



ACT

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre
MainStreet Productions
Presents

The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window

By Lorraine Hansberry

Directed by Marvin Sims

*Ann Arbor
Summer
Festival*

**Ann Arbor
Summer Festival 1989**

Friday and Saturday June 23 and 24 8:00 p.m.	Sunday June 25 2:00 p.m.
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At the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre
For ticket information
Call 763-TKTS

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre 1989

Thursday July 6, 13, and 20	Saturday July 8, 15, and 22 8:00 p.m.
Friday July 7, 14, and 21	

At the MainStreet Theatre
1035 S. Main Street

Synopsis of Scenes

The action of the play takes place in the Brustein apartment and adjoining courtyard in Greenwich Village, New York City, in the early 1960's.

ACT ONE

- Scene One: Early Evening. The late spring.
Scene Two: Dusk. The following week.
Scene Three: Just before daybreak, next day.

ACT TWO

- Scene One: Evening. Late summer.
Scene Two: Primary Night. Early September.
Scene Three: Several hours later.

The Cast (In order of appearance)

Sidney Brustein	Scott Troia
Alton Scales	Anders Ramsay
Iris Parodus Brustein	Susan Babbitt
Wally O'Hara	Sean Patrick Byrd
Max	Jeffrey William Pickell
Mavis Parodus Bryson	Ann C. Rizick
David Ragin	David deBoer
Gloria Parodus	Jody O'Dale

The Staff

Director	Marvin Sims
Assistant Director	David de Boer
Producer	Skip Bailey
Stage Manager	Denise Renee Plaisier
Set Designer/Builder; Lights	Brian W. Jones
Lighting Consultant	Thom Johnson
Costume Designer	Martha Montoye
Make-up	Julie Vorus

The Crew

Set Construction

Skip Bailey
The Cast
Brian Jones
Sandy Washburn

Props

David deBoer
Denise Plaisier

Costumes

Martha Montoye

Special Thanks to R. Seeman

Director's Message

Upon this, the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Hansberry's *THE SIGN IN SIDNEY BRUSTEIN'S WINDOW*, I am aware that it may not be as well known as *A RAISIN IN THE SUN*, her "major" theatrical title. Yet, I trust you will agree that this piece is as topical and conscious-provoking today.

Please enjoy!

Marvin Sims

About The Staff

SKIP BAILEY (Producer) is at it again, another show. An AACT Board member, Skip finds himself all over the place: acting, set building, stage crewing, popcorn selling, light operating, and producing have all had to bear Skip's presence. His real dream for Civic is to form an AACT rock band. Members, let him know if you're interested.

DAVID deBOER (Assistant Director) recently received his high school teaching certificate from U-M, and is currently seeking a position teaching English. His interest in theatre arose from his academic studies of literature, film, and drama.

THOM (TJ) JOHNSON (Lighting Consultant) has done it all at Civic from Board president, acting (most recently in *AMADEUS*), directing, lighting design, to snow shoveler and all-around good guy. The producer was quite pleased to have his services. TJ says he smokes an occasional cigar, sips on an occasional beer and doesn't jog. We believe him.

BRIAN W. JONES (Set Designer/Builder; Lights), second time set designer for AACT, is a senior at E.M.U., majoring in Theatre Arts with a Minor in Telecommunications and Film. His previous experiences include involvement in the first National Black Arts Festival, French Woods Festival of Performing Arts, and E.M.U. productions such as *FRANKENSTEIN*, *A WRINKLE IN TIME*, and *A RAISIN IN THE SUN*. Hitting the lottery and buying Gilligan's Island, which is currently up for sale, is Brian's dearest fantasy.

DENISE RENEE PLAISIER (Stage Manager) A grad student in social work, Denise is interested in using dance and drama as therapeutic tools. In Grand Rapids she had been involved with the Pine Rest Players, the Community Mental Health Players, and was costume coordinator for the New Plays Festival.

