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1981

The Variety

The program of Protege. Volume I April 15, 16, 22, 23, 24, 25, 1981 Funded by Student Activities Fee

Scotch 'N Soda presents Protegé

by Maria Barbuto and Peggie White

"This is the public theater of the campus," says Scotch and Soda president Felicia Pratto. "The students run the organization from administration to scriptwriting; music, lyrics and set building."

Scotch and Soda's major project each year is its Spring Musical. This year S'n'S will produce *Protegé*, an original musical by Colette Silvestri.

Protegé follows the current trend in "backstage musicals" that began with *A Chorus Line* in 1975. Current examples of this genre are *Fame* and the revival of *42nd Street* on Broadway.

In *Protegé*, Nova, a young aspiring actress, amibitiously takes a shot at the limelight, only to be hit with the hard realities of her chosen profession. Along her way, she meets the suave, but obnoxious director Neil Oberlin and his disgustingly bitchy girlfriend and sidekick, Trisha Hoffman.

To balance the melodrama created by the various love triangles, temper flares and cuthroat antics, Silvestri has created some rather eccentric characters for several "show rehearsal" and "big audition" scenes. Their interaction and rapport will help to recreate the zaniness and rapport of the theater-life intimacies.

These eccentrics include Cosmo, a beatnick leftover, and Tyrone, a gay dancer, who provide comic relief from the competitiveness which reigns throughout the show. Nova also befriends a "bum-off-the street" old man, who teaches her the tricks of the trade, and Juanita, a spicy Puerto Rican actress.

"The underlying themes of the play are very positive," says author Sylvestri. *Protegé* shows much of the degredation and bitter competitiveness in the theater, but all of the characters have at least some redeeming qualities. The unity of the actors is also emphasized in *Protege*.

a blend of jazz and pop

Silvestri's lyrics with arrangements by Arthur Darrel Turner, are a "blend of jazz and pop music bound to please even those with the most finicky taste," according to cast member Sara Drake. The score ranges from the lively "One in a Million" to the risque, torcher, "Problems of Finding a Lover", which has become somewhat of a cast favorite.

she knows the score

The idea to compose a musical started when "A friend bet me that I couldn't write a musical, submit it and have it produced by Scotch and Soda. So I submitted my ideas with two pieces of music and *Protegé* was chosen for the 1981 Spring Musical," admits Silvestri.

Most of the music is by Silvestri and Arthur Darrel Turner, "Silvestri is responsible for the conception and I did all the arrangements," explains Turner. "I asked her to write a song for *Kije*, S'n'S's 1980 Spring Musical, which I had written most of the music for, and in return she asked me to work on Protegé this year."

Music and composing is not new to Silvestri or Turner. Silvestri, a voice major, toured Europe as a soloist in 1976 with the American Youth Symphony and has also traveled the east coast singing and dancing with the Bicentennial Commission's 13 Originals Company. Currently, she is starring in Strauss' *Gypsy Baron* at Duquesne. After college she hopes to pursue a career in Europe as a professional operatic singer.

Turner is a sophomore majoring in composition at CMU. Although exposed to music all his life, he decided to seriously consider composing during his senior year in high school when he wrote a few songs for a variety show. His decision to study music came from the encouragement he recieved from family and friends. He is aiming for a professional music career in New York.

Silvestri says, "What we are doing here is something special. To put on an original musical is a great accomplishment and to see these people put it all together on their own is fantastic. It provides an opportunity for students to share the work they've done with an audience and have fun while doing it."

Contents

Cast p.4
Crew p.5
Synopsis p.6
Upcoming Events p.8

Scotch 'N Soda
presents

Protegé

A new musical

by Colette Silvestri

Lyrics by Colette Silvestri, Arthur Turner, Abe Feldman,
Mark Simens, Germaine Werl

Music by Colette Silvestri, Germaine Werl, Arthur Turner

Directed by Bennett Fidlow

Set Designed by Mark Simens

Costumes Designed by Luanne Isherwood

Lighting Designed by Bill Hammerschlag
David Wooldridge

Choreographed by Dori Girol

April 15, 16
22, 23, 24, 25

Skibo Ballroom
Carnegie-Mellon University

CAST In Order of Appearance

Gam Salzer	Joe Marriott
Zigfield	Louis Graham
Nova Radowski	Janet Kaye
Janita Maria Conchesa DeLeon Gonzales	Terry Geffel
Tyrone Richards	Greg Bossler
Brenda Collins	Cheryl Gastineau
Alana Starr	Angela Mucci
Cosmo Martin	Chris Gebhardt
Debbi Sue Linquist	Regina Verteramo
Neil Oberlin	Paul Schelling
Trish Kite	Regina Verteramo
Robert Adler	Mark Simens
Nadia Premlin	Sarah Drake
MC	David Turner
Stella	Regina Verteramo
John	Paul Alessandro
Grimy	Ross Thompson
Jacky Flanagan	Dori Girol
Police Officer	Abe Feldman
Young Actor	Ross Thompson
The Vaudeville Chorus	Cast

Director's Note

This being my first directorship, I just want to mention a few things to all who might stop to read them. First, a giant thank you to the members of the cast and crew for pulling together and making this show what it is. Also, a thank you to Scotch 'n' Soda for giving us this opportunity. S'N'S and the talents of CMU have combined for fifty years so that students could have the chance to find out what their dreams are made of. Finally, a thank you to those who count the most: you, the audience, because without you these dreams might never become reality. Thanks.

