

A Contemporary Theatre – Seattle

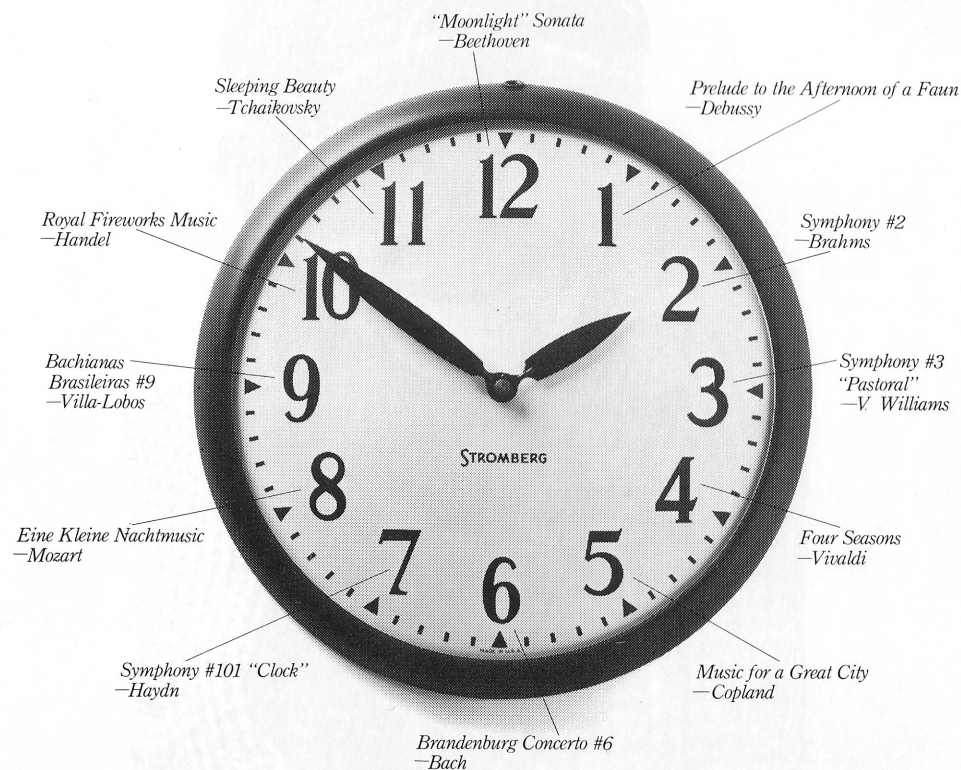


Da

by Hugh Leonard

May 6-27, 1982

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A Contemporary Theatre

Gregory A. Falls
Producing Director

Phil Schermer
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Louise Campion Cummings
Administrative Manager

presents

Da by Hugh Leonard May 6-27, 1982

Director	Richard Edwards
Scenic Designer	Karen Gjelseen
Costume Designer	Julie James
Lighting Designer	Jody Briggs
Technical Director	Phil Schermer
Stage Manager	Michael Weholt

THE CAST

in order of appearance

Charlie Now	Allen Nause
Oliver	R. A. Farrell
Da	James Hilbrandt
Mother	Lyn Tyrrell
Charlie Then	Bill O'Leary
Drumm	Rick Tutor
The Yellow Peril	Ursula Meyer
Mrs. Prynn	Kathryn Mesney

THE TIME: May, 1968, and, later, times remembered
THE PLACE: A kitchen and, later, places remembered

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

Presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

The Company

R. A. FARRELL (Oliver) appeared here last season as "Lt. Harrington" in *Custer*, "Russell" in *Loose Ends*, and "Dr. Paul Travers" in *Whose Life Is It Anyway?* For three years he has performed as "Marley's Ghost/Old Joe" in *A Christmas Carol*; toured twice with The Young ACT Company; and also appeared in *Fanshen*. With The Seattle Rep, R. A.'s credits include *Strider* and the in-process productions of *Salvation Now* and *American Dreams, Lost and Found*. At Intiman, he performed in *Othello* and *The Lady's Not For Burning*; plus *Zastrozzi* at The Empty Space; and, most recently, in *Desire Under the Elms* at Tacoma Actors Guild. R. A. has worked with The Oregon Shakespearean Festival and with other regional theatres around the country as well.

