

## John Carroll University Carroll Collected

---

Theatre Productions

Communication & Theatre Arts

---

4-22-1971

# Brecht on Brecht

George Tabori

Follow this and additional works at: <http://collected.jcu.edu/plays>

---

### Recommended Citation

Tabori, George, "Brecht on Brecht" (1971). *Theatre Productions*. 53.  
<http://collected.jcu.edu/plays/53>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Communication & Theatre Arts at Carroll Collected. It has been accepted for inclusion in Theatre Productions by an authorized administrator of Carroll Collected. For more information, please contact [connell@jcu.edu](mailto:connell@jcu.edu).

1968  
L.T.S. presents

BRECHT ON

BRECHT

by George Tabori

APRIL 22, 23, 24, 25  
29, 30

MAY 1, 2 1971 8:30 P.M.

JCU SPEECH DEPT.

BRECHT on BRECHT

Give us more light on the stage, Electrician!  
Let the people see the way we work.

Let me have people out front  
Who are awake, yes even alert.

A theatre you can't laugh in  
is a theatre to be laughed at.

I, Bertolt Brecht, displaced in asphalt cities  
Brought from the black forest, inside my  
mother's womb.

I was born a rich man's son. ...  
But when I grew up, I looked about me  
And didn't like the people of my class, ...  
So I quit my class and cast my lot  
With the common people.

My mother died yesterday in the evening. The  
first of May. And now I can't ever claw her  
out of the earth with my fingernails.

For her sin was black but her pain was great.  
Therefore, I beg you, check your wrath and  
scorn  
For man needs help from every creature born.

There is only one way to fight authority. ...  
Outlive it.

The passport is the most distinguished part  
of a man's anatomy. It's more difficult to  
make a passport than a human being.

Order is organized extravagance.

One cannot reach a man's humanity without  
a bit of snafu or bribery. ...With a bit  
of bribery you might even get justice.

When nothing is right in the right places,  
you've got disorder. Where in the right  
places there is nothing, that's order.



To be able to show you what I see  
I read up on the theatre of other peoples,  
other ages. ...

The Chinese, so expert on family life,  
On man's many-colored fate in the towns.

Especially those who don't have much to eat  
like to give some away. People probably  
like to show what they can do, and how could  
they show it better than by being kind?  
Being wicked is just being clumsy. When  
someone builds a machine or plants some rice,  
that's really a sort of kindness.

When the house of a great one collapses  
Many little ones are slain.  
Those who had no share in the good fortune  
of the mighty  
Often have a share in their misfortunes.

Terrible is the temptation of goodness.

In the bloodiest times  
There are kind people.

You want justice, but do you want to  
pay for it?

Take note when men of old concluded:  
That what there is shall go to those who are  
good for it.

For my obituary:  
Don't write that you admire me!  
Write that I was an uncomfortable person,  
and that I intend to remain so after  
my death.  
Even then there are certain possibilities.

That is all and it is not enough  
Yet it may tell you I am still alive  
As the man who takes a brick along  
To show the world what his house was like.



Every day to earn my daily bread  
I go to the market where lies are sold  
Hopefully  
I stand in line with the other salesmen.

Teaching without students  
Writing without fame  
Is difficult.

On my wall a wooden mask:  
Face of an evil Japanese fiend, lacquered in  
gold.

I see with sympathy  
The swollen veins on his brow, showing  
How exhausting it is to be evil.

I am a playwright. I show you  
What I have seen. In man's markets  
I have seen how man is bought and sold.  
This is what I show you, I the playwright.

The way people cast a play!  
As if all cooks were fat, all farmers tough,  
all statesman stately!

Our public, too, should have a chance to  
test the player's words.

Comrades, I can see you in New York  
Reading my little play with embarrassment. ...

You clutter the great showplace of the stage  
With pots and pans. A stink of cabbage  
Drifts in from the stove. What is bold be-  
comes nice. What is history becomes common-  
place. Instead of astonishment you work for  
sympathy.

I take it the only aim of science is to  
ease human existence.

