

Spring 4-28-1989

Lysistrata (1989)

San Jose State University, Theatre Arts

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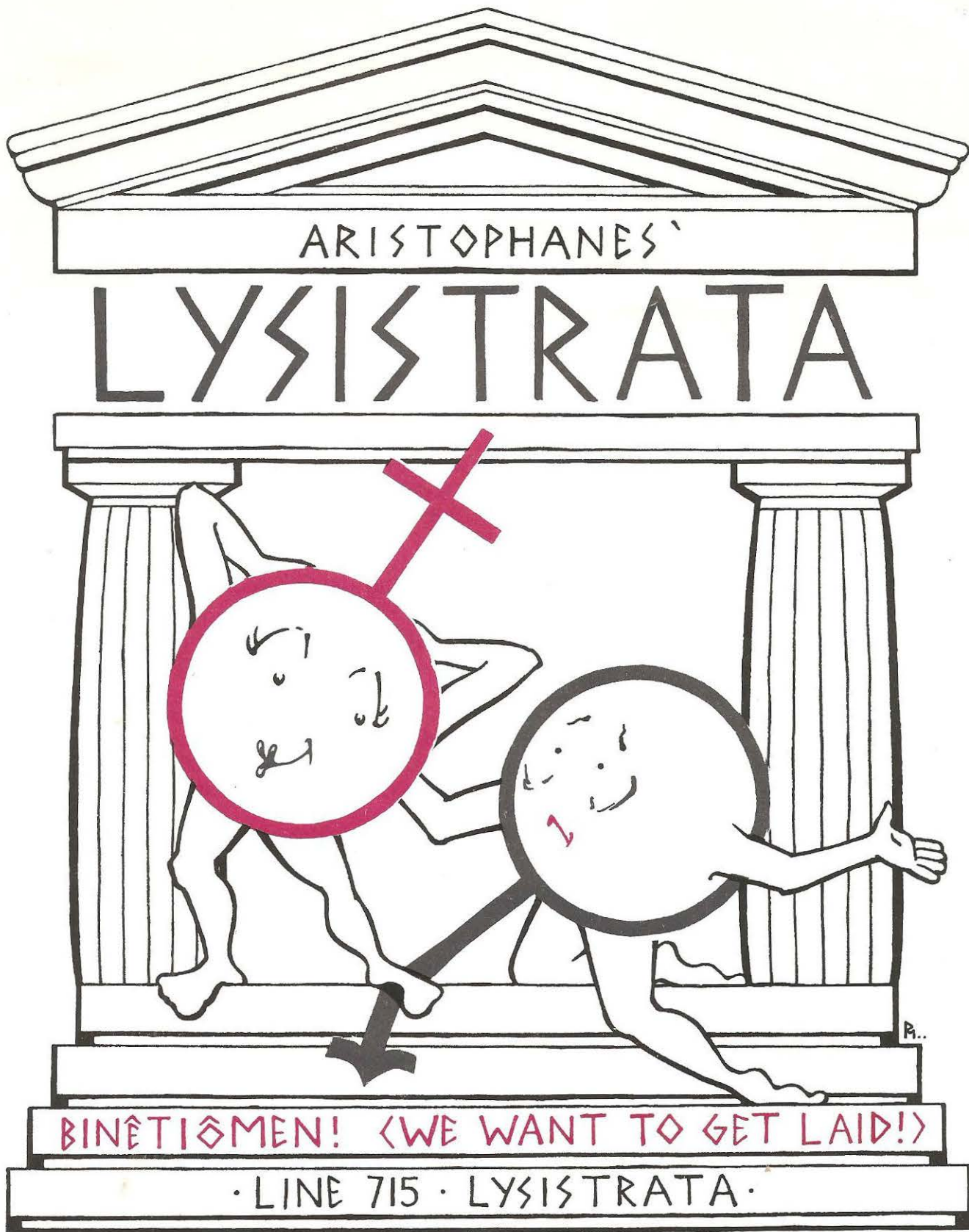


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UNIVERSITY THEATRE
san jose state university

April 28, 29 May 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13 1989 8 p.m.

FROM THE DIRECTOR . . .

