

Warm humor in '6 Rms Riv Vu'

By BARBARA MICHALS

"6 Rms Riv Vu." Bob Randall's warm and witty comedy, is the current presentation of the Farmington Players. Their very charming, accomplished production runs Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings through March 26.

An apartment ad offering "6 rms riv vu" brings together Anne Miller and Paul Friedman, both married. While inspecting the empty apartment they are accidentally locked in. As they chat to pass the time, the two discover they have much more in common than just their need for a larger apartment.

Both are a bit zany. Both feel a bit locked-in by their marriages to straight-laced spouses, though neither has ever been unfaithful. They know the same restaurants, hairdressers, college friends. Anne's psychoanalyst is Paul's analyst's analyst.

The attraction is inevitable. Both are finding their lives rather dull. Her husband's away on business; his wife's busy with a woman's lib meeting. The world around them is crazy. So why not try and join in?

IN BETWEEN getting to know one another, Anne and Paul make some humorous attempts at screaming for help. Their frantic pleas are ignored by hard-boiled city dwellers who don't

want to get involved, who value an empty parking space more than a human being in trouble.

Ultimately, their affair is as abbreviated as the apartment ad that brought them together. Guilt quickly becomes the ruling emotion. Paul complains that as children of the '50s they are caught between generations; raised in their parents' stricter morality of the '40s, they are doomed to remain spectators of the new morality.

In the lead roles, Ceci Orman and Vestus Spindler III both do outstanding jobs. They are thoroughly likable and at ease in their parts and thus totally convincing.

Jan Clements is appropriately brisk and businesslike as Paul's wife Janet. Stu Orman is quite competent as Anne's husband Richard, though perhaps not quite stodgy enough despite his vested suit.

As Eddie, the building superintendent, Tim Phenehy gets a lot of laughs by parodying Schneider, the "super" on television's "One Day at a Time." Each time Phenehy appeared members of the audience murmured "Schneider" in complimentary tones.

DOROTHY SHEIMAN plays the group's rumpy neighbor across the hall with understatement, making the character more believable if not as hilarious as portrayed in other productions.



Paul Friedman (Vess Spindler of Farmington) and Ann Miller (Ceci Orman of West Bloomfield) co-star in "6 Rms Riv Vu."

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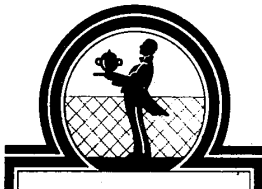
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