

Chinese opera celebrates costumes, color

By JANE G. BRUST

A carousel of color whirled upon the Rudder Auditorium stage last night, but there was no calliope to be heard.

Instead, the audience was treated to the clanging, clicking and whining of an orchestra which included gong, cymbals, moon guitar and Chinese oboe — not to mention a chin chin, also known as a Chinese bass guitar.

But when the MSC Opera and Performing Arts Society brought the National Chinese Theatre to College Station, the main attraction was not the music, and it was not the acting — it was the costumes.

Performers dressed in vibrant robes of silk and satin, as the performers did.

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Moaning and whining, such as that of the drunken court lady, various shouts of anger and ferocity, and a few conversations in Chinese were the only verbal communication in the opera. However, each character's tone of voice easily conveyed the mood of every scene. Although the announcer gave a brief synopsis of the tale before each opera, I must admit I had difficulty following the stories. However, I was so enchanted with the color and movement of the pagany before me, that it didn't really matter.

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Review

Unknown to most Argentines

Laureate stirs controversy

Buenos Aires, Argentina — The deep wounds of Argentina's bloody war against leftist guerrillas from 1975 to 1982 have been reopened by last month's designation of human rights activist Adolfo Perez Esquivel as the 1980 Nobel Peace laureate.

"It is an intolerable insult to the dignity of our nation," said the Circle of Retired Armed Forces officers said of the surprise choice of the long-haired, sandal-wearing, President Jorge Videla's military government said it "does not approve" of people like Perez Esquivel, who even unapologetically aided terrorists during the security forces fight against them.

But the Peronist Party, the nation's largest, and labor organizations warmly praised the 40-year-old before the Oct. 13th announcement.

"We would have paraded in the streets to show our joy for the honor you received," leaders of the government-chaired General Labor Confederation said. "But Perez Esquivel, a quiet and slight man, said that less confrontation, 'would have forced us into meaningless expressions,' would have forced us into meaningless expressions, 'would have forced us into meaningless expressions,' would have forced us into meaningless expressions."

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"I don't want this peace prize to be deformed into a prize for war," he said.

Perez Esquivel, working out of an old, dusty and rundown office in the San Telmo neighborhood of Buenos Aires, has headed a group called Latin American Peace and Justice since 1974.

Three years earlier Perez Esquivel, who had dedicated most of his time to painting and sculpting, had his first contact with groups in Buenos Aires that studied the teachings of Indian pacifist reformer Mahatma Gandhi.

Behind the scenes taken toward him by the armed forces and the Peronists are sharply differing opinions on what action the government should take regarding an estimated 6,000 missing people, apparent victims of government violence.

Also at stake are the cases of hundreds of prisoners held for up to five years without charges and the fate of children believed to have been born in captivity.

Perez Esquivel, held in prison without charges for 14 months from 1977 to 1978, is particularly concerned with the government's response to Perez Esquivel's winning the peace prize was to point out that he lives quietly and freely in an upper-class residential district of Buenos Aires.

"He would not be living in these conditions if the Argentine situation 'were as bad as it is described by foreign groups,' the government said.

Perez Esquivel later said he and his young son Leonard, over a 10-year period, built the home they live in with Perez Esquivel's two other children and his wife, a retired concert pianist.

Military sources said the selection of Perez Esquivel was clearly a political move designed at condemning Argentina's military regime for its human rights record. The government has refused to provide direct answers to questions about the missing people.

The sources said the peace prize committee did not understand the situation in which alleged human rights violations occurred.

CS delays on wells, child care

By DEBBIE NELSON

Regulation of gas and oil drilling and child care facilities in College Station were the main topics of Thursday night's city council meeting.

Since council members agreed both items need greater consideration, both questions were referred to a future workshop council meeting.

Currently, city officials said, child care facilities go largely unregulated, or operate without permits.

