Laughter Provoking

Alley's Comedy Delightful

By REED MARTIN

The present triumph at the Alley Theatre is "Who Was That Lady I Saw You With?" Since it is as much a cliche as the joke recalled by the title, the author's presentation of pure, farcical humor, is perfectly communicated to the audience.

Uncontrolled Laughter

Unlike their previous presentation of "Godot," which left the audience trying to draw a meaningful moral, "Who, etc." makes no demands on the audience. Everyone sits spellbound, thinking no deep thoughts, merely following the delightfully fast action and convulsing with laughter.

The only feature that might impair the play is the fact that uncontrolled laughter is so consistent (it even continues between scenes because the theme music is so apropos it is hilarious) that it often drowns out dialogue. However, the leads, Erdman and Hardy, are such fantastic comedians they are able to deliver the full impact of their lines merely through their many varied facial expressions.

The story concerns a professor surprised, by his wife, in the act of kissing a student. When she wants to know "Who was that lady ..." he adopts the scheme of his best friend, a TV script writer, and tells his wife he is a secret FBI agent on a special mission. The inevitable involvement with the real FBI produces an impossibly far-fetched plot that is a credit to the imagination of author Krasna.

Relaxing Entertainment

Mr. Richard Erdman, the professor, is a wonderfully experienced performer having been in seventy three movies and starred in such plays as "Seven Year Itch," and "No Time For Sergeants." He comes to Houston from Hollywood for this production and we sincerely hope he will return soon and often.