



act '71



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As a member agency of the United Arts Council of Puget Sound, ACT does not solicit the regional business community for sustaining funds. Corporate gifts to the annual United Arts Fund support the budgets of A Contemporary Theatre (ACT), Seattle Symphony Orchestra, Seattle Opera Association, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Pacific Northwest Ballet Association, Seattle Art Museum, and other regional artistic activities.

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Informative materials and a complete listing of United Arts Fund supporters are available through the United Arts Council of Puget Sound — 600 Skinner Building — Seattle 98101.

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## **a children's theatre**

### **The Puppet Prince by Alan Cullen**

Directed by Moses Goldberg

Wed., Thurs., Fri.  
July 7 — July 30

### **Jack and the Beanstalk**

Directed by Moses Goldberg

Saturdays  
July 10 — August 14

### **An Original, Absurd Musical Revue For Children**

Selected & arranged by Arne Zaslove

Wed., Thurs., Fri.  
August 4 — September 3

**ALL SHOWS START AT 11:00 A.M. . . . . TICKETS \$1.00**

ACT's 1971 season is supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, D.C., a Federal agency created by Act of Congress in 1965.

Our special thanks to all the Volunteer Committees for their work on behalf of the theatre.

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**LOBBY ART SHOWS:** courtesy of the Polly Friedlander Gallery, 95 Yesler Way, Seattle, Wa. 98104. Inquiries invited MU 2-9385.

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Physicians expecting calls during performances should leave their names and seat numbers with the House Manager, and may leave the number AT 4-7395 with their call services.



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# A CONTEMPORARY THEATRE

presents

## CEREMONIES IN DARK OLD MEN

by Lonne Elder III

Cast in order of appearance:

MR. RUSSELL B. PARKER .....	Leonard Jackson
MR. WILLIAM JENKINS .....	Walter Cotton
THEOPOLIS PARKER .....	Lee Champion
BOBBY PARKER .....	Christipher Joy
ADELE ELOISE PARKER .....	Leslie Rivers
BLUE HAVEN .....	Charles Weldon
YOUNG GIRL .....	Janice McElroy

Directed by Allie Woods

*The premiere production of "Ceremonies In Dark Old Men" was given by the Negro Ensemble Company at St. Marks Playhouse, New York City, on February 4, 1969.*

The action of the play takes place in a barbershop in Harlem. It is a small, poverty-stricken barbershop on 126th Street, between Seventh and Lenox Avenues, Harlem, USA.

*There will be one 15-minute intermission.*

*Settings by Bill Raoul  
Lighting by Scott Hawthorn  
Costumes by James R. Crider  
Technical Director: Richard  
Montgomery  
Stage Manager: Jody Briggs  
Properties: Kathy Kinder  
Choreography: Christipher Joy*

*Acknowledgments:  
Dickey & Liebes Inc., Barber  
Supplies & Equipment  
United Graphics  
Jim Robinson  
St. Paul's Church (Episcopal)  
Pacific Salvage Brokers  
Palmer Company Seattle  
Mrs. Donald Brangwin*

*"Ceremonies In Dark Old Men" is produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.*

Recent contributors to ACT: Mrs. Carl E. Croson (Sponsor); Beta Sigma Phi-XI Gamma Beta Chapter (Angel)



LEE CHAMPION appeared at ACT last season in *YOUR OWN THING*, and this year in *THE BOYS IN THE BAND*. He has toured with the National Company of *ON A CLEAR DAY YOU CAN SEE FOREVER*. As a member of the Inner-City Repertory Company for two years he appeared in over 12 plays including *WEST SIDE STORY*, *ROOM SERVICE*, *GLASS MENAGERIE*, *ANTIGONE* and *THE FANTASTICKS*. He was also a resident member of the Cirque Playhouse, Seattle. His TV credits include *IRONSIDE* and *DIVORCE COURT*.

WALTER COTTON has written and performed his own poetry at New York University, Town Hall and other institutions. He has been in five films including the soon-to-be-released *SLAVE*. He will be playing the lead in a new film, which will be in production soon, entitled *DON'T WHISTLE DOWN IN SWEDEN*. He has appeared in New York at the Shakespeare Public Theatre in *JAZZNITE*, and has taught drama in Harlem in New York, and for the Yonkers Board of Education.

LEONARD JACKSON appeared in *THE GREAT WHITE HOPE* on Broadway, *MOON ON A RAINBOW SHAWL*, *BLACK QUARTET* and *DAY OF ABSENCE* among others off-Broadway, and in several New York Shakespeare Festival productions. His films include *POUND* and *UP TIGHT*. Among his many TV credits are Saroyan plays on National Educational Television, plus *LOVE IS A MANY SPLENDORED THING* and *FREE AT LAST*.

