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THE TACOMA LITTLE THEATRE Presents

Lilies of The Field

DRAMA BY F. ANDREW LESLIE

DIRECTED BY WILLIAM EARL RAY I

January 16th Thru 31st 8:00 P.M.

January 25Th 2:00 P.M.

TickeTs available at Box Office

210 NO. I ST

272-2481

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"LILIES OF THE FIELD"

Adapted for the stage by F. Andrew Leslie From the novel by William E. Barrett

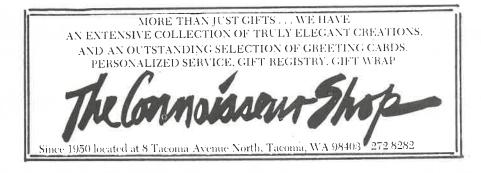
A drama in three acts

Directed by: William Earl Ray I

With performances on: January 16, 17, 23, 24, 30 and 31 at 8:00 in the evening Sunday Matinee on January 25th at 2:00 in the afternoon

1980-81: OUR 62ND SEASON

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.



THE PLAYERS

(In order of appearance)

Father Gomez SCOTT GRAF
Homer Smith ANTONIO MERRITT
Mother Maria Marthe
Sister Elizabeth
Sister Gertrud BARBARA GLASS
Sister Agnes KATY BESSENBACHER
Sister Albertine ELLEN MACREADY
Jose DAVID SIDES
Livingston DAVID BERG
"Ballad of Homer Smith" performed by: NELSON WOHN,
JASON DUTTER, TAMARA CARTER, DI-DI CABLES

INTRODUCING: THE DIRECTOR

William Earl Ray I is a native of Texas who migrated this way through the service, and spent 6 years serving his fellow Americans. It was in 1978 at Fort Lewis that he got his start in theatre, appearing in "A Raisin in the Sun," "Annie Get Your Gun," "Guys and Dolls" and "Simply Heavenly." Then Mr. "Ray," as he puts it, got this wild idea about becoming a **director**, which lead him to shows such as "Ceremonies in Dark Old Men," "Five on the Black Hand Side" - and two one-acts: "Happy Ending" and "Day of Absence." William also directed the premiere production of the company to which he now belongs, NDABA Cultural Ensemble. That show was "Simply Heavenly," performed in Tacoma last summer. Future plans include codirecting NDABA's next production with fellow member Robert Earl Taylor for Black History Month, James Baldwin's "The Amen Corner."

DIRECTOR'S NOTE: Any person who directs a show has a special reason for doing that show. I was asked by Tacoma Little Theatre to direct "Lilies" which, again, as I grow in this field, gives me the opportunity to enhance my abilities as a director.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the wonderful cast that I, as a director, have had the utmost pleasure of working with. Thank God for such a wonderful group of people.

Lastly, I would like to say that working in the theatre, you become very close to people, who have a special meaning to you as actors/actresses. Last winter this time period, I had the pleasure of working with one---John William Norwalk. John has left us and gone to another world---one which offers love, peace and happiness for all mankind.

To John William Norwalk I dedicate this show: "Lilies of the Field."

Love & More Love Over William Earl Ray I

INTRODUCING: THE CAST

In his portrayal of FATHER GOMEZ, SCOTT GRAF is re-creating his first role in theatre. He played Father Gomez in Tacoma Community College's production of "LILIES" in October of 1978 - which also marked the dawn of Scott's interest in acting. He kept his hand in at TCC, playing Smirnov in "The Boer" in July of '79 and Paravilini in "Three Blind Mice" in October of last year. To him, Father Gomez is "hard not to like. He's gentle, self-assured and has a charisma about him." Scott considers himself to be somewhat like his character - "but I lack his patience." Acting is something that he does for fun; Scott works for the Red Cross, and plans to obtain certification in drug and alcohol counseling, a field in which he already has 15 years of experience.

ANTONIO MERRITT is one of those people who keeps turning up even when you don't expect him - Thank Goodness!! First sighted as a lighting technician of "Wild Goose Chase," he returned to light up the stage in a different way - as Leroy in "Bad Seed." Now he's the star of our show, playing HOMER SMITH, a man for whom he has much more respect and affection than he did for Leroy. This man is the "Total Artist" - an accomplished musician, singer and dancer as well as actor. Antonio believes that "it is the responsibility of the artist... to be conscious of what he portrays in his work, and of the attitude that he conveys to the observer in regards to it." But the true Antonio came out when I asked him what originally brought him to TLT. "I was a hostage aboard a plane that was hijacked by an eccentric Cuban whose approach to getting home was to take off from Florida and head west."

