

# Life's Complexities Seen In Baylor Summer Play

The Baylor University Theater will present French playwright Jean Anouilh's "bittersweet comment on life" in the theater's major summer production of "Thieves' Carnival."

"Thieves' Carnival" will run at the theater July 6, 7, 8, and 10 under the direction of Mrs. Patricia Cook, assistant professor of oral communication at Baylor.

Mrs. Cook described the play as the story of two characters who survive the onslaught of modern world sophistication and complexity to preserve true identity.

"In 'Thieves' Carnival' Anouilh uses a bored and wealthy English woman, her former beau, her two nieces and three thieves to show that man is eternally engaged in a masquerade and quickly loses his true self as he approaches maturity," Mrs. Cook said.

The action of the play takes place in the French resort of

Vichy when the elite Lady Hurf and her party meet three thieves who are adept at planning elaborate schemes for relieving people of their goods.

Lady Hurf uses the thieves and their escapades of merriment to relieve her own boredom by taking the men with their masquerading into her villa.

The French lady's holiday of mirth takes an about-face when the young, innocent niece falls in love with one of the thieves and determines to make of the thief an honest man.

Anouilh uses the niece and the thief whom she loves to symbolize the few people in life whom he thinks maintain a simple and youthfully true spirit. The play presents Anouilh's idea that the people who innately possess youth of spirit are rare, Mrs. Cook said.

Reservations may be made by telephoning the Baylor Theater at Plaza 3-4511, extension 234.