MARVIN SIMS (Director) An Assistant Professor at E.M.U., Marvin teaches acting, directing, and theatre history. He has directed a variety of plays including *A MID-SUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM*, *NIGHT OF THE IGUANA*, *VAMPIRE LESBIANS OF SODOM*, *A RAISIN IN THE SUN*, and others. He looks forward to the next year which will have him directing David Mamet's adaptation of Chekhov's, *THE CHERRY ORCHARD*, and on AACT's MainStreet, Athol Fugard's *A LESSON FROM ALOES*. With time spent as a Board member with the Michigan Theatre Association, Performance Network, Region III-East of the American College Theatre Festival, and AACT, does Marvin ever find time for his other love, acting?

About The Cast

SUSAN BABBITT (Iris Parodus Brustein) grew up in Eaton Rapids, a small town in southern Michigan. She graduated from U-M with a degree in Biology, studied at the Sorbonne in Paris, and went on to do graduate work in business at M.S.U. Susan later bought and managed a wool shop. "Iris" is her first major role in a theatrical production.

DAVID deBOER (David Ragin) is doing double duty for this production, and we are quite glad for his help. For more on him see the listing for Assistant Director.

SEAN PATRICK BYRD (Wally O'Hara) Although this is Sean's first official show with AACT, he appeared last July on our MainStreet stage in *THE LAST MEETING OF THE KNIGHTS OF THE WHITE MAGNOLIA*, produced by the River of Understanding Ensemble. Currently a junior at E.M.U., where he has a double major in Theatre Arts and Telecommunication and Film, Sean has appeared in numerous university productions. These include *A RAISIN IN THE SUN*, *THE LESSON*, and the title role in *TARTUFFE*. He hopes to pursue a career in theatre, television, or film-writing, directing, or acting.

JODY O'DALE (Gloria Parodus) is excited to be in her first AACT production; in fact this is her first stage experience. She enjoys horseback riding, reading, traveling, and walks in the woods. Welcome to AACT, Jody!

JEFFERY WILLIAM PICKELL (Max) has appeared in numerous productions over the years. Very active in theatre, not only in musicals such as *BELLS ARE RINGING*, and comedies, such as *ARSENIC AND OLD LACE*, Jeff has appeared with the Comic Opera Guild and Common Ground Theatre. He supports his wife, AACT's Executive Director, in her long, long hours and thoroughly enjoys their two-and-a-half-year-old son Zac.

ANDERS RAMSAY (Alton Scales) has international theatre experience, including playwriting and acting in Sweden, where he appeared in a television commercial. His interests lie in music composition and scoring, fiction writing, and his U-M course load.

ANN C. RIZICK (Mavis Parodus Bryson) As a senior at E.M.U. majoring in Theatre Arts with minors in Oral Interpretation and Drama Theatre for the Young, Ann is trying to decide whether Chicago or New York will be her next step. Working with the hearing impaired is somewhere down the line as well. Ann is proud and excited to be a new member of AACT and hopes to be around a lot in the future.

SCOTT TROIA (Sidney Brustein) is a sophomore at E.M.U. majoring in Theatre Arts with a minor in Literature. He plans on using his degree to become an actor/director who will retire to various writing careers including playwriting. Scott previously appeared in a performance of Stravinsky's *A SOLDIER'S TALE* with the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra.

The producer would like to thank the following people who helped with this production and have not been noted in the program:

Lighting Design
Light Operators

Sound Operator
Props

Set Dressing
Make-up (for Lydia Mend. Performances)
should be
Poster Design

Steve Moorman,
Skip Bailey, Denise Plaisier
Steve Moorman, Brian Jones
Jamie Kettner
Denise Plaisier, Skip Bailey, the Cast
Jamie Kettner
Skip Bailey, Marvin Sims, the Cast

Anne Kolaczkowski-Magee
Andrea Kaufmann

Thanks to Diane Caplis - food/props; Henry Schumann - set-up, strike; Rick Ashcroft - sound consultant; and T.J. for the extra help. (and anyone else who helped but might have been missed!)

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