CHRISTINE GRIM is an artist - and a **con** artist! She even admits it, describing her many-faceted involvement with "Lilies" thusly: "I've been helping to arrange the sound effects and conning technical people into working on our production." In "real life," she uses this ability as Con - oops - I mean **Promotion** Director for KTAC radio. Chris sees acting as "a way to legitimize my already schizophrenic nature. I began in junior high, and have always been the principle source of my family's entertainment." MOTHER MARIA MARTHE is a very important role - both to the play, and to Chris. She sees Mother's great responsibility toward the other nuns and her faith in God as challenging and exciting. Also, "Mother's authoritative nature is similar to my own. She does not allow others to regard her passively, but demands a reaction."

VALERIE CHASE has a real feeling for acting - "gut feeling." She decided to become an actress "at birth," and would love for acting to become her vocation. One thing is certain - she doesn't lack ambition. "I want to do T.V. commercials and movies, perhaps some radio (voice-overs, etc.), and receive an Oscar." About her part as SISTER ELIZABETH, Valerie comments, "My mother will think I've gone (Hallelujah!) religious." She's easy to please - "I always like everything about my characters" - and, unlike the character she portrays, Valerie prefers leading to following and is **not** the quiet type.

For someone who claims to know nothing about how to get started in acting, BARBARA GLASS is making great strides. She's already taking classes in both modeling and acting in Seattle and has made some good contacts in the business. "Last year I started writing back and forth to Hollywood agents, who helped me a lot." A west coast agent led her to Tacoma Little Theatre and her role as SISTER GERTRUD. Barbara describes herself as being "totally different" from the character she portrays. Her plan for the future is to go to Los Angeles to line up an all-fields (television, commercial, modeling) agent.

The way that KATY BESSENBACHER got into acting (and acting got into her blood) sounds familiar. "Two years ago, I suddenly had an oppurtunity to act in a play at T.C.C. I took the chance and it became addictive!" A general clerk at St. Joseph Hospital during the day, Katy enjoys becoming SISTER AGNES by night. "Sister Agnes doesn't say much, but her excitement at learning the English language allows me to use my imagination and follow a feeling to its fullest extent." What she and Sister Agnes have in common is that both are hard workers, who don't easily give up when making their dreams reality. Katy also created the artwork used on our "Lilies" posters and the cover of this playbill, in collaboration with another artist.

When asked if she had any plans for the future in theatre, ELLEN MAC-READYput her answer simply: "Let the good times roll!" Her acting background includes small parts in many shows, such as Charlotte in "Night of the Iguana" and Nurse in 'A Streetcar Named Desire." She also has considerable experience as a stage manager for opera. Ellen toured as stage manager with the Eastern Opera Company's production of "The Marriage of Figaro," and has worked in a similar capacity for the New England Conservatory of Music, Bel Canto and the Boston Lyric Opera. Most recently, she volunteered her services to the Seattle Opera. Of her role as SISTER ALBERTINE, Ellen says: "I find the courage and trust the nuns have to be an inspiration."

DAVID SIDES has, among other things, a vivid imagination. He claims to have been brought to TLT on a dark night by: "A big hand. Furry." If David's name sounds familiar, it could be because he spends a lot of time on the TLT stage. He played Reginald Tasker in "Bad Seed" and Messenger 7013 in "Heaven Can Wait" earlier this season. He says of his current role as JOSE: "I like the character because he is a 'character." They hold in common a lack

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of the need for church attendance, though David adds that he does have faith, in a Supreme Intellect or something similar. "And, si, I am also different. I have no Spanish ancestry. Hard to believe, huh?" Sure, David...

Even among actors, who are exceptional people, DAVID BERG is exceptional. Ask him who he would most like to be and "I'll answer in style by saying Prince the Clown of Ringling Brothers, Barnum and Bailey Circus." And what does he do for a living? Hires himself out as a clown for parties, etc. - what else? He's been acting "since I was potty trained," which lead him (a little later, I trust) to roles such as the Scarecrow in "The Wizard of Oz" and Mr. Snow in "Carousel" at a community theatre in Woodinville, California. David was a contestant on "Hollywood Squares" one day with actor Paul Lynde, who asked him to lunch after the show. Of his role as LIVINGSTON, he says he likes "acting macho - that's what I am in real life." But this "macho" guy also wants to say: "Thank you, TLT, for sharing a part with me."

