



Local News Dept.

"UBU ROI"

A surprising and interesting play indeed. "UBU ROI" was performed two weeks ago in Saint-Denis and was very successful.

It is an adaptation of the play written by Alfred Jarry at the end of the nineteenth century. It is an enormous farce (~~the game of the farcical~~ ~~theatre~~) which presents grotesque characters who seem not to be real: they are very fat and rather disgusting. The story takes place in Poland. A king's officer "Père UBU" wants to be powerful and he gives battle to the king Venceslas. Then, he becomes the king UBU and establishes an unlikely government: he kills a lot of people and cares ^{but} little about it.

A strange and fascinating stage set which shows a great effort of imagination. It is ^a modest composition: only piled wooden boxes ^{and} dirty rags instead of curtains. Even the costumes correspond to the ugliness of the characters. All the characters wear masks which emphasize ^{the} impression of unreality.

The stage effects and the diction are very well done, everything seems to be executed with ease, as does ^{the role of} king UBU in particular.

The play lasts three hours, but we cannot be bored during ~~and~~ the play, it is so enthralling!

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