Edgar Lee Masters' Spoon River Anthology

Conceived, adapted and arranged by Charles Aidman



TACOMA LITTLE THEATRE

September 6, 1986

PERFORMERS

Corky Brown
Laird Brown
Jan Collum
Jack Daniel
Don Foreman
Toni Foreman
John Gayton
Barbara Gelman
Herb Gelman
Virge Groff
Steve Groves
Jeannie Haugh
Donna Kelly
Red Kelly

Denny MacGougan
Duncan MacLean
Rolene Peterkin
Jack Sage
Meg Saxby
Jan Sefarian
Rich Simpson
Chellis Swensen
Marilee Titus
Elodie Vandevert
Patrick VanHaren
Doug Whittles
Melinda Wilson

And, of course, Tony Karloff.

Musicians

Rhonda and Dave Hall

This play, first produced in 1963, is based on Edgar

SPOON RIVER ANTHOLOGY--The Speakers

ACT I

Song "He's Gone Away"	
Tom Beatty Song "Illinois"	John Gayton
Mrs. Williams	
Dora Williams	Meg Saxby
Archibald Higbie	Rolene Peterkin
Walter Simmons	Tony Karloff
Deacon Taylor	Don Foreman
Emily Sparks	Duncan MacLean
	Jeannie Haugh
Benjamin Pantier Mrs. Pantier	Laird Brown
	Corky Brown
Reuben Pantier	Rich Simpson
Song "Soldier Oh Soldier"	
Knowlt Hoheimer	Patrick VanHaren
Lydia Puckett	Melinda Wilson
Fiddler Jones	Red Kelly
Ollie McGee	Chellis Swensen
Fletcher McGee	Virge Groff
Hamilton Greene	John Gayton
Elsa Wertman	Melinda Wilson
Rosie Roberts	Donna Kelly
Russian Sonja	Elodie Vandevert
Lucius Atherton	Doug Whittles
Song "Times Are Gettin' Hard, Boys"	
Eugene Carmen	Denny MacGougan
Song "Water Is Wide"	•
William & Emily	Duncan MacLean
	Jan Sefarian
Song "Water Is Wide" (Reprise)	
Enoch Dunlap	Tony Karloff
Mrs. Kessler	Toni Foreman
Nancy Knapp	Marilee Titus
George Cray	Jack Daniel
Harry Wilmans	Patrick VanHaren
Nellie Clark	Melinda Wilson
Song "Paper Of Pins"	
Roscoe Purkapile	Herb Gelman
Mrs. Purkapile	Barbara Gelman
A. D. Blood	Steve Groves
Song "In The Night" (Instrumental)	
Hannah Armstrong	Jan Collum
Faith Matheny	Jan Sefarian
Judge Lively	Jack Sage

Fifteen Minute Intermission

ACT II

Song "Three Nights Drunk" Judge Lively Jack Sage Zilpha Marsh Barbara Gelman Searcy Foote Patrick VanHaren Mrs. Charles Bliss Rolene Peterkin Song "Far Away From Home" Pauline Barrett Corky Brown The Village Atheist Herb Gelman Franklin Jones Steve Groves Tony Karloff, Duncan Schofield Huxley MacLean, Marilee Titus, Jan Sefarian Song "In The Night" John Gayton, Patrick Dippold the Optician VanHaren, Elodie Vandevert, Meg Saxby Song "In The Night" (Reprise) Elijah Browning Duncan MacLean Song "Mornin's Come" Alexander Throckmorton Don Foreman Amanda Barker Donna Kelly Willard Fluke Laird Brown Lois Spears Jan Sefarian Song "God Bless The Moon" Abel Melveney Red Kelly Hod Putt Jack Sage Ida Frickey Meg Saxby Silas Dement Rich Simpson Aner Clute Toni Foreman Daisy Fraser Marilee Titus Indignation Jones Denny MacGougan Minerva Jones Jan Collum Doctor Mevers Jack Daniel Mrs. Meyers Melinda Wilson Song "Who Knows Where I'm Goin'" Mrs. Sibley Jeannie Haugh Rev. Sibley Virge Groff Willie Metcalf Doug Whittles Song "I Am, I Am" Batterton Dobyns John Gayton Flossie Cabanis Elodie Vandevert Frank Drummer Denny MacGougan Barney Hainsfeather Herb Gelman Song "Spoon River" Lucinda Matlock Jan Collum Petit the Poet Tony Karloff Anne Rutledge Chellis Swensen

The audience is invited to a reception and dessert buffet immediately following the performance.

Song "Spoon River" (Reprise)

This play, first produced in 1963, is based on Edgar Lee Masters' collection of short poems published in 1915 as the Spoon River Anthology. In it former residents of a small Illinois town speak their own epitaphs and reveal, with a frankness shocking in its day, the dark side of village life. Masters' book pleased many readers, who made it the most popular American poetry work since Hiawatha, but enraged others who found the characters' confessional speeches morally Seventy years later the men and women of offensive. Spoon River continue to speak the truth about their lives--too often stunted by hypocrisy and injustice and filled with failure and frustration, only occasionally touched by happiness and beauty.

Production Staff

Director Technical Director Set Construction Stage Managers

Lighting Artist Program David Domkoski Paul Van Giffen

Peter Helmholz, Paul Van Giffen

Leon Davis, Len Kannapell, Lara Lee, Paul Van Giffen,

Mark Adolph Randy Cezan

Judy McCarthy, Betty Minor