

A CONTEMPORARY THEATRE SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

# A CONTEMPORARY THEATRE

# presents

## Two One-Act Plays by Eugene Ionesco

I'm not concerned with the impossibility of communication... There <u>is</u> a degree of communication between people. They talk to one another. They understand one another. That's what is so astounding.

-- Ionesco

# THE CHAIRS

Cast in order of appearance:

15-Minute Intermission

# THE BALD SOPRANO

Cast in order of appearance:

MR. SMITH	James Higgins
MRS. SMITH	Maureen Quinn
MR. MARTIN	Gardner Hayes
MRS. MARTIN	Margaret Hilton
MARY, the maid	Patricia Hodges
THE FIRE CHIEF	Julian Schembri

### Directed by M. Burke Walker

Settings by Jerry Williams Lighting by Phil Schermer Costumes by Lynn Lewis Properties: Patricia Parish

Technical Director:
Michael Lowther
Stage Manager:
Eileen MacRae Murphy
Asst. Stage Manager: Sandy Cruse

"The Chairs" was first presented in Paris is 1952 and "The Bald Soprano" in 1950. They are two of the plays credited with originating what is now called the Theatre of The Absurd.

Acknowledgments: Beacon United Methodist Church, Belknap Glass, Pacific Northwest Bell, Polaroid Corporation, St. Paul's Church (Episcopal), Union Gospel Mission, U. W. School of Drama.

"The Chairs" and "The Bald Soprano" are presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Box Office — Roxanne Abajian, Tamara Brown. Costume Assistants — Colleen Bulzomi, Peggy Speer. Publicity Assistant — Richard Watson. Shop Carpenter — A. Woodlock Nelson. Assistant to the Directors — Jerry M. Brinkman. Apprentices — Geordy Hartnett, Joshua Henriot, Mary Sharp.

Contributors to ACT since "Angel" list was printed at the beginning of our 10th anniversary season: Mrs. Tom S. Patterson (Patron); Mrs. John H. Ballinger (Backer); Wallace N. Kalina (Sponsor); Mr. & Mrs. George W. Taylor (Archangels); Mr. & Mrs. James A. Brennan, Mr. & Mrs. Joel D. Everett, Mr. & Mrs. Harold Huston, Ms. Gail Sollid, Mr. & Mrs. Robert P. Walker (Angels).

CLAYTON CORZATTE teaches in the Professional Actor Training Program at the University of Washington, where he most recently directed KNIGHT OF THE BURNING PESTLE and SIX CHARACTERS IN SEARCH OF AN AUTHOR. He directed THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE and BUTTERFLIES ARE FREE for ACT; SUMMERTREE, MISALLIANCE, GETTING MARRIED and THE TAVERN for the Seattle Repertory Theatre. He has also played numerous shows at SRT including JACQUES BREL and THAT CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON, and guest starred in THE TAVERN at the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. Last year he appeared at ACT in A CONFLICT OF INTEREST and A DAY IN THE DEATH OF JOE EGG. He and Susan Ludlow have done three Rep 'n Rap tours for the King County Arts Commission.

GARDNER HAYES was in ACT's recent productions of IN CELEBRATION and A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE. He appeared in GREASE on Broadway and in EVERYMAN off-Broadway at the Lincoln Center Library and Museum. He has played at the Actor's Theatre of Louisville and at the Long Wharf Theatre in Connecticut. Summer stock productions include CARNIVAL, ANYTHING GOES, BYE BYE BIRDIE, THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST, KING LEAR and ITALIAN STRAW HAT. He is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama.

JAMES HIGGINS was in this year's productions of TWIGS, COUNT DRACULA and IN CELEBRATION at ACT and in our productions of THE CONTRACTOR and OLD TIMES last season. Previous appearances here include THE LION IN WINTER, THE ROYAL HUNT OF THE SUN and BLACK COMEDY. He was born and educated in England and, on graduation from Cambridge University was awarded a Mellon Fellowship for graduate study at Yale University. He was Artist-in-Residence and Associate Director of Theatre at Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri for eight years. He now makes his home in Seattle. His Broadway credits include THE ZULU AND THE ZAYDA, and off-Broadway productions of THE MAGISTRATE and THE GOOD SOLDIER SCHWEIK. He was a member of the original company of the Seattle Repertory Theatre.

MARGARET HILTON was trained at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art where she received the coveted Actor's Gold Medal. She appeared with the Manchester and Birmingham Repertory Companies and the Edinburgh Festival before coming to this country. She played Agnes in HADRIAN VII at ACT in 1971, and Sybil in COUNT DRACULA this season. She has played at the Cirque Playhouse, North Shore Music Theatre, Barter Theatre, Asolo Theatre, and recently four shows at the Cleveland Playhouse. At the Seattle Repertory Theatre she has appeared in A FLEA IN HER EAR, RICHARD II, HAY FEVER, AND MISS REARDON DRINKS A LITTLE, HOUSE OF BLUE LEAVES, RING AROUND THE MOON and GETTING MARRIED.

PATRICIA HODGES last appeared at ACT as Mina in COUNT DRACULA. Prior to that she played MISS JULIE at the Intiman Theatre and appeared in New York in productions of HOW HE LIED TO HER HUSBAND and MAKES IT BIG at the W.P.A. At ACT she was in UNDER MILK WOOD, NO PLACE TO BE SOMEBODY, and ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO's NEST, as well as ACT's CHRISTMAS SHOW and the 1972-73 Cultural Enrichment Program tour of THE ABSURD MUSICAL REVUE FOR CHILDREN. She has also appeared at the Seattle Repertory Theatre and in the Empty Space Association's productions of SUBJECT TO FITS and OEDIPUS. She is a graduate of the Professional Actor Training Program at the University of Washington.