CHRISTIPHER JOY is a product of Professional Theatre Workshop, Inner-City Cultural Center, CBS Television Workshop and City College, all in the Los Angeles-Hollywood area. Stage credits include *THE BATHTUB BANDICOOT*, *RIGHT ON BROTHER*, *CEREMONY OF US*, *DAVID AND LISA* and *A TASTE OF HONEY*. He had a featured role in the film *HALLS OF ANGER* and on TV, the lead in *SEARCH & SEIZURE*, filmed at KCET. In 1968, he made a seven-country European nightclub tour during which he appeared in the TV variety special, "The Christopher Joy Show" in Helsinki.

JANICE McELROY has appeared in *A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM*, *MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR* and various other productions at The Showboat, University of Washington. She was in ACT's *THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE* and children's theatre productions. She is a member of the BFA program at the University of Washington.

LESLIE RIVERS has performed off-Broadway, in regional theatre, summer stock, on television and on tour across the country. Among her credits she lists *THE BLACKS*, *DAY OF ABSENCE*, *TRUMPETS OF THE LORD*, *THE TEMPEST*, *THE MAN NOBODY SAW*, and appearances with The Chelsea Theatre Center and the New York Shakespeare Festival.

CHARLES WELDON worked with the Negro Ensemble Company, New York and American Conservatory Theatre, San Francisco. On Broadway, he appeared in *BUCK WHITE*; his off-Broadway credits include *RIDE A BLACK HORSE*, *PERRY'S MISSION*, *PINKVILLE* and *ODODO*. He has appeared on *THE ED SULLIVAN SHOW* and *THE DICK CLARK SHOW*.

Director, ALLIE WOODS, was an original member of the Negro Ensemble Company resident acting company and was in many of their productions over a three-year period. He has directed in the Negro Ensemble Company's Playwrights-Directors Unit; the Chelsea Theatre Center, Brooklyn; the New Dramatists Committee, New York; and the Phoenix Theatre's Mobile Unit, New York. Productions have included *SLOW DANCE ON THE KILLING GROUND*, *FIVE FINGER EXERCISE*, *THE OWL AND THE PUSSYCAT*, and as co-director of the off-Broadway production, *A BLACK QUARTET*. An actor as well as a director, he has appeared with the New York City Opera Company, toured with the Negro Ensemble Company nationally and in Europe at the *WORLD THEATRE SEASON* in London and the *INTERNATIONAL THEATRE FESTIVAL* of the Teatro Parioli in Rome. He was seen in ACT's recent production of *THE NIGHT THOREAU SPENT IN JAIL*.



# act's <sup>"Very"</sup> Seven <sup>^</sup> new Plays

## Make Summer Special!

### **HADRIAN VII** *Peter Luke*

**June 29 - July 10**

A fascinating excursion into the dreams of a frustrated ex-seminarian and sometime con artist, who finds himself named Pope. "... the most fascinating stage work since 'Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead'." (N.Y. Post)

### **THE BOYS IN THE BAND** *Mart Crowley*

**July 13 - July 24**

Crowley's play takes the homosexual way of life totally for granted and uses this as a valid basis for human experience. Both funny and sad, "... it is uncompromising in its honesty." (N.Y. Times)

### **THE NIGHT THOREAU SPENT IN JAIL**

**July 27 - August 7**

*Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee*

Their play is the story of the young Thoreau. It dramatizes his act of civil disobedience: refusing to pay a poll tax of \$1 because the money would support what he felt was an immoral war with Mexico.

### **CEREMONIES IN DARK OLD MEN** *Lonne Elder III* **August 10 - August 21**

This powerful portrait of family life probes the substratum of Harlem culture and finds in plain, prosaic characters an explosive commentary on a human condition. "An excellent black morality play." (N.Y. Daily News)

### **PLAZA SUITE** *Neil Simon*

**August 24 - September 4**

Three sophisticated short plays all taking place in the same suite of the Plaza Hotel; in the same high comedy tradition of "The Odd Couple" and "Barefoot In The Park." Simon is the most popular and successful American playwright of this decade.

### **A CRY OF PLAYERS** *William Gibson*

**September 7 - September 18**

Boisterous and lusty, this is "a plausible account of how a young married named Will Shakespeare might have thought and behaved before he ran off to London and wrote all those plays!" (N.Y. Daily News) "The Miracle Worker" is among Gibson's other successes.

### **YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN \*** **September 21 - October 2**

A delightful musical based on the comic strip "Peanuts" by Charles M. Schulz, featuring Charlie Brown and all his friends, including Snoopy. Music and lyrics by Clark Gesner; book by John Gordon. It's for everybody! (\*Production rights pending)

A NEW PLAY EVERY TWO WEEKS! Performances every evening following Tuesday night openings.

All curtains 8:30 p.m., except Sunday. NEW this year: Sunday performances start at 7:30.

Starting with the second production, "The Boys In The Band," you are invited to stay after opening and Sunday night performances for informal lobby discussions. On opening nights, you will meet the director of the production. Refreshments will be available in the lobby.

Tickets for ACT productions are available to students for \$2.00 during the half-hour prior to curtain time, if the performance is not sold out.

Box Office hours daily from 10 a.m.

**A CONTEMPORARY THEATRE**  
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**Seattle, Washington 98119**  
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