

# Ambitious route hampered by too much symbolism

The Dogs Must Be Crazy at the Community Arts Project in Chapel Street, Woodstock. Directed and conceived by Mike van Graan. Booking at ☎ 45 3689.

THE Theatre company of CAP has embarked on an ambitious route with their first full-length production in choosing a non-verbal form of theatre.

Although mimlery worked very well in the silent movies of yester-year there was just too much underlying symbolism in this production to make it work completely as entertaining theatre.

At times the audience's knowledge of political and social mannerisms is tested to the full with an opening night crowd spending interval and after the show trying to figure out some of the more obscure gestures.

The cast handle themselves well during

most of the programme considering the material that they are working with.

Most of the sketches in the programme have heavy political overtones involving the dogs in roles of the government, ANC and other groupings, but the simplistic handling of some complex situations can grate on the nerves at times.

As a vehicle to fulfill the company's aesthetic goals the performance succeeds admirably as an exciting approach to theatre, but if it wants to appeal to the man-in-the-street there will have to be some serious re-thinking about the whole concept.

Gary Van Dyk



● BONGANI Zindela, Patrick Mofokeng, and Bo Petersen in a scene from *The Dogs Must Be Crazy*, at CAP until June 2.