Short run sees ‘Sopranos’ play to a full house

Show written as pointless comedy

By KATHERINE DAVIS

TCU Theatre’s sold-out presentations of “The Bald Soprano,” by Eugene Ionesco, began Thursday and will run until Saturday night.

“The show is about people letting their trees become empty,” director Kevin Long said. “However, it is comedy, so it’s not heavy-handed or trying to preach. It is about laughing at ourselves.”

Scenic designer and technical director Philip Zielke said he agreed. “The show is written to reflect the pointlessness in English society. As you can tell through the show, almost everything that is done all the way down to the dialogue is pointless,” Zielke said.

Zielke said the show is entirely student-directed and designed with TCU theatre faculty acting as advisors. “The idea behind a show like this is that the students get to run the entire production,” Zielke said. “We told them to do it by themselves. We are not going to be here to help them a lot because we have had some good training, and the faculty would not put someone in the position of not having the knowledge of how to do something like this.”

The remaining shows, Friday at 5:30 p.m. and Saturday at 2:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. sold out, with Long attributing to the small space of the TCU Studio Theatre located in the Walsh Center for Performing Arts. “It is frustrating,” Zielke said. “Because the show is small, and the run of the show is short, not many people get a chance to see it. The show is so short, not many people get a chance to see it.”

“They are usually good student productions,” Zielke said.

The director of the festival, Lauren Sokol, said the opportunity to exposed so many people to the arts is a great experience.

“Orchestra members said they did not take the opportunity for granted. "We are blessed to have such a great music program at TCU," Gerrish said.

He was grateful for the generous contributions of the TCU and American Airlines covered the travel expenses for the group.

“The orchestra did travel abroad. It was not only fun and exciting,” Gerrish said, “but it was a very pre- senting a music so talented, so unexpected, and I think we surpassed those expectations.”

Orchestra members said they did not take the oppor tuity for granted. "We are grateful because we know the cultural experiences would be great and for the students who attended. "The students not only performed, but they were immersed in another culture," Gerrish said.

The director of the festival asked the group to perform after attending one of their concerts at TCU. "It was a very pre- senting a music so talented, so unexpected, and I think we surpassed those expectations."