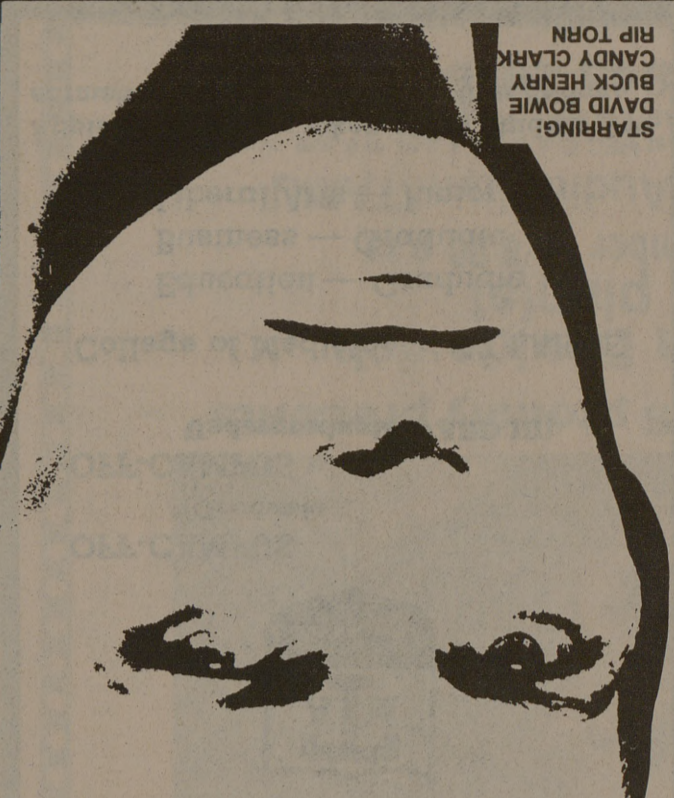
The city's current child care ordinance, drafted in 1967, is largely outdated. City/county health officials said City/county health officials have little time to inspect the centers and there is no required first aid training for employees.

As for regulation of oil and gas drilling within the city, Mayor Gary Hater said the question of oil wells which will be used as a model for the College Station ordinance.

Although wells would probably be kept 300 feet from any residence, Hater said there are many vacant acres within the city where oil wells would not be objectionable.

In other action, the council approved spending \$224,994 for two new fire trucks and an ambulance at the request of the fire department.

Also approved was a \$20,000 transfer to the city's utility fund, needed because building requests have increased and the city is not able to make some sewer taps on time, Bardell said.



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RIP TORN
CANDY CLARK

THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH

Friday & Saturday Midnight

CINEMA 18 II

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MOTHERS DAY
CHARLES KAUFMAN

"I'm so proud of my boys they never forget their mama."

9:55
SAT & SUN
2:15
4:10
6:05
7:55
9:55

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ORDINARY PEOPLE
DOMINO SHERIDAN - MARY TYLER MOORE - JUDY HUSCH - TIMOTHY HUTTON

exceptional performances by its stars. —John Stark, SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER

9:45
SAT & SUN
2:30
5:00
7:30
9:45

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SKYWAY TWIN
ADULTS 2.00
E. 29th 3.00
CHILDREN UNDER 10 FREE!

BLUES BROTHERS
7:15 EAST 11:35
ALSO AT 9:45

SCHIZOID
WEST 10:30

HUMAN EXPERIMENTS
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Staff photo by Jeff Kerber

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BIG RED ONE
SAMUEL FULLER'S
THE
"Ding nos" during the program, but I was a bit too inhibited by the sophisticated OPA audience to actual-ly shout out loud in Rudder Auditorium — so I thought I'd save my response for this review and thus put my opinion of the show in one phrase:

"The Drunken Court Lady," used scarves and fans, and "The Drunken Court Lady," told the tale of an emperor's favorite concubine who had a bit too much rice wine to drink. After a humorous period of fast-to-mouth and dizzy swagging, the court attendants had to help her off the stage. She had to be the most beautiful, most graceful drunk I've ever seen.

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PRIVATE BENJAMIN
GODIE HAWN

9:45
7:25

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"ABSOLUTELY WONDERFUL ENTERTAINMENT"

9:45
7:10

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MIDDLE AGE CRAZY
BRUCE DENN ANN-MARGRET

9:50
7:30

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DEER HUNTER

"A FILM OF GREAT COURAGE AND OVERWHELMING EMOTIONAL POWER. A FEROCY LOVING EMBRACE OF LIFE." —NEWSWEEK, Jack Kroll

MIDNIGHT MOVIE
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