

# THEATRE notes

## **Cu'Fu? Gesundheit!**

**Cu'Fu? • Santa Maria Goretti Centre • Apr. 23-24** It's always interesting to see a performer arrive in town who hasn't come up through the usual university-trained B.F.A. path, or who has developed a show aimed at an audience other than the usual gang of Citadel first-nighters.

Take Charly Chiarelli, who (like practically half the *Vue Week*-editorial department) was born in the humble, one-theatre town of Hamilton, Ontario. Chiarelli's stage background is as a storyteller rather than a conventional actor—he's one of the founders, in fact, of the Toronto Festival of Storytelling—and he shaped his funny and poignant anecdotes about growing up working-class and Italian into a one-man show called *Cu'Fu?*, which he has performed in theatres and union halls across Canada.

Its odd-looking title is dialectal Italian for "Who did it?"—"a Sicilian's response to life's perplexing moments," the press release helpfully informs me. But even though the show is partly delivered in Italian and partly in English, May Week Committee co-chair Don Bouzek says Chiarelli's meaning is always perfectly clear. "This is a show that touches all the bases, that *anyone* can relate to," he says. "But this kind of show, that comes out of a specific cultural background, is something we don't see often in Edmonton."