

ACT

ANN ARBOR CIVIC THEATRE PRESENTS...

HENRIK IBSEN'S

HEDDA

DIRECTION BY—CHARLES SUTHERLAND

LYDIA MENDELSSOHN THEATRE

FOR TICKET INFO. CALL 662-7282




FEB. 25-28, 1987-8PM, SAT. MATINEE 2PM

GABLER

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THE CAST

(In order of appearance)

Julia Tesman	<i>good</i>	Sandy Hudson
Berte, the maid		Margie Cohen
George Tesman		.....	Jim Toler
Hedda Gabler	<i>exc. older looking</i>	.....	Kay L. Grismer
Thea Elvsted		.....	Cynthia M. Szczesny
Judge Brack		.....	Beverly J. Pooley
Eilert Lovborg	<i>exc. great</i>	.....	William J. Cross

The Place

The action takes place in the Tesman's villa in a fashionable residential section of the town

The Time

September, 1900

The Play

There will be three acts with two, ten minute, intermissions.

AACT

We've torn open the wrappings of our 1987-1988 season to let you see that you've got a truly fine (great?, colossal?, even super colossal?) season in store for you. Oh yes, each play this year is a "first timer", that is, done for the very first time ever by AACT.

Inherit The Wind
Bullshot Crummond
Music Man
Side By Side By Sondheim
The Real Thing
Plaza Suite

(Plays not listed in order of production)

'87

'88

Ann Arbor
Civic Theatre



Main Street
Productions Presents

**MARCH 12-14,
19-21, 26-28,
1987
8:00 PM**

AACT
Mainstreet Theatre
338 S. Main Street

*Tickets available
at the door
or by calling
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or 662-9405*

LU ANN
HAMPTON
LAVERTY
OBERLANDER

*A "Good Ol'" Comedy by Preston Jones
Directed by Cassie Mann*

With the support of the Michigan Council of the Arts



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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Henrik Ibsen saw his play, *Hedda Gabler*, as didactic.

Modern audiences are less interested in social instruction than in the psychological motivations of the character of Hedda. We have tried to make the characters accessible to our audience. Ibsen wanted the characters to be portrayed as ordinary people, who speak naturally. It is a very modern play, full of the humor of human frailty. Much has been said about the play being pre-Freudian, but all that means is that Ibsen was not restrained or restricted by Freud. It is remarkable that Ibsen could include all the elements of classic tragedy in a drama of ordinary people. Hedda only seeks to control her own life, but sees that control trickle away. These are characters firmly bound by society's conventions; so we must understand and forgive.

— Charles Sutherland

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

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THE STAFF

Director	Charles Sutherland
Producer	Shirley Mallette
Assistant Director/Stage Manager	Suzanne Paster
Set Design	Joe Medrano/Robert Seeman
Costume Design	Mary Leyendecker
Lighting Design	Phyllis Albertson
Set Properties	Marilyn Kennedy
Hand Properties	Yehudit Newman
Make-up/Hair Design	Roberta Rizzarda Price

ABOUT THE CAST AND STAFF

PHYLLIS ALBERTSON (Lighting Design) Phyllis has extensive background in theatre since her beginnings with University of Minnesota Theatre and the Tyrone Guthrie Theatre in Minneapolis. Over the past 25 years she has worked in summer stock in Petoskey, Traverse City, Cape Cod and North and South Dakota. She has also done dinner theatre and community theatre throughout Michigan and Minnesota as an actress, director, costumer and lighting designer. She works as an office manager in a local law firm and enjoys reading, writing, movies and being a mother. This is Phyllis' second show with AACT, and hopefully the first of many.

MARGIE COHEN (Berte) Margie has acted in a number of shows with AACT, most recently HAY FEVER, THE SHADOW BOX and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE. She was also assistant director for HAY FEVER, and has done props for a number of shows over the last 10 years. She was formerly a member of the AACT board and social chairman. At present she is both a part-time secretary at the University of Michigan and a student. She enjoys reading, writing and cooking.