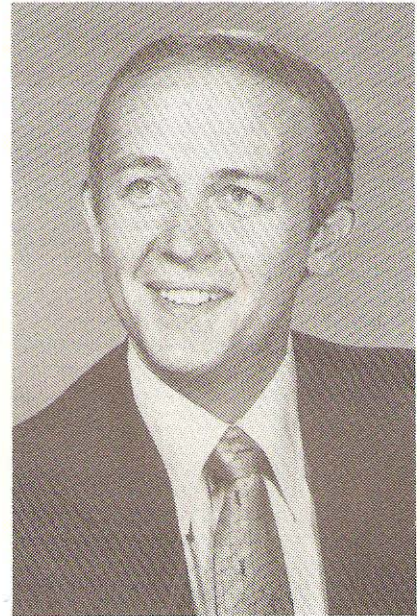
The Peloponnesian War between Athens and Sparta and their allies lasted from 431-404 B.C. It would eventually reduce the "Glory that was Greece" to rubble and a memory. Twenty years into this struggle to the death, Aristophanes (ca. 448- ca. 380 B.C.) produced *Lysistrata*, using his usual weapons of humor, satire and invective to both teach and entertain, "inculcating," as Lionel Casson points out, "good citizenship, drawing cant, hypocrisy and pretense, to point up the unhappiness . . . that these cause."

Of the forty comedies Aristophanes wrote, eleven are extant and are the only Old Comedies to survive to the present day. In his verse he skips from trimeter to heptameter using iambs, troches, and anapests at will (we mark these changes with drum beats). The iambic scenes tend to develop the action, but there are opposing speeches of some length between the pompous Commissioner and Lysistrata written in anapests, occasional insertions of parody on the tragic demeanor, and parabases which directly address the audience with some of the playwright's thoughts. All of these elements we have tried to preserve in our production.

But, in its 2,400th year, we have approached *Lysistrata* not as a biography, nor as a history of brave people in time of war attempting drastic measures to cure a social ill, nor as a trifling attempt at escapist humor to avoid present pain. The play possesses two universal revelations, "happy ideas" that if we don't have sex, maybe we can end the war, and, more importantly, the silliness of human beings (both men and women) when they allow themselves to be totally preoccupied by carnal desires.

Of course the play contains the themes of the "battle of the sexes" and the "politics of war," but in this age of life-threatening sexually transmitted diseases, we have chosen also to emphasize its underlying admonition to "know thyself" and to practice "moderation in all things." By using an unspecific time frame, partial masks, exaggerated shapes, and an overt, presentational style, we hope to allow the audience to maintain an intellectual delight in recognition of Puck's dictum in the last play I directed here, "Oh Lord, what Fools these mortals be." To both men and women, the intellectual and the hedonist, the administrator and the administrated, the Hawk and the Dove, the world of excess is the world of chaos.

Happy 2,400 Birthday, *Lysistrata*.



Bob Jenkins

FROM THE CHAIR . . .

This show marks not only the final performance of the season, but the last play produced under Bob Jenkins' eight year reign as Director of Theatre. More than any one director, actor, or designer, those eight years of wonderful stage presentations bear Bob's distinctive mark: technically superb, brimming with vitality, offering a variety rarely found in other collegiate theatre seasons. Most of all, though, "Bob's Theatre" is characterized by a sense of fun. There is never a dull moment in the Department as he moves a show from initial selection to strike.

As Chair, I personally thank Bob for the hard work he's given and the good humor with which he's done it. For the Department I would like to congratulate him on eight successful years of running our theatre and wish him well as he returns to the ivory tower.

Thanks, Bob!

Stanley Baran

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Since joining the faculty in 1965, Richard D. Parks' directing assignments have ranged from Racine's *Phaedra* to *My Fair Lady*, from *Measure to Measure* to *Born Yesterday*. Considered a theatre generalist, Parks is happiest teaching a wide range of subjects (some forty-five to date) and directing in a variety of genres and styles. Parks received his Bachelors degree from SJSU and some of our longtime patrons may remember him as "Volpone" or "Peter Pan" in the early '60's. He went on to win acting awards at the University of Washington and Stanford University. He has appeared in SJSU Summer season productions such as *The Imaginary Invalid* and *The Miser*. His more recent productions include *A Streetcar Named Desire*, the musical *Aesop's Fables*, the historical drama *The Hollow Crown*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. In addition to his primary duties as a teacher and Director of Acting Training, Parks is a published playwright and author, producer with the National Broadcasting Company, and the Executive Director of Actors Symposium of Hollywood. Featured in the Directory of American Scholars and a dozen other national books of biography, Parks has recently been inducted into Marquis' *Who's Who in Entertainment*.

