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John Carroll University Theatre presents The Little Theatre Society Story, 1949-1963

Leone J. Marinello
John Carroll University

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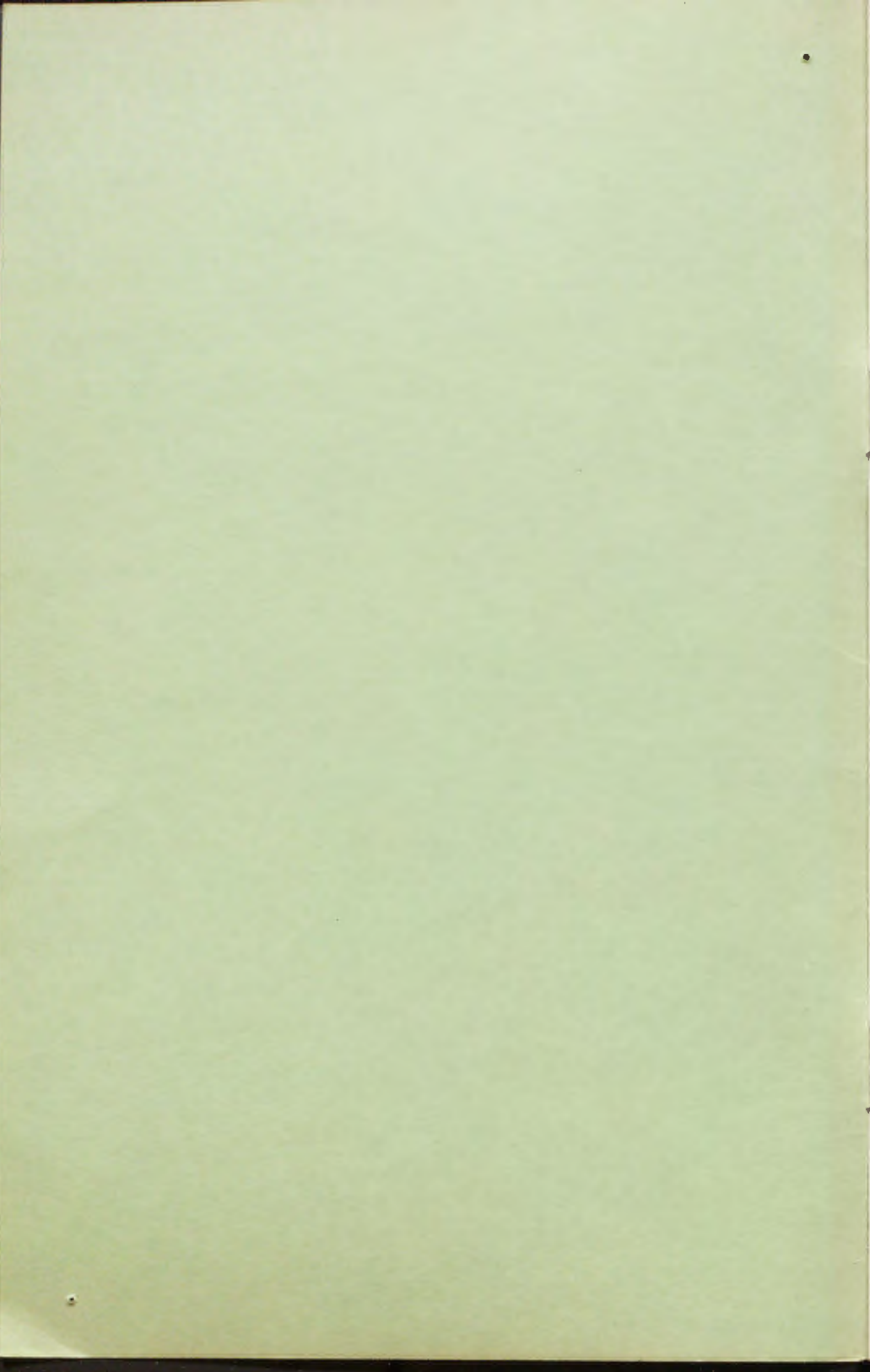
JOHN CARROLL
UNIVERSITY
THEATRE

LEONE J. MARINELLO
Director

P R E S E N T S

THE LITTLE THEATRE SOCIETY STORY

1949 - 1963



INTRODUCTORY NOTE

At the urging of friends, we have prepared this little brochure. Its purpose is to tell you about us, our aims, our work, our aspirations, and to enlist your support.