WILLIAM J. CROSS (Eilert Lovborg) AACT welcomes Bill back after a three-year "retirement". Prior to his absence he had distinguished himself by winning AACT's Best Actor of the Year Award three times. He has performed principal roles in well over forty productions with groups in the area. Bill has completed extensive graduate work at the University of Michigan Speech Department and has been active over the years in many Michigan Media Television Productions.

KAY L. GRISMER (Hedda Gabler) Kay won AACT's Best Supporting Actress Award for last year's performance of Matron Morton in CHICAGO. She has performed in dinner theatres as Sally Bowles (CABARET) and Ellen (ANY WEDNESDAY). Other roles include Golda (FIDDLER ON THE ROOF), Arlene (BABY) and Cunegunda (CANDIDE). Kay has directed for other civic theatre groups and hopes to direct for AACT soon.

SANDY HUDSON (Aunt Julia) Here is another familiar face for AACT playgoers. Sandy has appeared in many roles, major and supporting, for Civic over the past decade. Most recently she has appeared as the nurse in last season's ORPHEUS DESCENDING and Abby in THE LATE CHRISTOPHER BEAN. She is also a former Board member. Sandy has recently undergone a career change from math instructor at EMU to actuary at Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Company.

MARILYN KENNEDY (Set Properties) Marilyn has been very busy with Civic Theatre over the last seven years singing, producing, dressing sets, designing graphics and serving as Production Coordinator and Vice-President of the Board. Her most recent appearances for AACT were as Miss M. Muse in SKIN OF OUR TEETH, Mother Abbess in SOUND OF MUSIC and Morgan Le Fey in CAMELOT. She also has been very active with Comic Opera Guild, having just finished co-producing KISMET. Marilyn spends her "spare time" working as a graphic designer and coping with a teen-age daughter and a Great Dane puppy.

MARY LEYENDECKER (Costume Design) Mary's costumes have graced the stage for AACT productions of CHICAGO, FIDDLER ON THE ROOF, THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST and DRACULA. She also designed costumes for THE MERRY WIDOW at the University of Michigan School of Music. In real life, Mary works as a costumer at the University of Michigan.

SHIRLEY MALLETTE (Producer) Shirley is on the list of faithful AACT workers, and has done a variety of back stage tasks such as set construction and painting, props, costumes, lights, stage crew and now, for the second time, producer. She works as a nurse at University Hospital in the Nuclear Medicine Department.

JOE MEDRANO (Set Design/Builder) A sterling AACT member with 26 years as an active member, Joe has done it all (except costuming)—acting, poster design, box office, ushering, props, lighting, set construction and set design. (He is also a wonderful make-up artist, we hear.) He and Bob Seeman have also collaborated on set designs for the Chelsea Area Players (CAMELOT), and at Allen Park High School (BLITHE SPIRIT), as well as ROYAL FAMILY for AACT. Joe is on the Board of Directors for the second time and has served as Vice-President. He teaches math at Allen Park High School.

YEHUDIT NEWMAN (Hand Properties) Yehudit has been running props off and on for the last 20 years. She ventured onstage once as a dancer for Comic Opera Guild's NAUGHTY MARIETTA and decided she very much prefers being backstage. Yehudit spends most of her time devoted to being a "Yiddishe Mama" and has also recently become the facilitator for the Society of Jewish Seniors at the Jewish Community Center.

SUZANNE PASTER (Assistant Director/Stage Manager) Suzanne is new to AACT and to Ann Arbor, having moved here in December. She is originally from Boston and just graduated from Sarah Lawrence College. She participated in the North Eastern College Dance Festival in Pittsburgh, PA. She also was assistant director of dance at Camp Mystic in Hunt, Texas. While spending a year in Paris, France, she became interested in art and design. Suzanne says she looks forward to good times, hard work and making a lot of friends at Civic.

BEVERLEY J. POOLEY (Judge Brack) Bev has delighted Ann Arbor audiences for years in numerous Gilbert and Sullivan and AACT productions. Most recently he has appeared as David in AACT's HAY FEVER and Jack Point in YEOMAN OF THE GUARD for G & S. Bev is Professor of Law and Director of the Law Library at the University of Michigan.

