KANATA

CAMELOT ORPHEUS SEQUITUR BYTOWN

CABARET II

OLT LAKESIDE

THEATRE HORIZON

GREAT CANADIAN THEATRE COMPANY

- an evening of entertainment and dancing, CABARET style...

- a chance to meet other amateur theatre groups in the Ottawa-Hull area..

Saturday, 31 January	Opens -8:00 p.m. 1st play -8:30 p.m.	Earl of March School Kanata.

Bar open all evening
No admission fee

One Act plays and mimes by Bytown, Camelot and Kanata ...



For further information: Barrie Kirk 592-2705 (home) (after Jan.13)
596-4713 (work)

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Curtain Call

by susan mc master

"Cabaret II" was the title for five hours of theatre, food, dance, drink and gossip as Ottawa amateur theatre groups got together for a great evening at the Earl of March High School in Kanata last weekend. Organizer Barry Kirk of Kanata explained that 'Amateur theatre groups can help each other a great deal by sharing ideas and resources if we get to know each other better. The first Cabaret last year was a great success - we want to strengthen the friendships that began then.'

And strengthened they were, as the evening rolled happily from theatrical beginning to quick-stepping end. Kanata Theatre, sponsor of "Cabaret II", began the entertainment with a re-staging of "The Sandbox" directed by Helen Hunt. The short black comedy spoofs theatre of the absurd and play production techniques as the characters mouth portentous, pretentious nonsense and direct the lighting man, but underneath the comedy it makes a biting comment on our society's attitude towards old age.

Next came a delightful review by Camelot -- "A Year in the Life of a Little Theatre" -- directed by Josephine Cheeks and with Michael Tremblay at the piano. Familiar problems with, for example, a set designer who wants to use a zed-shaped stage, and a leading man who can't rehearse on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and a leading lady who can't rehearse on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, had the audience shaking with laughter and recognition.

Finally, Bytown entertained us with music by Pat Current and Bob Lalonset, followed by an improvisation game often used at Bytown workshops. By then the bar had been open for a while, and a request for volunteers drew a response of more than fifteen enthusiastic participants. The three short skits they produced in under ten minutes showed all the gaiety of a relaxed evening among friends, plus the professional spontaneity of skilled performers.

A generous buffet of sweets and sandwiches provided the crowd with energy for two hours of dancing and socializing after that -- an excellent end to a useful and enjoyable evening.

There were nine theatre groups represented at "Cabaret II": Kanata Theatre, of course, plus Camelot and Bytown; the long-established Ottawa Little Theatre, Orpheus and Lakeside; and three newer groups, Sequitur, The Great Canadian Theatre Company, and Theatre Horizons from Aylmer. More about these next week.

In the meantime, Ottawa Musictheatre is holding auditions for its July production of "West Side Story" in the Daly Building, 386 Mackenzie Hall at 7 p.m. February 18 to 19. Director Chris Darby, Choreographer Rod Scott and Music Director Charles Charles need dancers, singers and actors from 16 to 25 years of age. "You're Gonna Be Alright, Jamie Boy" by Camelot is playing at J.S. Woodsworth Secondary School from February 11 to 14, and "Rats Variety" by the R.A. Theatrical Society is on at the R.A. Centre February 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28, and March 5 and 6. For children, "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" by the Ottawa Children's Theatre is playing at Rideau High School on February 14.

T. V. FACTS - OTTAWA

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Theatre changes production dates

The number of performances has been increased to four (Wednesday - Saturday) for both this presentation and the last play of the season. "Move Over Mrs Markham" by Ray Cooney and John Champman. This play will now run from 12 - 15 May. The reason for this change is the steady increase in the size of the audiences, and especially the popularity of Friday and Saturday evenings. Kanata Theatre is encouraging people to attend on either Wednesday or Thursday - you will get good seats much more easily.

Kanata Theatre has announced that it has changed the production dates of the performances of "Antigone" and "Love's the Best Doctor". These plays by Anouilh and Moliere, will be performed one week earlier than originally scheduled. The new dates are 10-13 March. This will be more convenient for those who may have holiday plans for the spring school break.