I catch a rabbit, but you catch a man.  
Man is made in God's image. Not so a  
rabbit ...And God will pass judgement on you.



THE CAST

(as seated from left to right)

Chair No. 1.....ALANNA FALLON  
Chair No. 2.....RICHARD SNIDER  
Chair No. 3.....MARY BETH REILLEY  
Chair No. 4.....ELEANORA KOVACS  
Chair No. 5.....DAN KEENAN

SCENES

Part I: LIFE

Intermission 10 Minutes

Part II: THEATRE

N.B. There will be no curtain calls.

PLEASE: No smoking, drinking or  
eating in the theatre.

No picture taking during  
the performance.



RICHARD SNIDER is a senior English major at John Carroll and has been with the Little Theatre Society since his sophomore year. Since that time he has taken roles in TOPAZE, THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AND HIS WIFE, and PROMETHEUS BOUND. Rick worked the lights for the production of THE ZOO STORY and THE LESSON and has been stage manager for the last three semesters. Rick transferred from Marycrest College in Davenport, Iowa, where he had roles in THE GRASS HARP, THE AMERICAN DREAM, THE PIED PIPER OF HAMLIN, and YERMA. Rick has also worked at Ursuline College in its production of KING MIDAS AND THE GOLDEN TOUCH. Rick takes the role of Galileo in our excerpt from THE LIFE OF GALILEO.

DAN KEENAN is at JCU on the army's degree completion program. Dan was formerly at John Carroll from 1959 to 1963, and at that time performed with the LTS in THE VISIT and THE RAINMAKER. Dan has played in BYE BYE BIRDIE and THE FANTASTICS with the Augusta Georgia Players and done many shows in Germany and Viet Nam while with the army. A speech major, Dan hopes to go into television and movies when he graduates this May. Dan narrates the story of THE OLD HAT.

## MEET THE CAST

ELEANORA KOVACS, although making only her first appearance with the LTS, is no newcomer to the stage. Eleanora has had fifteen years of dancing instruction at the Nadjan School of Ballet and the Lilian Patty School of Ballet. She has choreographed THE WIZARD OF OZ and THE CRUCIBLE for Beaumont High School. Eleanora performs frequently with the Hungarian Group Theatre, her most notable accomplishment there being the production of CARROUSEL. A history and speech major Eleanora takes the role of Shen Te in our excerpt from THE GOOD WOMAN OF SETZUAN.

ALANNA FALLON is a sophomore speech major. She has appeared once before with the LTS in THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AND HIS WIFE. Next year, Alanna will be studying at the University of Dublin in Ireland. Alanna plays Natella Abashwili in our excerpt from THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE.

MARY BETH REILLEY is a sophomore with a major in English here at John Carroll. Mary Beth played in the FANTASTICS and ALAS, BABYLON at Regina High School. At JCU, Mary Beth worked with last year's LTS Experimental Theatre in THE BALD SOPRANO. Mary Beth has spent one year at the Playhouse Youth Theatre. Mary Beth is making her first appearance with the LTS and takes the role of Grusha in our excerpt from THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE.

## MEET THE CREW

JERRY NOVAK is our sound man. Jerry has performed for the LTS in THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AND HIS WIFE and worked crew for THE ZOO STORY and THE LESSON, and PROMETHEUS BOUND. Jerry is a sophomore major in English and has plans for attending the University of Lancashire in England next year.

JOHN MANNEN is our light man. John has worked with the LTS one other time, taking the role of the Unknown Soldier in THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AND HIS WIFE last year. John is a sophomore psychology major.

MARIE D'AMICO has done make-up for LTS productions for three years, beginning in her freshman year with the production of TOPAZE. Besides the make-up chores, Marie appeared as a maid in AGAMEMNON. Marie designed unusual make-up for the Professor in THE LESSON and also designed face painted masks for the mythological characters in PROMETHEUS BOUND. Marie is a junior speech major.

NICKI BONDI is our make-up assistant. Nicki helped last semester to apply the face masks in PROMETHEUS BOUND.