MAUREEN QUINN was in ACT's production of IN CELEBRATION this season, and has previously appeared at ACT in A CRY OF PLAYERS, RHINOCEROS, INADMISSABLE EVIDENCE, MARAT/SADE and PHILADELPHIA, HERE I COME. A native of Dublin, Ireland, she was a member of the Seattle Repertory Theatre for five seasons, appearing in 25 productions there including THE HOSTAGE, LYSISTRATA, THE IMAGINARY INVALID, VOLPONE, JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK, HENRY IV PART I, THE CRUCIBLE and YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU. In New York she has been seen in THE PLOUGH AND THE STARS with the Repertory Theatre of Lincoln Center and off-Broadway in SHADOW OF A GUNMAN. Most recently she appeared at the Hartford Stage Company in A TOUCH OF THE POET and OLD TIMES. She is married to actor Bernard Frawley and they have a daughter, Oona.

JULIAN SCHEMBRI has appeared at ACT this season in TWIGS and COUNT DRACULA. Other ACT credits include A CONFLICT OF INTEREST, ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST and A CRY OF PLAYERS. He was in THREE MEN ON A HORSE and MISALLIANCE at the Seattle Repertory Theatre. He has appeared on Broadway in BECKET and BALLAD OF THE SAD CAFE, with the New York City Opera Company in A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM and SUSANNAH, and four years with the American Shakespeare Festival. He is co-founder of the Empty Space Association where he has directed the critically acclaimed production of Peter Handke's KASPAR.

Director, M. BURKE WALKER. Last season Mr. Walker directed ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST for ACT. He is Artistic Director and co-founder of the Empty Space Association of Seattle, and has directed 15 of their productions including SUBJECT TO FITS, HAPPY DAYS, ALICE IN WONDERLAND and THE TOOTH OF CRIME. His director credits range from Shakespeare to Sam Shepard to Restoration Burlesque and ROOM SERVICE. A native of Virginia Beach, Virginia, Mr. Walker lived and traveled extensively in Morocco, Spain and Turkey before coming to Seattle in 1966. He is a graduate of Middlebury College, Vermont.

# COMING



A Musical Based Upon the Gospel According to St. Matthew

This record-breaking gospel rock musical opens SEPTEMBER 17.

Director: Gregory A. Falls

Music Director: Stan Keen

#### COMMENTS FROM THE CLERGY:

The Rev. Monsignor Eugene V. Clark, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York: "I think you have a fine piece of theatre in GODSPELL. Within the language context of rock opera, I believe the subject matter was treated with insight and reverence."

The Rev. Howard T. W. Stowe, Protestant Episcopal Diocese of New York: "I just saw the most wonderful play in the city. The adaptation of St. Matthew's Gospel captures precisely the joy and the energy of the Gospel's good news that seems to be so desperately needed today in America."

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE PRESS:**

New York Times, Walter Kerr. "...color-spattered, jubilant and most enjoyable. After all these years we need some sense of a man—whether Matthew or Jesus—who moved, who put his feet against the earth, who took pleasure in the tangible, the muscular, the rhythmic, even in the giddy. Did no one in Galilee ever hum a little song to himself, snap his fingers, as he walked the roads?"

#### Performances of GODSPELL September 17-28 SOLD OUT!

GODSPELL continues at ACT starting October 1 with performances Tuesday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m., Sundays 7:30 p.m. Advance ticket orders (\$4.50, \$5.50, \$6.50) are now being accepted at the theatre box office (284-7392); group bookings should be made through the Dorothy Matin Agency (622-1171).

## **BOX OFFICE**

HOURS: Daily from 10 A.M. to 9 P.M.

MAILING ADDRESS: 709 First West, Seattle, WA. 98119

TELEPHONE: (206) 284-7392

## PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Evening Curtains 8:30 P.M. except Sunday at 7:30

Matinee curtains 2:30 P.M.

Ticket Prices: \$4.00, \$5.00 and \$6.00 (evenings)

\$3.50, \$4.50 and \$5.50 (matinees)

"Godspell" single ticket prices

\$4.50, \$5.50 and \$6.50 (evenings)

\$4.00, \$5.00 and \$6.00 (matinees)

**Ticket Exchange Information:** Although no refunds can be made, subscribers may exchange tickets for any other performance of the same show, providing the Box Office receives the tickets 24 hours before date and time printed on the tickets.

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

# Acknowledgments

A Contemporary Theatre productions are funded, in part, by grants from the City of Seattle, Seattle Arts Commission, King County Arts Commission, United Arts Council of Puget Sound, Washington State Arts Commission and National Endowment for the Arts. ACT gratefully acknowledges this support.

ACT wishes to thank all the members of the Volunteer Committees for their tremendous efforts and work on behalf of all the theatre's activities.

**LOBBY ART SHOWS:** Courtesy of the Polly Friedlander Gallery, 89 Yesler Way, Seattle, Washington 98104; telephone 682-9385; and Dootson/Calderhead, dba Current Editions, 311 ½ Occidental South, Seattle, Washington 98104; telephone 623-8431.

**DOCTORS** expecting calls during performances may give their names and seat locations to the House Manager, and the number 284-7395 to their call service.

**LATE COMERS** will be asked to stand at the rear of the theatre until the first break in the play.

**REFRESHMENTS** available in downstairs lobby only, one-half hour before curtain time and during intermissions. No drinks may be taken into the seating area.

SMOKING in downstairs and outer lobby only.

**TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS** or making recordings during performances is strictly forbidden.

## A CONTEMPORARY THEATRE INC. 1974

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#### **ACT Apprentices:**

Elizabeth Maurer, Patricia Parish, Brent Stewart, David B. Williams