*Ron "Doc" Lones, who was originally cast as Livingston, put a lot of time and effort into the part, but unforseen circumstances prevented him from performing.



David Pettit Featured Artist This Month

The photographs decorating the STAGE DOOR GALLERY (located in TLT's lobby) during the run of "Lilies of the Field" are the work of local artist David Pettit. This public showing of Dave's photography, while not a large show, does give a generous sampling of his work, which most often has as its subject the natural beauty of the outdoors. Professionally, he is a photographic technician, producing exact photographic reproductions in an enlarged or reduced scale. A true aesthete, Dave says that: "Art thoroughly fascinates me - the whole broad spectrum of art, both visual and performing." (David Pettit is also Technical Director at our theatre.)



TIME: The recent past.

PLACE: A remote valley in the American Southwest.

ACT I

May, late morning

10-MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT II

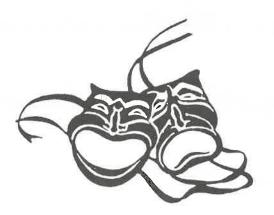
Sunday morning

15-MINUTE INTERMISSION (Coffee, tea, soft drinks and confections available)

ACT III

A few weeks later

Please do not use flash cameras in auditorium.



THE PRODUCTION STAFF

Director
JOHN BINFORD
Scenic Designer THOMAS A. GALLIPEAU
Costumes ALEX LEWINGTON, MAGGIE HAYNES
Go-fer DANA HOLT
Sound Effects CHRISTINE GRIM
STEVEN ARMSTRONG Properties JULIA MUELLER TIM PARSONS,
ALEX LEWINGTON,
Set Construction DAVID PETTIT, MARK LEWINGTON,
THOMAS A. GALLIPEAU
Set Painting JERRY WALDEN
Opening Night Social PEG POOLE
Photographer DICK SHORHOLT
Playbill Cover/Posters KATY BESSENBACHER, PATRICIA TREFRY
Playbill Copy/Publicity
Playbill Layout and Design HEGG BROTHERS PRINTING
Hall Display MAX
Showcase Artwork MAUREEN SMITH
Stage Manager JULIA MUELLER
Dialect Coach VERNA ELLIS
Stage Crew
WE WISH TO EXPRESS OF ID ADDRECTATION TO THOSE MEMBERS OF

WE WISH TO EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION TO THOSE MEMBERS OF THE PRODUCTION STAFF WHOSE NAMES WERE NOT AVAILABLE AT PRESS TIME: **THANK YOU!!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS SECTION

WHILE WE'VE GOT YOUR ATTENTION . . . TLT exists because of the volunteer commitment of people like yourselves - people who believe that live theatre is an essential part of our community. WE NEED YOUR HELP! Can't act your way out of a paper bag? Fine! We also need budding artists, those who are handy with a hammer and nails - and people who need people! In return, we promise you good fellowship with some very interesting people. You'll thank yourself for it - and so will we!!

FOR SALE:SEASON TICKETS for this season are still ON SALE! The price pays for 6 admissions to be used as you wish; i.e., two people can attend all three of our remaining shows on just one season ticket, three people can attend two of the shows with one ticket, and so on. You save from \$3 to \$6 over single ticket prices - and you'll be admitted without charge to our one-act play festival next May!!

TLT T-SHIRTS NOW ON SALE! If you or someone you know has "footlights in the blood," you'll love our t-shirts. With a provacative picture of Miss Pggy and the saying "Ham it up at Tacoma Little Theatre," a TLT t-shirt has got to be the best item on the market for a mere \$5.50 donation!

SCHOOLS! CLUBS! CHURCHES! LARGE FAMILIES! HAVE WE GOT NEWS FOR YOU! TLT is now offering GROUP RATES for groups of any kind with 20 or more people. You may reserve a block of seats anywhere in rows M, N, O, P or Q - for ONLY \$2.00 PER SEAT! SAVE AT LEAST \$20 - and in most cases a lot more. Reservations for groups for remaining performances of "Lilies of the Field" and for "Royal Gambit" are now open.

During February and March, TLT will be hosting THE REAL WORLD PLAYERS and their production of "ROYAL GAMBIT." Written by Hermann Gressieker and translated and adapted for the stage by George White, it is a fascinating story of King Henry VIII and the 6 women in his life which transcends history and poses the most challenging of modern thoughts. To be directed by Gerry Ianuzzi, the play will run on February 27 and 28 and March 6, 7, 8, 13 and 14.



