

## Pretty Faces Is A Pretty Show

by Adele Furman

*Pretty Faces*, a new musical comedy by Robert W. Cabell, is now being performed at the Actor's Outlet Theatre, 120 West 28th St., in the city. *Pretty Faces* is a backstage musical set during a Beauty Pageant, for those who are "large and lovely." The pageant is a backdrop for the stormy, tempestuous romance between the pageant co-hosts; a muscular M.C. and a Hollywood diva (who can be described as a cross between Oprah Winfrey and Barbara Mandrell) and what happens to the six zaftig would-be beauty queens as they vie for the title of "Miss Global Glamour Girl."

The overlapping themes are ones given lip service in this country, where "thin is beautiful." All we have to do is look at the covers of magazines to see the type of figure that is presented to the public as beautiful. And, most people, particularly young girls, buy the advertising as gospel. This show states that fat woman can be beautiful; beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and, inside beauty is really where it's all about.

Lynn Halverson and Charles Mandracchia are the co-hosts, fighting their way to love. The contestants are Margaret Dyer, Kathleen R. Kelly, Liz Leisek, Amy Jo Phillips, Amy Ryder and Heather A. Stokes. We get to meet each one of them in a poor man's *Chorus Line*. They are splendid. The nervous choreographer and director of the Pageant is portrayed effectively by Ron Meier, and Michael Winther is most appealing as his assistant, shy and eager to fall in love.

Gene Foote directed and choreographed *Pretty Faces*, and his experience keeps the show hopping. Robert W. Cabell is both the author and composer. His music is snappy, familiar, and the lyrics are clever. Outstanding is the "Solo For the Telephone" sung by Margaret Dyer. The girls sing Soliloquies throughout entitled "42-32-42" and the melody goes with you after the curtain goes down.

*Pretty Faces* is a cute musical, a good Off Broadway performance, and offers audiences a fun night. Performances are Tues.-Sun. at 8 p.m.; Sat. and Sun. at 3 p.m.

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Contestants for Beauty Pageant are Margaret Dyer, Kathleen R. Kelly, Liz Leisek, Amy Jo Phillips, Amy Ryder and Heather A. Stokes