

# Take in "Taken In"

## Another Must See by Richmond Triangle Players

By Tom Gallub



The latest offering of the Richmond Triangle Players, John W. Lowell's "Taken In", has opened at the Fieldens' Cabaret Theater. To be honest, I've been sort of wondering how it would be received, given that "When Pigs Fly," RTP's the last piece, was such an overwhelming success and a tough act to follow. Not to worry tho', this play is remarkable by its difference, and totally enjoyable.

Directed by Mike Gooding, "Taken In" shows us the interaction between a young street hustler and an older man. This is not a love story in the traditional sense, but rather a yarn about how two vastly different people attempt to form a relationship.

Jay McCullough, a veteran of many productions both on and off stage, is cast as Marc, a middle aged man who meets Danny, a young street boy played by Alan Condrey. The play centers on the attraction that these two have for each other, and the problems they encounter on the road to building a relationship together.

Danny is streetwise and brash, but with an underlying tenderness and sensitivity that convinces the audience of his attraction to Marc. A newcomer to RTP, he

successfully interprets all the facets of his role, from the crude crotch grabbing "come on" so typical of street hustlers to the defensive and barely disguised hurt of frustrated affection.

McCullough is both capable and convincing, with his obvious affection for Danny undermined by mistrust and trepidation which he quite simply can not control. He relates their story in a past tense narrative style, building up to an ending that the audience really has sensed from the beginning of the play.

This play is a collision of two worlds, invoking feelings and sentiments that I suppose will differ vastly depending on the age and mindset of the viewer. One thing that everyone will agree upon however is that it is fine entertainment, consistent with what we have grown to expect from the Richmond Triangle Players. Don't miss it.

**Fieldin's Cabaret Theater - playing October 4,5,6,7,12,13,19,20. (804) 346-8113 for reservations.**