JAMES HILBRANDT (Da) began his career with a long involvement with New York's Off Broadway theatre throughout the late 60's and early 70's. He was honored with an Obie Award in 1973 for his portrayal of an 80-year old gentlewoman in Joseph Renard's *A Boy Name Dog*. He has appeared in major roles in repertory, summer and winter stock, and dinner theatres throughout the country, as a musical performer as well as a dramatic actor. His recent credits include "Uncle Max" in *The Sound of Music*, "Inspector Duval" in Feydeau's *The Happy Hunter*, "Abe" in Feiffer's *Knock, Knock*, and "Luther Billis" in *South Pacific*. James also has appeared in such television shows as *The Doctors* and *Search For Tomorrow*, as well as in the role of "Krapp" in WNYC's highly acclaimed *Krapp's Last Tape*.

KATHRYN MESNEY (Mrs. Prynne) received her professional training in New York and Los Angeles, and has acted and taught acting in both cities. She is now a Seattle resident and has appeared in three plays-in-process at The Seattle Rep, *An Ounce of Prevention*, *Salvation Now*, and *American Dreams, Lost and Found*. She also appeared as the "Old Woman" in The Rep's production of *Dance of Death*; "Gisele" in *The Workroom* and "Aunt Charlotte" in *Bonjour La Bonjour* at The Empty Space; "Annie Sullivan" in *The Miracle Worker* at Poncho Theatre; "Emily Brent" in *Ten Little Indians* at Tacoma Actors Guild; and "Mrs. Webb" in *Our Town* at Snoqualmie Falls Forest Theatre. Kathryn currently heads the vocal training program in Cornish Institute's Theatre Department, and she is a member of the improvisation group, *None of the Above*.

URSULA MEYER (The Yellow Peril) was a member of the 1982 Young ACT Company and is making her ACT mainstage debut in this production. She is a graduate of the University of Washington's Professional Actors Training Program and in the past year has worked with Conservatory Theatre Company, the Women's Theatre, and as an understudy for The Seattle Repertory Theatre. Ursula also appeared as "Cha Cha" in Skid Road Theatre's production of *Grease*. She spent three summers with the Colorado, Illinois, and Idaho Shakespeare Festivals, performing such roles as "Juliet," "Rosalind," and the "Fool" in *King Lear*.

ALLEN NAUSE (Charlie Now) has appeared several times on our mainstage, including last season's productions of *Custer* and *Loose Ends* and previously as "Jack Tanner" in *Man and Superman*, "Dave" in *Otherwise*

Engaged, and "Coleman" in *Holy Ghosts*. Allen has appeared with most major theatres in our area, with credits at The Seattle Rep that include "Eddie Brock" in *Born Yesterday*; at Intiman, *The Rose Tattoo* and *The Cherry Orchard*; at The Empty Space, *Landscape of the Body* and the world premiere of *Oregon Gothic*. Allen recently was seen at the Tacoma Actors Guild in *Diamond Studs* and his film credits include *The Runner Stumbles* and *Francis*.

BILL O'LEARY (Charlie Then) makes his ACT debut in this production. He is studying acting with Robert Hobbs in the Professional Actors Training Program at the University of Washington, and local audiences may remember him as "Roberto" in the recent production of *Saturday, Sunday, Monday*. Originally from Chicago, Bill spent two seasons with the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, playing such roles as "Dromio" in *Comedy of Errors*, "Benvolio" in *Romeo and Juliet*, and "Lysander" in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He also spent a season with the Pavillion Players Dinner Theatre, performing as "Matt" in *The Fantasticks* and in the title roles in *When You Comin' Back*, *Red Ryder* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Bill is a member of the Society of American Fight Directors.

RICK TUTOR (Drumm) appeared on the ACT mainstage as "Brother Martin" in our world premiere of *Catholics*. He is the founder and artistic director of Tacoma Actors Guild where, this past season, he directed *That Championship Season* and *Diamond Studs* and played "Horse Hallen" in *Who's Happy Now?* Rick's many acting credits range from "Nathan Detroit" in *Guys and Dolls* to "Sir Thomas More" in *A Man For All Seasons*. He holds a Ph.D. in theatre

from Wayne State University, where he was a member of the Hilberry Repertory Company for three years, and has directed and acted in more than 35 productions over the past eleven years at the University of Puget Sound's Inside Theatre.

