



Alison Morooney, playing the role of Wendy, and Audrey Cardwell, as Peter Pan, perform Wednesday night in a performance of "Peter Pan."

'Peter Pan' delights a packed audience

By Hannah Rishel
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

All children grow up — except one.

The School of Theatre held a free preview performance of its production of "Peter Pan" on Tuesday evening to a packed audience in the Playhouse Theatre in the Theatre Building.

The preview was a dress rehearsal for Wednesday's opening night. Other performances will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday, as well as Nov. 9 through Nov. 13 and at 2 p.m. on Nov. 13.

"Peter Pan" is the first play to be performed in the renovated Playhouse Theatre and featured an elaborate set and acrobatic flying.

The musical adaptation of the play by J. M. Barrie was directed and choreographed by Michael Lichteild and starred Audrey Cardwell (junior-musical theatre) as the title role and New Zealand actor Hayden Tee as Captain Hook and Mr. Darling.

The production followed the classic plot of "Peter Pan" — a boy who refuses to grow up and lives in a magical land called Neverland with a group of abandoned children called the Lost Boys. One night he comes into the nursery room of the Darling house after the children have gone to sleep, in search of his shadow. He teaches Wendy Darling and her brothers to fly and takes them to Neverland at their request.

Sarah Baumgarten attended the performance because she's a theater fan and hadn't seen "Peter Pan" in a while. She said this version was more animated than the productions she'd seen in the past.

"I felt like I was in Disney

World," Baumgartner (sophomore-vocal performance) said.

She said she was very impressed with Cardwell's performance as Peter Pan because she didn't know what to expect coming into the show.

"She portrayed the part of a boy well," Baumgartner said.

Kayla Ritenour said she attended the show to support her roommate Elizabeth Stone, (senior-musical theatre) who played Mrs. Darling.

"The flying was amazing," Ritenour (senior-psychology) said. "It literally took my breath away when Peter Pan flew in the window the first time."

She was not alone. Most of the audience gasped and applauded when Cardwell made her entrance through the nursery window.

Byron Fay said he enjoyed the different types of dances Hook's pirate crew performed, which included a tango, a tarantella and a waltz.

Fay said he had seen a ballet production of "Peter Pan" before, but it was very different from the musical.

"This one was colorful, energetic and well-executed," he said.

Ritenour's favorite musical number was the reprise of "I Gotta Crow" that Peter Pan sang with the Lost Boys. She said having child actors play the Lost Boys made the production more authentic.

"It's an amazing performance," Ritenour said. "Everyone should come out to see it."

Tickets are available for \$25 at the Bryce Jordan Center, Eisenhower Auditorium and the Penn State Downtown Theatre Center for the remaining performances.

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Classical musicians play Schwab

By David Strader
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Young musicians in an age-old genre — contemporary-classical at its finest.

The Eroica Trio performed at Schwab Auditorium Wednesday night, mixing both classical and contemporary chamber music.

The all-female trio consisted of pianist Erika Nickrenz, violinist Susie Park and cellist Sara Sant'Ambrogio taking the stage in matching brown dresses.

Amy Vashaw, audience and program development director for the Center for the Performing Arts, said the trio was impressive in more ways than one.

"They are amazing musicians and personable people in addition to being gorgeous," she said.

The trio was named after Ludwig Van Beethoven's Eroica Symphony — "eroica" being the Italian translation for "heroic."

The Eroica Trio performed a number of both classical and contemporary pieces.

The third piece performed, "Trio-Sinfonia" by composer Kevin Puts, was a song co-commissioned by the CPA.

Vashaw said the CPA was glad to be able to create that connection between composers and ensembles.

State College resident Barry Kernfeld said he attended the show to see the Eroica Trio's performance of a song by Astor Piazzolla.

"He's an Argentinean composer who does tango avant-garde music," Kernfeld said.



The Eroica Trio performs contemporary-classical music at the Schwab Auditorium on Wednesday night.

Attendee John Bukowski, 41, Huntington, said Schwab Auditorium was a nice venue for the contemporary-classical trio's performance.

"I really like the intimate setting," he said. "No matter where you're sitting, you feel like you're very close to the performers."

According to Vashaw, the Schwab Auditorium was not the trio's only performance in the area.

Vashaw, on behalf of the CPA, helped arrange for the Eroica Trio to perform earlier that day at Foxdale Village, a retirement community in State College.

"We provided an opportunity for people who would be unable to

attend otherwise," Vashaw said. "It's an effort to give them that musical enjoyment."

Miriam Brandt (senior-communications and Russian) said she was glad to see classical music in the area.