It is our sincere wish to serve you better. To aid us to do so more effectively, we have selected this method of telling you our story.

Of course we cannot say all that we would like in such a limited space, but we can make a good start by introducing ourselves with the hope that we will become immediate and lasting friends.

THE LITTLE THEATRE SOCIETY

Prof. Leone J. Marinello	Director
Bruce J. Shapiro	President
Christopher A. Colombi, Jr.	Vice-President
Edward G. Kelly	Business Manager
Robert Wander	Publicity Director

ALPHA PSI OMEGA

Larry Felter	Director
John McMahon	Stage Manager
Patricia Smayda	Prompter

WHO WE ARE

The Little Theatre Society, the LTS, is the dramatic club of the university. We are sponsored by the university and promoted by the Speech Department. Thus we are an academic as well as a student activity. Membership in the LTS is open to all students of the university, both day and evening. Participation in the production of plays is open to all students, regardless of active membership. Students of Notre Dame, Ursuline and St. John colleges are also eligible to take part in our plays. The LTS is a producing group open to all interested students eager to work in some area of the theatre arts—acting, stage-managing, props, lights, costuming, makeup, business and promotion.

AWARDS

At the annual awards banquet, silver keys are given to members with two years of service (Juniors and Seniors), and gold keys to members with three or more years of service (Seniors only).

NATIONAL HONORARY DRAMATIC FRATERNITY

Our Mu Theta Chapter of Alpha Psi Omega, the national honorary dramatic fraternity, was activated in 1950. This Greek letter fraternity provides additional honor and recognition for active members of the LTS.

WORKSHOP PROGRAMS

Experienced members carry on an in-service training program in the technical areas of theatre. In addition, experimental work in acting and directing is encouraged.

LTS ROOM

Membership headquarters, actors' tiring room, green room, workshop, makeup and prop room is located in the auditorium, second floor, on the west side of the stage. Our room also accommodates the "stars" of the University Series. This room is open to members only.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND PROFESSIONAL WORK

In the past four years, three of our actors have won acting scholarships to graduate schools. Several of our actors have appeared in Broadway plays. Many former members are working in radio, TV, advertising and public relations. A good number are teaching dramatics in secondary schools. The majority are active in community theatres.

CAST PARTY

There is a party for the cast and crew after the opening performance of each play. Only those who worked on the production are invited.

ANNUAL PICNIC

Each Spring all members and production workers are invited to a picnic. It is at this picnic that the Alpha Psi Omega fraternity awards its famous "Scotty" to those who have done outstanding theatre work.

THEATRE PARTIES

Throughout the year the LTS arranges theatre parties at the Karamu, Playhouse and Hanna theatres at reduced rates. The group is frequently invited backstage to meet the actors.

WHAT WE DO

We produce one major play a semester for two performances each. The Fall play is usually in early November; the Spring play in early April. The exact dates and times are in your activities calendar.

PLAYS THAT CHALLENGE

We stage those plays which offer us the greatest creative challenge and which offer our audience the greatest creative enjoyment. Notice the key word "creative". We produce plays that will stimulate, provoke and move our audiences as well as entertain them. We insist that our audience be active, not passive. *We involve them.* For instance, if you had been graduated in June after spending a full four years at Carroll, you could have seen the following plays *free*.

THE LIVING ROOM by Graham Greene

THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE by Bertolt Brecht

WAITING FOR GODOT by Samuel Beckett

DEATH OF A SALESMAN by Arthur Miller

THE ANDERSONVILLE TRIAL by Saul Levitt

THE VISIT by Friedrich Duerrenmatt

THE RAINMAKER by N. Richard Nash

ANTIGONE by Jean Anouilh

We are justifiably proud of our work and are not afraid to match this list with that of any university. It is gratifying to note that the Cleveland Playhouse plans to produce two of the above plays this coming year—CHALK CIRCLE and VISIT.

PLAYS OF SUBSTANCE

Among the quality plays we have staged are: EVERYMAN, THE TAMING OF THE SHREW by Shakespeare, ANTIGONE and OEDIPUS REX, by Sophocles, THE GLASS MENAGERIE by Williams, THE SKIN OF OUR TEETH by Wilder, THE MAD-WOMAN OF CHAILLOT by Giraudoux, DETECTIVE STORY by Kingsley, THE CRUCIBLE by Miller, and two *original* plays.