ROBERTA RIZZARDI PRICE (Make-up/Hair Design) Roberta has been doing make-up with AACT for twelve years. She also works with other area organizations such as the University of Michigan School of Music, Gilbert and Sullivan Society, the Dexter Players and several area schools. She is an art teacher with the Dexter Community Schools and a graduate student at the University of Michigan in art.

ROBERT SEEMAN (Set Design/Builder) Bob has been active with AACT since 1960. Late in his Civic career he turned to set designing. Since 1978 he has designed 12 sets, often with Joe Medrano as collaborator. Last season they co-designed THE ROYAL FAMILY and created CAMELOT for the Chelsea Area Players. Bob also serves as scene shop supervisor, co-chairperson of the fund raising program CORNERBLOCKS AND KEYSTONES and a member of the Board of Directors. . . again. He works as a coding classification consultant for the Commission on Professional and Hospital Activities.

CHARLES SUTHERLAND (Director) Charlie has had significant accomplishments at AACT over the past several years. He won Best Supporting Awards in 1985 and 1986 for the role of Sandor in BELLS ARE RINGING and Moonface Mullins in ANYTHING GOES. He has also directed a number of shows for the Main Stage and Mainstreet stages, most recently THE LATE CHRISTOPHER BEAN. Charlie has been very instrumental in developing and working on the Mainstreet stage at the AACT building. He even has enough energy left to teach third grade in Detroit.

CYNTHIA SZCZESNY (Thea Elvsted) Cynthia is "treading the AACT boards" for the first time in this production. No stranger to audiences in the Metro Detroit area, Cynthia brings a wealth of experience from community theatre, dinner theatre and professional stages. A few favorite roles include Constanze in AMADEUS, Polly in THE GINGERBREAD LADY, Morgan Le Fey in CAMELOT, Mona in COME BACK TO THE 5 & DIME JIMMY DEAN, JIMMY DEAN and Penelope Toop in SEE HOW THEY RUN.

JIM TOLER (George Tesman) Jim was last seen by AACT's audiences as the dastardly Lyle Britten in BLUES FOR MR. CHARLIE. His other credits include AMADEUS (Salieri) with the Dearborn Theatre Arts Alliance, ARSENIC AND OLD LACE (Mortimer) at Royal Oak's Baldwin Theatre, and THE ELEPHANT MAN (Dr. Treves) with the Farmington Players. Jim has also performed in: THE SHADOWBOX, LOOT, MARAT/SADE, WAIT UNTIL DARK, SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER, 1984, and THE BAD SEED.



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Marjorie Cripps
Linda Johnson
Thom Johnson
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Elizabeth
Mustard
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Bartholomew
of Laky's Salon
Kim Barefoot
of Laky's Salon
Penny Tashnick

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Yehudit Newman
Dwight Smith
Linn Matich

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Assistant Designer
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PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Andrea Houston

SOUND

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PHOTOGRAPHER

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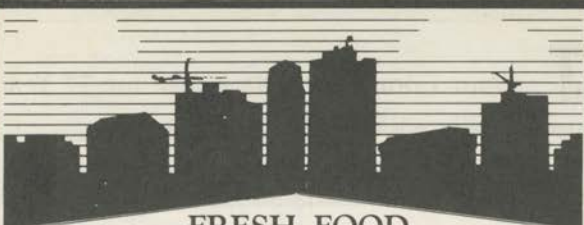
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AACT PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As you may have already noticed in other parts of the program (I'm sure you don't read my message first) that **we are planning on producing DAMN YANKEES! instead of THE WIZ** as scheduled. The loss of the director, coupled with the cost of production, has forced us into this change in our playbill. We are sorry if this causes any inconvenience to any of you. There will be other festivities surrounding our spring musical presentation, so don't miss it.

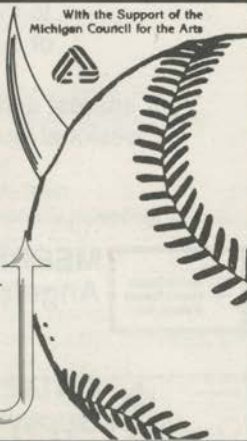
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