

MIDWEST SIDE STORY

A Fannish Musical
for
MINICON 12

Leamington Hotel
Minneapolis, Minn.
April 9, 1977

Written And Performed By
Members Of The
Minnesota Science Fiction Society
And The Usual Gang Of Idiots

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DRAMATIS PERSONABLE

Fanzine Fans:

Maria : Renee Valois
Anita : Susan Ryan
Utility Bill: Mark Digre
Calophon : Louie Spooner
Umpkin : Mike Wood
Ego Scan : Karen Johnson
Backspace : Eileen Maloney
Munchy : DeeDee Lessinger

Convention Fans:

Tony : Ken Hoyme
Riff : Jerry Stearns
Comeback : Jan Appelbaum
Filk : Caryl Bucklin
Faunch : LaLec Kerr
Gittar : Dick Tatge
Charlie : Greg Ketter (con staff)
Mickey : Liz LaVelle (con staff)

Others:

Ben Bova : Gordon R. Dickson
Alien : Rick Gellman
Peter Pretonticus : Doug Friauf
AntiFan : Denny Lien
Photographer : Al Kuhfeld
Autograph Secker : Dean Gahlon

Musical accompaniment by David Emerson.

Written By
Susan Ryan, Denny Lien, and Jerry Stearns
And By
Ruth Berman, Mark Digre, David Emerson, Ken Fletcher, and Dick Tatge
And By
Karen Johnson, Larry Nichols, Renee Valois, Reed Waller, and Sally
From An Idea By
Susan Ryan and Sandy Allen
With Moose Joke By
David Stever

Director and Producer : Susan Ryan
Dramatic Consultant : Joel Lessinger
Associate Music Director : David Emerson
Associate Choreographer : Sarah Sue Wilde
Video Engineer : Scott Imes
Set Construction : Greg Ketter
Set Design : David Egge
Assistant Drama Director,
Pro Tem : Ken Hoyme
Stage Manager, Props,
Program Book & Crudzine: Denny Lien

The play takes place in an alternate dimension, very similar to our own, but with some differences--the Bozo Bus Building has a C and a D side; Ben Bova has a slushpile reader; fanzine fans and convention fans are warring camps; and Minneapolis has actually gotten around to holding the 1973 Worldcon--and in 1973, at that.

ACT ONE

Scene One:

Time: The day before BozoCon--the Minneapolis in 73 worldcon--opens.
Place: The Bozo Bus Building, 5D--Maria's apartment.
Action: A BozoApa collation, and the infringement of convention fandom upon fanzine fandom.

Scene Two:

Time: The same as the preceding scene.
Place: The Bozo Bus Building, 5C--Tony's apartment.
Action: A precon party, and the infringement of fanzine fandom upon convention fandom.

ACT TWO

Scene One:

Time: The first day of the convention--early evening.
Place: BozoCon--the registration area.
Action: Two worlds meet--or three? (Or four?)

Scene Two:

Time: Immediately following.
Place: BozoCon--the party suite.
Action: Mundanes, villains, and star-crossed lovers pass in the night.

ACT THREE

Scene One:

Time: Later that evening.
Scene: BozoCon--outside Tony's door.
Action: Growth, deterioration, and Just Being Silly.

Scene Two:

Time: Sunday morning.
Scene: BozoCon--the main lobby.
Action: Despair, rebirth, catharsis, synthesis (and a bit more of Just Being Silly).

SECRET DECODER ~~XXX~~ PAGE FOR CRYPTIC REFERENCES

- APA Amateur Press Association: a group of fans producing apazines, i.e., fanzines (generally small and personalized) for distribution primarily or solely within the group.
- Acronym Fund This dimension's version of TAFF (Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund), DUFF (Down Under Fan Fund), etc.--a fannish exchange program sending fans selected by voting contributors to conventions in other countries.
- AntiFan An incredibly Evil and Narsty-type Villain in Australian fannish lore, out to destroy all fandom in as violent a manner as possible.
- Beam, Jim See under "Jim Beam."
- Blog What was being consumed in large quantities at late last night's party. It has been known to cause Being Silly.
- Bozo What Minneapolis Fandom is fond of noting that we're all, on this bus.
- Comment Hooks Comment-inspiring lines within fanzines.
- Crudzine A fanzine of sorts (derivation obvious).
- Egoscanning Scanning a fanzine in search of one's own name in print.
- Etchings Come up to our art show room and we'll show you some, heh heh.
- FIAWOL Fandom Is A Way Of Life. (But then, what isn't?)
- Fannish All-purpose adjective describing activities and attitudes of fans.
- Fanzine An amateur magazine produced by a fan; dittoed, mimeoed, printed, or what-have-you. Circulation may range from near-zero up to thousands; quality from the supra-professional down to abominable; material from anything sideways to anything else.
- Fhan Ultra-fannish (also "Faaan," etc.); the opposite of Sercon.
- Foster's Lager The best-known (to outsiders) Australian beer; well-known because Australians keep the good stuff and export this to Americans, who will drink anything.
- Jerry Pournelle On windows, see INFERNO, by Larry Niven and Pournelle.
- Jim Beam See under "SMOOOTH."
- LOCing Writing a Letter Of Comment.

