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Final masquer show caps lively fine arts season

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

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The last performance of "The Entertainer" Sunday (Aug. 14) at 8:30 p.m. in the Masquer Theater rings down the curtain on the ninth season of the Masquer Summer Theater at the University of Montana.

The UM serving of John Osborne's adult theatrical fare stars Georgia Tree, Billings; Duncan Crump, Missoula; Gloria Sykee, Chicago, Ill., and Roger DeBourg, Red Lodge, as the entertainer of the title.

"The Entertainer" has proved as big at the box office as the season's three previous shows, each of which broke summer attendance records, according to Richard H. James Jr., director of UM summer theater.

James attributes the season's financial and artistic success to the capabilities of his technical and design staff and to the talents of visiting directors S. Joseph Nassif and Tom Gruenewald.

Nassif, associate director of the Masquer summer program, directed the season opener, "Hay Fever" by Noel Coward, and "The Bartered Bride," a comic opera by Smetana. Profs. John Lester and David Whitwell were musical directors of the latter show, which featured soprano Marilyn Zschau of the Metropolitan Opera National Company in the leading role.

Gruenewald directed "The Rose Tattoo" by Tennessee Williams and "The Entertainer." Both Nassif and Gruenewald hold directing credits at theaters throughout the country and are also members of Actors' Equity.
Montana's high school science teachers, the Station is of service to Montana and the nation as a result of the research conducted there.

One new research endeavor begun at the Station this summer is the geological study of the bottom of Flathead Lake, being conducted by Dr. Arnold J. Silverman, UM associate professor of geology.

Another research project under the direction of Dr. Arden R. Gaufin, professor of zoology at the University of Utah and assistant director of the Station, will establish a baseline of pollution data for Flathead Lake and the rivers which feed the lake. This study will provide the information needed as a base for determining the extent of future pollution as it occurs.

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL A visiting researcher, Dr. Ben Foote from Kent State University, is spending his second summer at the Station studying methods of biological control of snail fever.

The snail study, begun by Cornell University five years ago, has direct significance to Montana, in that Schistosomiasis or snail fever sometimes attacks agricultural animals. The disease is also the world's number one health problem and is one which affects the American fighting forces in Viet Nam.

How does so much get done in so little time, an observer might well ask? And the response is a quick one--a lot of hard work. The facilities of the Station play an important hand in getting the work done, as does its smooth-running operation.

The Station's first permanent brick building, built in 1911 for laboratory purposes, was torn down last fall to make way for a new laboratory to be constructed after this summer's session. Plans for the new lab are being reviewed now by the NSF, which is supporting its construction with a $115,000 grant to the University.

CROWDED CONDITIONS The Station contains over 60 individual buildings, but it is hindered in its work by crowded conditions. Dr. Hoffmann said it operates over capacity: "The Station is simply saturated!"
Public entertainment offered by the School of Fine Arts last week included performances by camp groups and a recital by baritone Douglas G. Manning, Kalispell, who will receive the master of music degree at the close of summer session.

The excitement generated by the 18th-Century Fine Arts Festival in May carried over to the summer as words of praise for the ambitious festival continued to drift back to Missoula from all over the country. Latest mention of the festival to reach the campus is a piece in the Johnsonian News Letter, published at Columbia University, which commented on "a program of truly admirable scope" and ended with: "This is only a sampling from a most impressive program, which we hope will move other institutions to emulation."

The refreshing breezes stirred up by the festival continued to circulate on campus, and despite budgetary limitations and various other vicissitudes Dean Bolen and his staff managed to make the lively arts livelier than ever through the long, hot summer.