Bennett Fidlow

Production Staff

Technical Director ..... Robert T. Aarhus
Stage Manager ..... Bill Hammerschlag
Asst. Stage Manager ..... Nancy Peart
Lighting Director ..... Scott Tietjen
Asst. Lighting Director ..... Monica Cellio
Sound Engineer ..... Rich Ives
Property Manager ..... A.G. Lindsay
Scene Painting ..... Donna Saber
Make-Up Director ..... Kirstie Newman
Publicity Director ..... Peggie White

Crews

Construction Crew
Spass Stoiantschewsky
Leila Abdu
Rusty Gray
Donna Saber
Aaron Tanzer
Monica Cellio
Jan Cook
Winnie Gehm
Brian Rayne
Gretchen Miller
Robert Zingarelli

Run Crew
Bob Aarhus
Leila Abdu
Jan Cook
Craig Falci
Winnie Gehm
Luanne Isherwood
Gretchen Miller
Brian Rayne
Spass Stoiantschewsky
Aaron Tanzer

Lighting Crew
Bill Hammerschlag
Rich Ives
Bruce Taylor
Ersal Twing
David Wooldridge

Publicity Crew
Susan Birnie
Jan Cook
Winnie Gehm
Dori Girol

Act I

Scene 1: A corner outside central park at night
Scene 2: The lobby of a theatre the next day
Scene 3: The corner later the same day
Scene 4: A rehearsal hall two weeks later
Scene 5: A small studio immediately following
Scene 6: Bob's apartment that day
Scene 7: The corner that day
Scene 8: A tacky party center two days later

There will be a 10 minute intermission between Acts I and II

Act II

Scene 1: Montage-Theatre front three years later
Scene 2: Neil's apartment the next day
Scene 3: The corner later that day
Scene 4: Nova's dressing room a few weeks later
Scene 5: A rehearsal hall later that day
Scene 6: The corner that night
Scene 7: The corner some night

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Songs

I. Overture

i Vaudeville ..... music: Silvestri/lyrics: Silvestri
ii Just wait and see ..... Silvestri/Silvestri & Simens
iii Legend in your own mind ..... Silvestri/Simens
iv —
v Don't let him sing my song ..... Silvestri, Germaine Werl & A. Turner/Silvestri, Werl & A. Turner
vi —
vii The hand of one who loves you ..... A. Turner/A. Turner
viii Menagerie ..... A. Turner/A. Turner, Feldman & D. Turner
Mister, won't you buy my show? ..... A. Turner/Wood
Problems of finding a lover ..... Silvestri/Silvestri

II En'tract

i Montage — One in a million ..... A. Turner/Alessandro, Feldman & D. Turner
ii —
iii There is a time ..... Silvestri/Silvestri
iv —
v Looking out for love ..... Silvestri & A. Turner/Silvestri, A. Turner & D. Turner
vi There is a time — Reprise ..... Silvestri & Werl/Silvestri & Werl
vii Finale — Vaudville reprise

1980-1981 Board of Directors

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The score to **Protegé** was orchestrated by

Darrell Turner
Eric Richards
Celeste Ross
Colette Silvestri
Robert Ferrell

David Santini — Conductor

Thanks to:

Carnegie-Mellon University Music Department
Duquesne Music Department

Special Thanks To

Charles Watts
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Upcoming Events for S 'n S

S 'n S will be reviewing scripts for their 1982 spring production from April 20 to April 30 1981. Anyone interested in submitting a script must do it on these dates. A minimum of one scene is required of submissions and if it is a musical, it must be accompanied with the music. The 1981 and 1982 Boards will combine their efforts to choose the best script and preparations for the show will begin as soon as possible.

We would also like to announce our next production "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf," by Edward Albee. Auditions for the show will be held the second week into the fall semester at CMU, and show dates have been set for October 23, 24 and 25. Anyone interested in either of these productions can call 578-3522 or stop by our office in 40D Skibo.

continued from page 10

Once the board has supplied the designers with materials and people to change their ideas into the materials, (or vice versa, depending on which end of the hammer you hold) the designs are built and rehearsed. When the costumes, set, lights, sound, makeup are as prepared as the dancers, actors, and musicians, the producers then come along again and make all those people do all those things *together*. And the best of what they do together is what you see. I must credit this company for not only spiritually and effectively turning this room into a theatre, but for literally doing so. The battens and platforms above and below you which *all* of us hope won't fall are as real to us as Protege. Thank you for coming to our theatre. We hope you continue to enjoy it.