"It's important for everyone to be exposed to it," she said. "It's been around for centuries, and it's always changing."

Graduate student Rhonda McLean said classical music has something to offer for everyone.

"It has the formality to it, but even if you don't know the structure to the music, there's always something there."

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Alumnus talks journalism career

By Hannah Rishel
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Mister Mann Frisby told a group of communications students Wednesday night that journalism is not for the meek and mild.

Frisby returned to his alma mater to give a speech in Willard about his days at Penn State and his time working for the Philadelphia Daily News.

Frisby, Class of 1997, became the youngest person to ever be hired by the Daily News. He decided he wanted to become a journalist his junior year of high school when he snuck backstage at a Salt-N-Pepa concert and saw that journalists had access backstage.

"When you wake up you have no idea what you'll be doing that day," Frisby told the group of communications students who attended the speech.

He told stories about writing articles about everything from a tiger that was loose in downtown Philadelphia to a toddler who fell out a third story window onto concrete and lived.

Jacklyn Reid (junior-broadcast

journalism) enjoyed the time Frisby spent talking about compassion because she recently interned with NBC and felt like everyone there was a "robot."

Frisby said journalists have to fight their desensitization and keep their compassion, using Oprah as an example.

"You have to have soul and heart," Reid said.

She added that Frisby's experience at Penn State reflects what she's currently going through so it gives her hope for her own future that she can be successful like him.

Catherine Valdez (sophomore-public relations) said she attended Frisby's talk because she needs extra motivation.

"My parents are really strict," Valdez said. "They think you're only successful if you're a doctor or a lawyer. It's good to hear about someone make something of themselves in a different field."

Manouska Jeantus (junior-biobehavioral health) said it was recommended that she attend because she's thinking about changing her major to communications.

"I love how he brought what he

"You have to have soul and heart."

Jacklyn Reid
junior-broadcast

journalism

came to Penn State to his job," Jeantus said.

She added that she also liked how he gave advice to the audience about getting their degrees any way to earn.

Frisby said that journalists have many opportunities than just writing for newspapers. Because they are adept writers they can also create press releases and web content for others, which he credited Frisby to his first job as a journalist to his current career as a published author. Frisby has written two novels "Thinking, Red Light" and "Wife Beater" and a self-help book for young men titled "Holla Back, Bro: Listen First."

"You have to love what you do or you'll be miserable," Frisby said.

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Cuban culture comes to PSU through hip-hop, film event

By Sarah Becks
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Penn State students want to pique their peers' interest in Cuban culture through hip-hop.

At the Cuban Hip-Hop event, the film "East Of Havana" will be screened at 4 p.m. today in the Pattee Library in Foster Auditorium.

There will also be a showcase and "open mic" night Friday at 8 p.m. in the Pollock Commons lounge. The events are sponsored by many groups at Penn State, including the Vice Provost for Educational Equity, the Women's Studies Department and the

Dominican Students Association.

"East of Havana" is a documentary about how three underground rap artists make it in the music industry while dealing with government sanctions. It also covers the artists' family, gender and race issues.

Alyssa Garcia, assistant professor of women's studies, is hosting the Cuban Hip-Hop event.

"Culture can be a way for their voice to be heard," Garcia said. "It is important to take an active role."

The documentary can also give students a different perspective on Cuba, Garcia said who added there is much more to Cuba than

the biases of the culture would suggest, and this documentary tries to remind viewers Cuba's leaders aren't always the best representatives of its people.

Professor John Nichols is a specialist on international communications and has conducted research exclusively on Cuban communications.

"Cuba is only 90 miles away from the United States and yet it is distant in politics," Nichols said.

The night after the documentary plays, there will be a showcase and "open mic" night that will feature hip-hop artists, including special guests OG Tha Arsonist and integrative arts pro-

"Culture can be a way for their voice to be heard ... It is important to take an active role."

Alyssa Garcia
assistant professor of women's studies

fessor Ronnie Burrage with his students Drew Jackson, Equille Williams and Ugo Onyianta.

The showcase will follow both Penn State students and State College performers as well, Garcia said.

Burrage, a featured guest at the "open mic," teaches a hip-hop class at Penn State that incorporates different cultures.

"The showcase will have tradi-

tioned elements of hip-hop as well as new and fresh elements," Burrage said.

"People will have a new aspect of music incorporating their culture in the music," Burrage said, and hip-hop is a medium that is prevalent in many cultures.

"Hip-hop is a global phenomenon and it's always interesting to see what other artists will take it," Burrage said.

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