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### The Voice of the Turtle, 1948

Montana State University (Missoula, Mont.). Montana Masquers (Theater group)

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***THE VOICE OF THE TURTLE***

Simpkins Little Theatre  
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
AUGUST 12, 13, 14, 1948

THE SUMMER DRAMA WORKSHOP

AND

MONTANA MASQUERS

PRESENT

THE VOICE OF THE TURTLE

BY

JOHN VAN DRUTEN

LEROY W. HINZE, Director

ABE WOLLOCK, Technical Director

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CAST

SALLY MIDDLETON ..... MARILYN NEILS  
OLIVE LASHBROOKE ..... MARTA DRYSDALE  
BILL PAGE ..... ROBERT KAUFFMAN

— SCENES —

ACT ONE

Scene I—Friday Afternoon  
Scene II—Friday Evening

ACT TWO

Scene I—Saturday Morning  
Scene II—Late Saturday Night

ACT THREE

Scene I—Sunday Morning  
Scene II—Late Sunday Afternoon

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The action, throughout, takes place over a week-end in early April in an apartment in the East Sixties, near Third Avenue, New York City.

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant to the Director .....	Matilda Kartevold
Stage Manager .....	Edward Patterson
Lighting .....	Jim McRandle, Dolf Fieldman
Costumes .....	Martha Brown, Dorcas Ingals
Make-up .....	Marge McKin, Josephine Martin
Properties .....	Gladys Trambley, Nancy Fields, Helen Micka, Barbara Dew, Jak Unfred
Staging .....	Edward Patterson, Jim McRandle, Jak Unfred, Marge McKin, Josephine Martin, Jack Swee, Floyd Chapman
House Manager .....	Ross Miller
Box Office .....	Margaret Lampen, Betty Chapman Virginia Risch
Publicity .....	Ross Miller, Eva Welsh

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

To the merchants of Missoula for their generous assistance in helping us furnish the setting.

To the Missoula Mercantile and General Appliance for kitchen appliances.

To Standard Furniture and Missoula Furniture Mart for living room furnishings.

To Hefte's Music Shop for the Magnavox radio.

To Custom-Built Venetian Blind Co. for venetian blinds.

To Dramatists Play Service for release on "THE VOICE OF THE TURTLE."



## SIMPKINS' PAST

This little theater, which lends itself to intimacy between actors and audience, we hope to repair and use increasingly for Masquers productions. It was constructed in 1926, under the direction of Carl Glick, author of several plays and books. It was in steady use between that date and the playing season of 1935.

When the theater was in repair, the paint was fresh, curtains hung in pleasant folds from the windows to the floors, the stage had a switchboard adequate for artistic lighting of the settings. To the north were dressing, make-up and costume rooms; and a foyer in which, by the stone fireplace, cigarettes and coffee were served to audiences between acts. Around the walls were pictures of Masquers productions.

Among this theater's directors who left for larger positions are Carl Glick, Alexander Dean (later at Yale University), Barnard Hewitt (now at the University of Illinois).

Two Gilbert and Sullivan operas were given here, "The Pirates of Penzance" and "H. M. S. Pinafore." Tough plays like "The Front Page;" stark tragedy, like Dane's "Granite;" light comedies like Ervine's "Mary, Mary Quite Contrary," and Coward's "Hay Fever;" expressionist plays, Capek's "R. U. R.," and O'Neill's "The Hairy Ape;" mystery dramas like "The Thirteenth Chair;" Lord Dunsany's "A Night at an Inn;" Barrie's "What Every Woman Knows," Ibsen's "The Wild Duck," Echegaray's "The World and His Wife" were produced here. The older writers like Moliere "The Learned Ladies" and Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream" and "Twelfth Night" had their men and women on this stage. Alexander Dean offered Materlinck's poetic fantasy "The Bluebird" and Rostand's barnyard allegory "Chantecler."

Other well-known plays have been seen here—by Milne, Morley, O'Casey "Juno and the Paycock," Matinez-Sierra, Synge "Riders to the Sea," Anatole France, Crothers, Tchekov, Bernard Shaw "The Devil's D disciple," Barry, Jules Romains, Ferenc Molnar, Stephen Leacock, Benevente.

Lennox Robinson (then director of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin) produced his own play "The Round Table," and later William Angus offered Robinson's "The Far-Off Hills." Many plays written by students had their try-outs here—by Paul Treichler, Greta Shriver, William Negherbon, Jessie Cambron, Mrs. Angus, Harold Shaw.

This Little Theater has provided rich dramatic entertainment in the past; it intends to provide as rich fare in the future.

H. G. MERRIAM