ABOUT THE COSTUME DESIGNER

Jeffrey Struckman was art director for the internationally televised opening ceremony of the Tenth Pan American Games in Indianapolis. He has previously designed sets and costumes at theatres across the country including the Guthrie Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, the Alliance Theatre, StageWest, Berkshire Theatre Festival, St. Louis Municipal Opera and Theatre Project Company. Other projects he has designed include "Skylaidoscope" at Walt Disney World, *Kids and Books* for Cable TV and several commercials. Mr. Struckman also designed costumes and sets for San Jose Rep's *1940's Radio Hour*, *The Rainmaker*, *The Unexpected Guest* and *All My Sons*, as well as scenery for *Talley's Folly* and *A Streetcar Named Desire* and costumes for Shakespeare Santa Cruz's *Julius Caesar* and *Antony and Cleopatra* and Berkeley Shakespeare Festival's critically acclaimed *Julius Caesar*. Mr. Struckman is the guest faculty designer for the University Theatre's Spring semester.

ABOUT THE SCENIC DESIGNER

James K. Culley joined the faculty at SJSU as Technical Director in the Fall of 1988. He received his undergraduate degree in History and a Master's degree in Technical Theatre and Design from San Jose State. He recently completed his M.F.A. in Theatrical Design at the University of Texas at Austin. Mr. Culley has worked for the Barn Theatre in Augusta, Michigan as technical director and as a designer for ten summers. *Lysistrata* is his first design project since his return to SJSU.

LYSISTRATA

by
Aristophanes

Cast

Lysistrata Buffy Davis
Kalonike Deanna MacLean
Myrrhina Teri Bawdon
Lampito Sara Beukers
Cinesias Adam Novicki
Athenian Commissioner Gary Zaro
Scythian Guards Cristina Goulart
Tiffany Peck, Vicki Ulrich

Chorus of Women

Jessamyn Barker
Theresa Botteillo
Gillian Brecker
Karen Eves
Cristina Goulart
Kelly Gregg
Ashley Merritt
Tiffany Peck
Marne Rowland
Vicki Ulrich
Cori White
Susan Winsberg

Chorus of Men

Aric Cushing
Mitchell Dahood
Doug Kester
Michael La Mere
Jim Monak

Harmony Tiffany Peck
Spartan Ambassadors Aric Cushing, Mitchell Dahood
Athenian Ambassadors Doug Kester, Adam Novicki
Flute Players Susan Winsberg, Ashley Merritt
Drummer Jim Monak

There will be one fifteen minute intermission.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director	Richard D. Parks
Lighting and Sound Design	James R. Earle, Jr.
Scenic Design	James K. Culley
Costume Design	Jeffrey Struckman
Makeup Design	Kelly McAllister, Geoff Nixon
Music composed and played by	Susan Winsberg
Technical Director	James K. Culley
Stage Manager	Catherine Ferrant
Assistant Director	Mary Ann Evans
Assistant Scenic Design	Marie-Claude Ehrmann
Costume Design Assistant	Cheryl Saad
Assistant Stage Manager	Jenifer Lapolla
Scenic Artists	Marie-Claude Ehrmann*, Bonny Kayser
Armorer	Nina Jean Parker
Hair Stylist	Pamela Denison (Berkeley Rep)
Scenery Construction	Drama 10, 52, and 150 Students
Stage Crew	Brett Eto, Andrew Hohenner*
Property Crew	Vanessa M. Gross, Shannon Frank*
Lighting Operator	Lisa Zambetti
Sound Technician	Teresa Roskos
Cutter/Fitter	Eliza Chugg
Costume Construction	Drama 10 Students, Debra Timmerman, Rachelle Adams, Theresa Setterlund
Costume Running Crew	Joy White*, Nancy Biggs, Rian Galbreath, Stephanie Van Schoor Alice Sibley, Mariette Woodruff
Mask Coordinator	Geoff Nixon
Mask Crew	Kelly McAllister, Kevin Cornelius, Kelsey Harding
Makeup Crew	Kelly McAllister, Geoff Nixon
Publicity Crew	Guillermo Aranda, Holly Campbell, Michele Cronk, Steven Jewett, Anna Miller Douglas Minamide, Mike Phillips, Tonya Robinson, Michele Smith, David Stephens Chris Sullens, Scott Wells, Nasaron Wimolniti

*denotes Crew Head

Special Thanks to Atta Worick for properties donation, and Marshall Clark for the use of pole vault.

