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Allegro Non Troppo

(ITALIAN-B & W COLOR-ANIMATED)

Harvey — 12-5-76
London, Dec. 7.

Bruno Bozzetto Film release and production. Written and directed by Bruno Bozzetto. No other credits available though color is by Technicolor. Reviewed at London Film Fest, Nov. 30, '76. Running time: 85 MINS.

Bruno Bozzetto does his third feature in a spirited takeoff on the Walt Disney "Fantasia" that still has a sprightly way with using classical music as a part of the design rather than trying to force an ultimate image on it.

Laced with black-and-white comic intros into the animated segs, it has a right knockabout, slapstick impudent flair for the live intros. There is a pompous emcee who gets a call from someone named Pisney or something who says he has done a film like this and then intros the all-femme orch of old giggling women.

There is a pompous, violent conductor and a fey animator at odds as each then collabs on the numbers. The animation is graceful and has Bozzetto's impish, controlled but inventive designs and tales that counterpoint the b&w live mayhem and sidebar love story of the animator and a pretty cleaning girl.

Debussy's "Afternoon of a Faun" has an aging little faun trying to use makeup to gambol with big lovely women but always failing. Ravel's "Bolero" is used to show the creation of life from a few drops of a discarded Coca Cola bottle up to dinosaurs and their demise that is rich in shrewd visuals, with a bee getting revenge on two lovers in his glade to a Vivaldi Concerto.

It should please adults and the young. —Mosk.