

It'll take some doing...

THE ENTERTAINMENT: Mike Dickman, Kenny Henson and John Oakley-Smith in concert. Late night presentation (Blue Fox Theatre, Rosebank).
THE PROMOTER: The Company.

The Company, forever broadening its horizons, should persevere with its present policy of providing an outlet for the more experimental forms of music.

I feel that, despite the relative success of Monday night's late get-together of the "heads," it is still going to take some doing to make Johannesburg audiences more aware of experimental sounds.

Most young people have succumbed to the dictates of commerce and have been weaned, through marketing methods, on a steady diet of commercial

REVIEW

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music. The chances are that the progressive material dished out by Mike Dickman, Kenny Henson and John Oakley-Smith, and the cool detachment that accompanies it, will be difficult to accept. The whole thing is almost geared to a feeling of self-indulgence.

But these concerts should be encouraged because, despite only sporadic excursions onto the concert stage, the musicians have clearly shown that their creativity has not been dulled.

The interplay between Dickman's electric guitar

and Henson's acoustic instrument during Henson's original "Leikeus Suite in Eight Movements" proved a disciplined exercise in deft fingerwork.

Dickman's delicate interpretation of Dylan's "Lonesome Hobo" added new depth to the number, elevating it to a more cerebral level.

And Ramsay Mackay's writing, evident in his "Big Brother John" and "The Kid Came From Nazareth," though smacking of pretentiousness, was well handled by the team.

It's a pity I wasn't always able to follow some of the material, mainly through an indistinct mouthing of the lyrics and a reluctance to introduce the various numbers, and thus cannot fully assess its quality.

I think one should still pop along to the Blue Fox, if only to see how the other half lives.