WHY WE DO IT

Our primary function is to aid in the education of the whole man. We accept completely our role of educational theatre—that, as such, we are charged with the task of helping to form the student as a mature, cultured and intellectually competent individual. The artistic policy of the LTS is to expose the student to the finest dramas that twenty-five hundred years of theatre has given us, and to stage them in a variety of forms and styles. By so doing, we endeavor to shape critical judgment and to refine taste. In short, our purpose is to help the student become a fully educated person.

WHAT YOU GET OUT OF IT

As a member of the audience, you participate in a unique experience, the theatrical experience. This experience is the product of the joint efforts of both actors and audience, resulting from the intimate relationship between audience and player. This is why we insist that our audience be active, not passive. The benefits you derive in return are great: the companionship of great minds and great hearts; the enjoyment of seeing a play come to life on the stage with live actors; the experience of physical, mental and emotional involvement that only the living theatre can give you in this age of canned and synthetic entertainment.

NO ADMISSION CHARGED

You do not pay admission to see our productions. Your university has always considered the LTS as an academic expenditure. Our concern is artistic, not commercial. That is why we consider you, the student, as our basic audience. This is why we are telling you our story. We want you to know us and our work. We want you to like us. We want you to support us.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

MEMBERSHIP

If you are interested in becoming a member, make your application in the LTS room. Our members will be happy to meet you.

PRODUCTION CREWS

If you want to work in some area of production, make your application in the LTS room. Our production staff is ready to fill you in on the details.

ACTORS

If you want to act in the plays, by all means audition for a part. The dates, times and place will be found on our posters announcing the tryouts. If in doubt, check with the LTS room. *No experience is necessary.* Every person interested in acting will be given an equal opportunity to compete for any role. We do not pre-cast our plays. All actors must try out.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Rehearsals are the work periods of play production. Our schedules are tight and exacting. Rehearsals are held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights from 7 to 11 P.M. In the final week, rehearsals are held every night from 7 to 12 P.M. It is a hard work period, we agree. But the quality for which we strive can only be achieved with time and labor. Good things come hard and our standards are high. Warning: those with weak academic records will be discouraged from production work; those on probation are not eligible; dilettantes will not be tolerated.

A GOOD AUDIENCE

Essential to any performing art is a good audience—good in numbers and in quality. Naturally most of you will have neither the time or the inclination to participate directly in our productions. It is to you that we appeal for support in another direction, but one of equal importance. We want your support as an audience—an active, enthusiastic and judicious audience. We want you to come to our plays, and we want you to bring along your family and friends. We guarantee that every play we stage will have values well worth your time and effort.

FREE ADMISSION

As we stated earlier, there is no admission charge for our students. Merely show your ID cards at the door and you will be admitted free. In addition, all persons *accompanying you* will be admitted free. This includes your date, your family and your friends.

SERVING YOU AND THE UNIVERSITY

We feel that we can serve your interests and the interests of the university by bringing to the campus the largest possible number of people. In this manner we can meet our friends and share with them our own creative efforts. This is the LTS method of telling its part of the Carroll story.

A SPECIAL NOTE TO

THE FACULTY

You can encourage us ever so much by urging your students to see our productions. Two minutes of class time a day or two before performance will work wonders attendance-wise. Let us also remind you that you and your families and friends are most cordially invited to be our guests for any and all performances. We will appreciate any help you give us, and we do look forward to seeing you in our audience.

THE RETURNING CARROLL MAN

Truthfully, now, how many of our plays have you seen? If you have not seen all of the plays to which you have been entitled, you have cheated yourself. Most of these plays are infrequently staged—not because they lack artistic merit, but because they do not appeal to the popular taste. Thus, your chances of seeing them done elsewhere are slim.

Now, it may be that you do not think that the theatre is too important anyway. If you think that, you are dead wrong and are short-changing your own education. Remember that our theatre has come down to us from the Greeks. Something can't survive that long unless it has value. One of the marks of the truly educated man is his familiarity with the arts. Now is the time to start. We promise you first-class theatre.

THE FRESHMAN

You are just starting out on a new adventure—your formal education. Be alert; absorb the best that Carroll offers you, both in the classroom and out. The LTS will work its head and heart out for you if you spur us on with your loyal support.

Our dramatic productions have substance. We will always demand the best that an audience can give. We, in turn, will give you the best production within our power. If you are skeptical of our work, look up some of the plays on our list and read them. Better still, come to our first production this Fall—check your calendars for dates—and see for yourself. A healthy curiosity is one of the qualities of the educated man.

