

Avant-Garde Theater At Otterbein Tuesday

An evening of Avant-Garde Theater, the final event of the Otterbein College Festival of Arts, will be presented Tuesday, March 28, at 8:15 p.m. in Cowan Hall on the Otterbein College campus.

The plays to be presented are Eugene Ionesco's "The Bald Soprano" by the Otterbein College Theater, and three Gertrude Stein one-act plays—"In a Garden," "Look and Long" and "Three Sisters Who Are Not Three Sisters" by the Ohio State University Theater.

NO ADMISSION will be charged. There will be no reserved seats. The performances will be followed by a discussion and critique. The one-act plays to be presented are examples of contemporary experimental theater—plays that are indescribable, thought-provoking, humorous, tragic, farcical and unusual.

Eugene Ionesco has recently become one of the most popular Avant-Garde playwrights the world over. Though he is Rumanian born, Ionesco has resided in Paris since the end of World War II. "The Bald Soprano" was first presented in Paris in 1950, and in New York in 1954.

Other well-known Ionesco plays include "The Lesson," "The Chairs," and the current Broadway hit, "The Rhinoceros." Ionesco calls his plays, "Anti-Plays."

"**THE BALD SOPRANO**" revolves around the inability of man to communicate with his fellow man. The play is under the direction of junior speech student Richard Davis.

The three Gertrude Stein plays are typical of the kind of literature associated with the author. All three plays last about 30 minutes.

The Ohio State University Theater director, Richard Wickman, describes the plays as interesting, funny, sad, ridiculous,

non-understandable, entertaining, unusual, modern, ancient, etc. In short, "Gertrude Stein is not just Avant-Garde," she is also "far out."

"Bald Soprano" Cast Selected by Dick Davis

The cast of "The Bald Soprano," a one act avant-garde play, to be presented on March 28, has been announced by student director Richard Davis.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith will be played by Gordon Greg and Miss Carol Alban. Mr. and Mrs. Martin will be played by Richard Spicer and Miss Sandra Brenfleck. Mary, the maid, will be portrayed by Miss Susan Gallagher. Staurt Sanders will take the part of the fireman.

"The Bald Soprano" by Eugene Ionesco, will be one of four one-act plays presented on Tuesday, March 28. Ohio State University will present three plays by Gertrude Stein. They are "In a Garden," "The Three Sisters Who Were Not Three Sisters" and "Look and Long".

Following the production of these avantgarde plays there will be a discussion and critique in which members of the audience can ask questions.

"The term avant-garde literally means front runner,"

stated Professor Charles Dodrill of the Speech Department.

"The one-act plays to be presented here are contemporary experimental plays. The conclusion or the moral is anything the reader wishes it to be."

"The United States is far behind many countries in the use of this art form. For instance, 'The Bald Soprano' was produced in Paris in 1950, but it is just now beginning to become popular here," continued Professor Dodrill.

OC, OSU One-Act Plays Will End Festival of Arts

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and the current Broadway hit, "The Rhinoceros."

The three Gertrude Stein plays are typical of the kind of literature which we associate with her. The Ohio State University director, Mr. Richard Wickman, describes the plays as interesting, funny, sad, ridiculous, non-understandable, etc. In short, "Gertrude Stein is not just Avant-Garde," she is also "far-out."

THUR., MAR. 23, 1961 Columbus Dispatch

Avant-Garde Plays Listed

WESTERVILLE, OHIO—An evening of Avant-Garde Theater, the final event of the Otterbein College Festival of Arts, will be presented next Tuesday evening, March 28, at 8:15 p.m., in Cowan Hall on the Otterbein College campus. The plays to be presented are: Eugene Ionesco's "The Bald Soprano" by the Otterbein College Theater, and three Gertrude Stein one-act plays—"In a Garden," "Look and Long," "Three Sisters Who Are Not Three Sisters" by the Ohio State University Theater.

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Drama Festival Held On Otterbein Campus

The first Ohio College Drama Festival was held at Otterbein College on Saturday, April 22. Plays were presented by Wittenberg University, Kenyon College, Bowling Green State University, Ohio State University, Ohio University and Otterbein College.

The Ohio State University production of Edward Albee's "The Zoo Story" received a Superior award. The Otterbein College Theater production of Eugene Ionesco's "The Bald Soprano," directed by junior speech major Richard Davis, received an Excellent award. The remaining plays were all rated as "Good."

Prof. Charles Dodrill, Director of Theater at Otterbein, served as chairman and host for the Ohio College Association of College Teachers of Speech sponsored event. Prof. Fred Thayer was responsible for coordinating the backstage activities; Miss Nancy Myers, of the national dramatic honorary, Theta Alpha Phi, was responsible for coordinating Otterbein student participation in the event.