UNIVERSITY THEATRE TECHNICAL STAFF

Shop Foreman	Steven Placke
Scene Shop Assistants	Pip Panitchpakdi, Heather Dobson, Andy Hohenner
Painting Assistant	Marie-Claude Ehrmann
Costumer	Eliza Chugg
Costume Shop Assistants	Cathie Milner, Joy White, Deanna MacLean, Nancy Biggs
Costume Loan Coordinator	Lisa Zambetti
Prop Room Coordinator	Buffy Davis
Lighting Technician	Sandra Marto
Lighting Assistant	Ronald Spaulding
Sound Technician	Scott Sinagra
Studio Theatre Technician	Kelly McAllister

UNIVERSITY THEATRE FRONT OF HOUSE STAFF

Director of Theatre	Bob Jenkins
Publicist	Mary Ann Evans
Program Artist	Jenny Boris
Graphic Artist	Paul Manchester
Box Office Manager	Kelsey Harding
House Manager	Debra Timmerman
Photographer	Michael Mariant
Publicity Crew	Drama 10 Students
Box Office Crew	Douglas Kester, Diane Erlich, Rian Galbreath, Shannon Frank

BUY YOUR TICKET TO A SENSATIONAL 1989-1990 SEASON

Our 1989-90 season presents a feast of delicious theatrical offerings. Here's your menu: a knockout contemporary farce, a treasured American masterwork, a celebration of Cole Porter's words and music, a thrilling Romantic classic of the revolutionary era, a colorful mix of energy and motion displaying the best of classical, modern, and jazz dance, and a glitzy finale of one of the flashiest musicals of recent years. Bon Apétit! And it's still the best price in town!

We are enthusiastic about next season's shows, and we invite you to join in the fun by becoming a SUBSCRIBER to the 1989-90 season. Our subscribers receive special treatment including a substantial savings over regular ticket prices, choice of the best seats, no standing in line to buy tickets, and the chance to be a vital part of the San Jose State University Theatre "family" sharing our accomplishments and watching the development of our talented students.

ABOUT FACE

Dario Fo's hilarious and combusive masterpiece.
"Falling down funny"

At the heart of Dario Fo's plays lie three volatile ingredients: laughter, thought, and relevance. It is this concoction that has made him the most widely produced playwright in the world today, an especially ironic fact considering that, until last year, he was banned from entry into the United States as "undesirable."

In *About Face*, Italy's leading millionaire industrialist is the target of a terrorist attack. In the funniest operating room scene ever written, the industrialist undergoes plastic surgery and is given the new face of a factory worker suspected of being one of the terrorists. The result, a hilarious and combusive masterpiece which mixes wild farce and political acid at the expense of industrialists and terrorists alike.

September 29-30, October 4-7

THE CRUCIBLE

Arthur Miller's gripping historical drama
"An authentic American masterpiece"

In dramatizing the Salem witch hunts at the end of the 17th century, Miller explores the roots of intolerance and mass hysteria in our society. A few girls, fettered by a rigid puritan moral code, seek an outlet in secret dances at night in the woods. Discovered, they manage to elude punishment by declaring themselves victims of the Devil and by ecstatically accusing several harmless women of witchcraft. The whole community is caught in a frenzy.

The central plot concerns John Proctor, a forthright farmer, his wife Elizabeth, and Abigail, the ringleader of the girls. Abigail had once seduced Proctor and now tries to eliminate Elizabeth by declaring her a witch. In a thrilling, bloodcurdling, terrifying scene, small lies build and build until nineteen men and women go to the gallows for being possessed of the devil. "A powerful drama . . . strongly written." (New York Times).

November 3-4, 8-11

Cole Porter

A Music and Dance Revue.
"It's Delightful, It's Delicious, It's De-Lovely!"

Join us for a jubilant romp through four decades of music and dance by Cole Porter, the celebrated creator of *Anything Goes*, *Kiss Me Kate*, and *Can Can*. This musical dance revue rolls all of the best Porter shows into one delicious evening of entertainment featuring all-time favorites such as "Begin the Beguine," "Night and Day," "Love for Sale," "Brush Up Your Shakespeare," "I Love Paris," "In the Still of the Night" and many more.

"He is already a classic, and one day will be seen as one of the most charming, skillful, and civilized reporters of that astonishing spectacle: the twentieth century in mid-flight." (Benny Green)

November 29-30, December 1-2