

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.

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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

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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.

Lasers If you don't already know about these, you probably don't want to.

Lime Jello Ask Joe Haldeman about this.

Miskatonic U. Academic center of dusty arcane knowledge and dusty arcane professors.

Mundane All-purpose adjective describing that 99.9999 plus per cent of the known physical universe which does not happen to be fannish.

Neos Neofans; rookies, Fresh blood.

OE Official Editor; most common name for the chief (and usually only) officer of an APA.

Oneshot A fanzine intended to be produced once and once only. As it tends to be produced on the spur of the moment at parties, most recipients tend to find once sufficient.

Perry Rhodan If you don't already know about these, believe us--you don't want to.

Quarter What you must enclose with your submission to AMAZING or FANTASTIC if you want editor Ted White's slushpile readers to look at it.

SCA Society for Creative Anacronism; a group dedicated to recreating the Middle Ages as they should have been.

SFRA Science Fiction Research Association. An academic organization (sometimes very academic. . .).

SMOOTH See under "Tucker."

Sci-Fi A term much beloved by The Media and much despised by most fans. (When you say that, smile--better yet, don't say that.)

Sercon Serious and Constructive; a compliment or an insult, or both, depending on intention and views of the user.

Slushpile Reader Reader in charge of examining unsolicited manuscripts to the professional magazines. They tend to die young.

Tucker See under "Beam, Jim."

Zeppelins The only fannish flying machines. Airplanes are Right Out.

