

One Man's Hollywood Dream Told Only In Voice

Theatre Review

By ROBERT LEWIS

Lewis John Carlino's *Telemachus Clay*, by *Three River Theatre* at the Earl Arts Centre

Three River Theatre's Telemachus Clay, by Lewis John Carlino, is *Under Milk Wood* meets *Forrest Gump* – a man's amazing journey told only through voice.

Telemachus (borrowing his name from Odysseus' son who grew up not knowing his father) leaves his hometown and his sweetheart in the pursuit of making his idealistic dream a reality; to become a Hollywood screenwriter.

On his search for success, he meets a wonderful array of interesting characters. He also stumbles on the 'beat scene'.

Telemachus Clay, or *A Collage For Sound and Voices*, as Carlino subtitled his work, takes the audience on an imaginative and emotional journey through the use of voice and limited gesture alone. *Three River Theatre's* clever, dynamic, delectable and skilful staging of the beat generation piece sees the 11 actors seated, facing the audience and acting without leaving their seats.

Geoff Dobson is wonderful as the naïve, simple, yet determined Telemachus; Stuart Loone, Jeff Hayes and Chris Rattray execute well-rounded characters; Luke Warn, David Quinn and Lyn Evans's physicalities were sharp and expressive; Kate Routley. Kellie Constable and Sophie Hope's truthfulness gave an earnest touch.

Stan Gottschalk as The Prophet is mesmerizing as he draws the audience in to the beat generation environment of the '50s and '60s through colourful, rhythmic language.

Telemachus Clay is at the Earl Arts Centre at 8pm until Sunday.