Where would you shop for a "what-not" for the man who has everything. a "thingamajig" for a high school or college grad, a "whatchamacallit" for whozit's wedding, a "something-or-other" for somebody's birthday, a "you-know-what" for an important anniversary, or a little "knickknack" for youknow-who? DICK TALCOTT. CERTIFIED GEMOLOGISTS Member AMERICAN GEM SOCIETY

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DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION NEED TO RAISE FUNDS? TLT offers special CLUB NIGHTS during our regular productions. Take advantage of this opportunity to add money to your treasury and at the same time offer your members an evening of pure enjoyment at a private theatre party! You buy out the house for a minimal fee, then sell the tickets yourselves, making a profit of up to \$1,000!

GET ON OUR MAILING LIST! Season ticket holders are automatically added to the list, but single ticket buyers can be, too - simply by signing our guest book in the lobby. You will then receive all TLT mailings, including SEASON BROCHURES and special notices on upcoming events. LET US HELP YOU KEEP IN TOUCH WITH TLT!

TACOMA'S LITTLE OLD THEATRE HAS A BIG NEW IDEA! It is of special interest to SENIOR CITIZENS, COUPLES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN - ALMOST ANYONE! What is our idea? SUNDAY MATINEES!! So those of you who enjoy our productions but feel worried about or inconvenienced by having to be out after dark can relax. Matinees for upcoming plays will have a 2:00 curtain. Check your season brochure for dates. Not listed on the brochure is "ROYAL GAMBIT," which will have a matinee on Sunday, March 8, 1981.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: CALLING ALL DIRECTORS: TACOMA LITTLE THEATRE NEEDS YOU! We are looking for directors for both our One-Act Play Festival Mry, and for our 1981-82 Season. The One-Act Festival will run on May 1, 2, 8 and 9, with performances of 2 or 3 one-acts each of those nights. Those interested are encouraged to submit a resume and a request including information on the play you want to direct.

COMING UP IN THE STAGE DOOR GALLERY! Open to the public during our regular office hours as well as during performances, the Stage Door Gallery is another way TLT can add to your enjoyment of the Arts in Tacoma. Please note that all artwork is for sale. Featured artists will be as follows:

VALLEY PAINTERS - February 2-25 NORTHWEST CARVERS - February 27 - March 14 WESTERN SHOW - March 16 - April 8 SCHOOL ART DISPLAY - April 10 - 25 STUDIO ARTISTS - May 1-31 PACIFIC GALLERY ARTISTS - June 12-27



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AUDITIONS: Sunday and Monday, March 1st and 2nd at 7:30 p.m.: auditions for "LOVE RIDES THE RAILS; or WILL THE MAIL TRAIN RUN TONIGHT?" by Morland Cary. The cast list calls for 7 men and 5 women, and the show will be directed by Dick Storholt. The dates of the run will be as follows: April 10, 11, 17, 18, 19, 24 and 25.

CLASSES: JUNIOR THEATRE is starting up again! Classes will be held every Saturday afternoon during the months of February and March. Students will be divided into three age groups: 7 to 9 year-olds, 10 to 13 year-olds and 14 and up. And they'll all have the time of their lives learning basic acting, stage movement and mime techniques. The cost is \$20 per child for the two-month period and registration is now open.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENT!!! THE SECOND ANNUAL TACOMA LITTLE THEATRE WINE TASTING PARTY IS COMING! On Saturday, February 7th from 7 to 9 p.m., you can be sampling a variety of delightful wines, munching on cheese and crackers and bidding on works of art and other goods donated by businesses and individuals in our community. Get to know your fellow theatre-goers and TLT board members - and have a good, good time! All proceeds from the silent auction will benefit TLT's Technical Fund, which will be used in the purchase of badlyneeded lighting and sound systems equipment. A \$5.00 donation will be requested.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF THE ANNOUNCEMENTS LISTED ABOVE, PLEASE CONTACT TLT PERSONNEL BEFORE CURTAIN, DURING INTERMISSION OR DURING REGULAR OFFICE HOURS - USUALLY 1:00 TO 7:00 TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY. . .OR CALL 272-2481.



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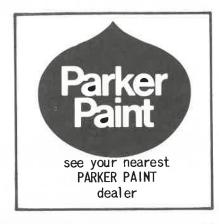
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