



Arts Council

The U.R.I. Arts Council was established 18 years ago by the university president for the purpose of sponsoring, supporting and promoting a wide range of professional attractions encompassing events in the line arts and other media to serve the needs of students. faculty, and the community-at-large, with primary attention being given to the cultural and aesthetic development of U.R.I. students.

In the last few years a number of first's have been initiated, including the annual U.R.I. dazz Festival which has featured such notables as Woody Herman, Marian McPartland, Teddy Wilson. Carmen McRae. Herbie Mann, and the Brubeck Brothers; the establishment of dance residencies, which have featured nationally know companies, such as Kathryn Posin, Bill Evans, and Gus Solomon; and the development of a total summer arts, activities, and entertainment program which runs the gamut from disco to ballet, bluegrass to chamber and summer stock to opera.





Theatre





















URI Theatre 1979-80

The 1979-80 season embodied a shift of emphasis in the Theatre Department's program. In addition to revamping the academic curriculum, the Department's choice of material reflected an attempt to tie its classroom work more closely into its production efforts, a concept that will be developed still further next season.

The Theatre Department presented a wide variety of stage offerings this year in spaces ranging from the \$50 seat Robert E. Will Theatre to a 40 seat converted classroom. The season began with David Eliet, a guest artist from Trinity Square Repertory Company directing Anton Chekhov's 'The Three Sisters'. Conceived as a 'work-in-progress', theatre students gained rich experience from dealing with the challenge of sustained characterizations in Chekhovian realism.

Closing out the fall semester, was the bawdy medieval musical, "Boccaccio." Drawn from the ribald tales of the "Decameron," "Boccaccio" is an uplifting realifirmation of life set amidst plague ravaged Florence. Directed by Broadway actress/dancer Carol Flemming and designed with proper oppulence by Ken Holamon. "Boccaccio" eshibited the full pro-

duction potential of the theatre department.

Developed entirely with an acting class, Kimber Wheelock directed an all student production of August Strindberg's classic one act play, "Miss Julie." Presented in March in the black box of Studio, "Miss Julie" was a strong and moving piece.

The final department offering was a madcap evening of cabaret entertainment called "Little Things We Do Upon the Sly." The material in the cabaret was compiled by the cast under the expert supervision of Director Judith Swift and Musical Director-Arranger Charles Cofone. The audience sat at gingham clothed tables while imbiding their self-provided beverages. Enthusiastically received and sold out for all six performances, "Little Things We Do Upon the Sly" afforded a marvelous showcase for the many and varied talents of the studonte

In addition, theatre student directors and staffs mounted splendid productions of "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown," a program of three one act plays, and two short pieces, "The Orb" and "The Tridget of Greva."



Jane Brawley





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Music

U.R.I. Music Department had an expanded list of performing groups this year.

For singers who like large numbers, there was Ward Abusamra's University Chorus, which performed large choral works (Haydn's Creation and Cherubini's Requiem) with the accompaniment of orchestra, an organ, and wind ensemble. For those who preferred a smaller group, there was Professor Abusamra's Concert Choir, or for more intimate music there was the Madrigal Singers under the direction of Stephen Moore. For choreographed singing, Mark Colozzi directed the Swing Singers, and Mary Langdon's "Schumann Abend" was the outlet for soloists and groups of soloists.

That Ram Band, under the direction of Gene Pollart, provided sparkling shows for football games. Also under Professor Pollart's direction were the newly created Concert Band and the select Wind Ensemble. Smaller instrumental groups included brass, woodwind, and percussion ensembles. For jazz buffs, there were two large jazz ensembles, led part of the year by Hal Crook then by Art Motycka. For orchestra lovers, Joseph Ceo directed the Symphony Orchestra, which featured the world premiere of Geoffrey Gibbs "Captree." Dr. Ceo also had a more select group in his Chamber Orchestra. Also, for string instruments there were various chamber music groups under the direction of John Dempsey.

All in all, Music department provided numerous concerts and recitals, including several faculty and guest concerts. Special mention this year goes to the Rhode Island String Quartet, which got very favorable reviews in their New York debut.



J. DeWaele

L. Ginsberg



S. Dorman











L. Ginsberg



T.J. Pagione



S. Dorman



H. Williams









H. Williams



H. William



