‘Lady’s not for burning’ opens

The romantic comedy "The Lady's Not For Burning" opens at the Interim Performing Arts Center on Thursday at 8 p.m.

The three-act comedy was written by Christopher Fry.

Director Bill Hutson, associate professor of theater arts, said this particular work by Fry is a challenge and delight to actors because it is truly music set to words.

Fry's vocabulary has often been described as spectacular. One New York critic said that "rarely has there been such exuberance of language, such rollicking rhetoric, such delight in balancing high fooling with real feeling."

The scenes of "The Lady's Not For Burning" present a piece that is a play on words; his people are not specific personalities as much as they are figures of speech.

The time period for this comedy is loosely medieval. The plot is simple. An ex-soldier, Thomas Mendip (played by Ted Lane), has seen too much of life and wants to die. A so-called witch, Jennet Jourdemanaye (portrayed by Amy Harmon), is condemned to death but wants to live.

Fry presents his reasons for living and dying with a combination of passionate protest, teasing and comic disdained authority.

"What a powerful thing metaphor," says the hero—and the hero proves it.

The stage design is the B.F.A. production of Timothy Combs. He is a theater stagecraft and set design student. He studied under Creighton's technician, Bill Van Deest.

Margaret E. Kallman designed and produced the costumes for this year's showcase production. She was assisted by Laura Formanek and Michael Schick.

The performances will be Thursday through Sunday for two weeks, Nov. 8-11 and 15-18. Curtain for weeknight and Saturday shows will be 8 p.m. Sunday performances will begin at 2:30 p.m.