LYN TYRRELL (Mother) makes her first appearance on the ACT mainstage in this production. She is familiar to Northwest audiences for her work in such roles as "Mother Superior" in *Agnes of God* at The Empty Space and "Myra Bruhl" in *Deathtrap* at the Tacoma Actors Guild. She also appeared in Pioneer Square Theatre's presentations of *Suicide in B^b* and *Home Again, Kathleen*. Lyn was part of the Montana Repertory Theatre Company's 1981 eight-state tour, appearing as "Eleanor of Aquitaine" in *Lion In Winter* and "Catherine Petkoff" in *Arms and the Man*.

DIRECTOR RICHARD EDWARDS staged ACT's production of *Loose Ends* last season and the world premiere of Thomas Babe's *Home Again, Kathleen* at Pioneer Square Theatre this spring. He studied direction and assisted Allen Fletcher with the professional actors training program at the American Conservatory Theatre (A.C.T.) in San Francisco. He studied acting under John Fernald, former R.A.D.A. principal, and taught acting and voice at Dartmouth College. Following seven years as an actor and stage manager, Richard served three years as Conservatory Manager for A.C.T. He was resident director of The Guthrie Theatre for the 1980/81 season. His Seattle-area credits include *We Won't Pay, We Won't Pay*, *Fifth of July*, and *Landscape of the Body* at The Empty Space, plus the musicals

Something's Afoot and *The Robber Bridegroom*. This past fall he also directed *The Rivals* at the University of Washington.

PLAYWRIGHT HUGH LEONARD was born in Dublin in 1926 and admits to being 35. He has written more than 20 plays as well as serializations and adaptations of Dickens, Emily Bronte, Connan Doyle, and others. He also has written extensively for television in England. He won the 1978 Tony, New

York Critics Circle, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards for Best Play for *Da*. Among his other plays are *Thieves*, *The Au Pair Man*, *The Poker Session*, *Some of My Best Friends Are Husbands*, and *A Suburb of Babylon*. His films include *Interlude*, *Great Catherine* and *Rake's Progress*. He considers the United States the only part of the world that hasn't become Americanized and lists his interests as spying on passing ships through a telescope, chess, travel and strong drink.

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ART IN THE LOBBY

For 1982 ACT continues its policy of providing space in the upper lobby to individual artists. ACT feels this gives its audience a chance to view new visual art work, enhances their theatre experience, and affords ACT an opportunity to be of public service to the greater arts community.

During the run of *Da*, ACT is proud to present a very special exhibit, "Artists At A Contemporary Theatre," a selection of art work donated by friends of ACT to benefit ACT. All proceeds from the sale of these pieces will go toward ACT's 1982 Challenge Campaign. Donating artists include Gary Drager, Lee Loveland, Steve Ballard, Pierce Milholland, Lynn Harris, R. Drewnany, JoAnne Rosen, Harry Strong, Charlotte Meckly, Mal Stamper, Betsy Torrance, May Gey, Marjett C. Schille, Rick Hendon, Polly Rawn, Marion B. Keen, Mike Harris, Tommer Peterson, Pam Powers and Avon John Whitehead.

For information on the purchase of art displayed in the upper lobby, contact Louise Cummings in the ACT Office, 285-3220.

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Every day 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Fri. 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

POST-PLAY DISCUSSION: A free informal discussion of *Da* will take place in the theatre on Sunday, May 9th, following the 2:30 p.m. matinee, at approximately 4:45 p.m. You and your guests are invited to participate, along with members of the company and guest speaker, Miceal Vaughn. Mr. Vaughn, an Irishman, is an associate professor of English at the University of Washington.

THANK YOU!

ACT gratefully acknowledges support by the National Endowment for the Arts (a federal agency); the Washington, King County, and Seattle Arts Commissions; and PONCHO. In addition, we thank regional businesses which generously support ACT through contributions to the Corporate Council for the Arts (CCA).

For their assistance with this production, we also wish to thank the following:

Valerie Dunne

Hair by: Rosalie Cantrell, University
Salon: Cathy Sander, John
Wadner, Colleen Pyle,
Sue Amesen, Lori Leff

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