

Aggie Players present 'A Funny Thing'

The Aggie Players will present "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" from Nov. 12 to 15 in Rudder Theater.

Curtain time for each of the performances is 8 p.m.

"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" is a farcical romp through the streets of ancient Rome involving a dealer in courtesans, a Roman nobleman, two young lovers and a host of other characters in a swirling, twisting plot that's full of laughs and surprises.

The Tony Award-winning musical comedy was inspired by the work of Titus Maccius Plautus, an inhabitant of ancient Rome and one of the first great playwrights of low comedy.

Two thousand years af-

ter Plautus wrote his last play, Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart collaborated on "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" after reading everything written by Plautus that they could find.

Another one of Plautus' fans, Stephen Sondheim, provided the music and lyrics.

"A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" premiered at the Shubert Theater in 1962.

The Aggie Players' production will be directed by theater department director Dr. Roger Schultz.

Tickets for the play go on sale Wednesday at the Rudder Box Office and are \$7 for adults and \$5 for students and senior citizens.



Donny Wilson, Reland Garrett and Mark Wilhite share a laugh in the Aggie Players' production of "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum." The play premieres Nov. 12 at 8 p.m. in Rudder Theater.

'Superstar' makes appearance at A&M

Jesus Christ is about to appear at Texas A&M.

This is not a prophecy, but a confirmed MSC Town Hall/Broadway fact.

"Jesus Christ Superstar," called by one critic quite possibly the most magnificently staged show ever assembled, will be at

Rudder Auditorium this Thursday at 8 p.m.

The performance will be the first presentation in the newly resurrected

Town Hall/Broadway series.

The show is about the final seven days of the life of Christ and is a powerful, contemporary version of the age-old story of the man whose passion and humanity are so great that he will lay down his life to save mankind.

The modern setting, state-of-the-art lighting and contemporary costuming make for what another critic has called monumentally ingenious staging.

The rock opera "Jesus Christ Superstar" sold millions of records, became a subsequent concert attraction, a motion picture, a television presentation and finally the current theater piece.

After its first theatrical performance in New York City in 1971, "Jesus Christ Superstar" was greeted with immediate controversy.

Tom O'Horgan's staging was generally considered to be overwhelming and flamboyant.

Attacks by religious groups and some critics of the piece were as staunch as the defenses.

Some people just weren't ready to see the story of Christ's final days told in such a contemporary, lavishly-produced setting.

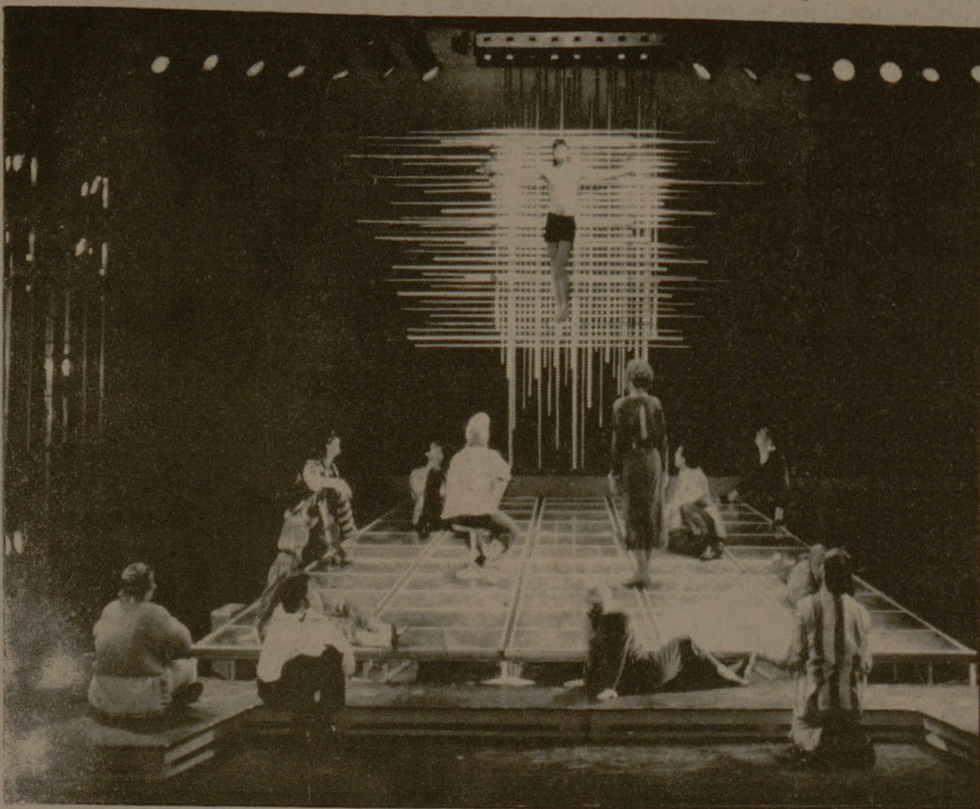
Others loved the show's updated version of the New Testament story.

In spite of all the initial controversy, "Jesus Christ Superstar" has been successful around the world.

The show is on a national tour of 32 states and is presented by Candlewood Productions.

Tickets can be purchased at the Rudder Box Office. Prices are \$21, \$16.75 and \$13.50 for nonstudents, \$16.75, \$14.25 and \$11.50 for students.

— by Tony Cornett



MSC Town Hall/Broadway starts its new season with "Jesus Christ Superstar" at 8 p.m. Thursday in Rudder Auditorium.