hienman G.

to lead three numbers, all of which seemed to be genuine crowd pleasures. Her nemesis, the Scroogish Seymour Fleming (played by David Krakauer '88), was the weak link of the company. He came across as more avuncular than avaricious, making me wonder why the other characters hated him so much.

The leads got plenty of support from the members of the chorus, who had to wait for the production numbers for their

liberally interpreted to show the women off as refreshingly forward — accompanying convincingly-delivered lyrics.

One symptomatic complaint about blocking: It seemed that Cormier's Susie was unable to sing "My Funny Valentine" (one of those hit songs you might recognize, whether or not you have heard it before) unless she first walked over to the appropriate corner of the stage. Presumably,

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The Tech Performing Arts Series presents...

RAMON DE LOS REYES/SUKANYA

Joint Spanish/Indian Dance Theatre

The Ramon de los Reyes Spanish Dance Theatre will perform a joint concert with Sukanya/Dances of India. Boston Shakespeare Company Theatre, 52 St. Botolph St., Boston. February 9 at 2pm and 8pm. *MIT price: \$8.*

AMERICAN VOCALARTS QUINTET

Valentine Day's concert

The American VocalArts Quintet will present a Valentine Day's program entitled "Wine, Women and Song," including works composed by women and about women and romantic love. Longy School of Music, February 14 at 8pm. *MIT price: \$3.*

BOSTON PREMIERE ENSEMBLE

Candlelight Salute to the Sun King

The Boston Premiere Ensemble, F. John Adams, conductor, will give their third annual candlelight concert, featuring soloists selected from a competition in January. The program includes works by Lully, François Couperin, Delalande and Charpentier. Church of the Advent, Boston, February 22 at 8pm. *MIT price: \$5.*

Tickets will be sold by the Technology Community Association, W20-450 in the Student Center. As opening hours are currently a bit sporadic, please call before you come. If nobody is in, please leave your order and your phone number on the TCA answering machine at 253-4885. You will be called back as soon as possible.

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