Our Comic Sons

by Chris Reed

The Return of the Ill-Fitting Trousers (December 10 - 12) brings a return of two of Theatre Glendon's prodigal sons: Mike and John Erskine-Kellie. This homecoming reuniates the team of Director Steve Devine and Stage Manager Meris Rognalson who, together with the brothers, mounted the epic suburban satire A Day in the Life of Don Mills last season and then the Serious Comedy For Oxymorons revue to the Edmonton Fringe Theatre Festival last summer.

Drama critics from Edmonton's daily papers characterized the Serious Comedy show with such terms as "hit the funnybone at just the right angle" and "practised split-second timing." The result was a series of sold-out bookings. The notoriety the Erskine-Kellies received for their off-stage clashing of co-writer/co-performer egos (not to mention their into-the-morning debauchery), equalled their growing reputation as a formidable comedic presence.

Veteran actress Katherine Greenwood and musician/director Bill Lasovitch worked with the Erskine-Kelly brothers on last year's A Day in the Life of Don Mills at Theatre Glendon and on Wry Toast, part of the Tarragon Theatre's Spring Series. Earlier this fall, the four founded the Serious Comedy for Oxymorons troupe.

"There has been a definite transition from using television formats and allusions to Sigmund Freud as the basis for funny situations to a concentration on more natural, 'normal' situations" - said John. "We're finding the possibilities for comedy within more realistic settings" - concluded Mike.

Along with this new emphasis within the writing has come an increased confidence and theatricality. Using audience-inspired improvisational techniques and key jokes and phrases as a through-line for the revue, the Erskine-Kellies have achieved a performance energy to match the tempo of their work. This was apparent when the Serious Comedy troupe first performed at the Queen St. cabaret Garbo's, and in Oshawa, Now and Then, a show created for their appearance at the Café de la Terrasse in November. The Return of the Ill-Fitting Trousers promises to be no exception.

Ill-Fitting Trousers will feature the members of the Serious Comedy troupe as well as actors from Theatre Glendon. Director Steve Devine is shaping "a fast-moving show" one that "won't give the audience time to rest." Given the talents behind the production, Ill-Fitting Trousers guarantees an evening of comedy for which one size fits all.

Ferry's Atmosphere

by Kenn Ross

Bryan Ferry's latest release, Another Time, Another Place, takes the listener on a journey through the singer/songwriter's past. Recorded live in Manchester, England in 1973, this album is a testament to Ferry's talent as a musician and composer.

Artist
The Alarm
M A D B C

Art
Ferry's Atmosphere
Great Deal