**Review: Galway Youth Theatre's 'As You Like It'**

Normally during the Arts Festival it is all too easy to miss a really good show because you are - quite literally - overwhelmed by all that's on offer. There is no excuse, however, for missing Galway Youth Theatre's excellent production of Shakespeare's 'As You Like It', which continues at Nun's Island Arts Centre until Saturday. If you happen to be allergic to the Bard, don't let this put you off, because the whole thing has been subtly modernised. The clever direction by David Grant and the music by David Purnell has made this production one of the real highlights of this year's Festival.

You will recognise some of the cast from recent Galway Youth Theatre productions. John Raddy plays a marvellously over-the-top Orlando, and Shane Gatley tackles the challenge of playing the two Dukes with aplomb.

But it is Lucy Heaney and Lisa O'Reilly as Rosalind and Touchstone who really carry the show. Special mention must also be made of three members of the large cast. Niamh McGrath has another chance to show off her comic talents as both Charles the Wrestler and Corin. My personal favourite character was Monsieur Jacques, played with lovely hauteur and panache by Lisa Dwan. Finally, the fabulous John Kelly as the Duke of Athens McCaig was surprisingly us all. Tickets for 'As You Like It' are available at Galway Arts Centre (091 565568).

**The 8th Film Fleadh Awards**

**New Irish Shorts**

1st Place - 'Pips' by Naoise Barry; set in Chicago 1954 with a nuclear strike imminent.
2nd Place - 'The Resurrection' by Gabriel Levy (all three shorts from Dun Laoighaire College)

**At the Cinema**

**The Truth About Cats and Dogs**: Occasionally a film like this comes along with a naff title and on the surface a dire premise, but actually a lovely little film, well worth passing all the sickly sweet posters in the foyer to see. That's the reason we insist on doing our film release at the Omniplex. Director Michael Lehman has produced a little gem. One or two critics have likened it to a female 'Caddyshack'. Absurdly, the film is set in some affecting nostalgia. Jannearo Garofolo is Aby, a Radio Vet who occupies the living room sofa while Thurman has great fun playing the role.

**The Holmes Brothers**

**Aplomb**