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Dreamcoat (1980)

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Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Review

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ON TO OTHER THINGS...OVER AT PROVIDENCE COLLEGE THEY'RE DOING THE MUSICAL "JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT" BY WEBBER AND RICE ..THE PEOPLE WHO GAVE US "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR" AND THE CURRENT HIT "EVITA."

"JOSEPH" TELLS THE STORY OF THE BIBLICAL JOSEPH IN MUSIC THAT RANGES FROM BROADWAY TO SOFT ROCK WITH STOPS ALONG THE WAY FOR COUNTRY AND WESTERN, CALYPSO AND EVEN A BIT OF BREL.

OR SUNG
MOST OF THE STORY ITSELF IS TOLD/BY NARRATORS AT EITHER SIDE OF THE STAGE, WHILE THE COSTUMES RANGE FROM VAGUELY BIBLICAL TO VILLAGE PEOPLE. AT TIMES ALL THIS WORKS: DAN FOSTER TELLING JACOB OF JOSEPH'S "DEATH" WITH "ONE MORE ANGEL IN HEAVEN," A SONG ROY ROGERS WOULD HAVE LOVED.... PETER CAMERON SINGING "CLOSE EVERY DOOR," OR PETER THOMSON AND ~~KNEX~~ OTHERS SINGING ABOUT ~~THE~~ "THOSE CANAAN DAYS.".....DANNY OTERO DOES WELL AS ONE OF THE NARRATORS AND THE MOOD OF THE PIECE FITS THE YOUNG PERFORMERS WELL.

I CAN'T REALLY COMMENT ON ANY OF THE WOMEN IN THE CAST. THE SPEAKER SYSTEM GAVE THEM ALL A SHRILLNESS THAT APPROACHED EAR-SPLITTING AT TIMES..AND THE WONDERFUL ECHOES IN HARKINS HALL KEPT MOST OF THEIR LYRICS UNINTELLIGABLE.

THE SHOW ITSELF SHOWS ITS CREATORS STILL LOOKING FOR A FORM. THE USE OF NARRATORS TO TELL ^{ITS} ~~X~~ STORY ROBS THE PLAY OF ANY REAL INTERPLAY BETWEEN ITS CHARACTERS.....THE PERFORMERS MUST ACT WHILE SOMEONE ELSE EXPLAINS WHAT'S GOING ON....AND THE MANY STYLES OF MUSIC DON'T REALLY GELL HERE. STILL "JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT" HAS ITS MOMENTS AT PROVIDENCE COLLEGE AND THE LARGE CAST DOES ~~SEKK~~ QUITE WELL WITH THE MATERIAL. IT WILL BE PERFORMED AGAIN TONIGHT AND TOMORROW NIGHT..AT 8.
I'M JIM SEAVOR, WEAN NEWS.