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The Day They Shot John Lennon

James McLure

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John Carroll University
Department of Communications presents

The Day They Shot
John Lennon

Marinello Little Theatre
September 29, 30 & October 1
October 6, 7 & 8, 1994
8:00 p.m.
John Carroll University Department of Communications presents

The Day They Shot John Lennon

by James McLure

directed by L. David Erste

September 29 & 30, October 1, 6, 7 & 8
Marinello Little Theatre

produced in conjunction with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.
DIRECTOR’S NOTE

The loss of John Lennon meant a loss of innocence for a large cross-section of the American public in December, 1980. It left people struggling to carry on with little hope for the future. The Day They Shot John Lennon shows us how the sixties left an impact on American society. John Lennon became the epitome of that era. He continued to represent a need to institute change until his death in 1980. When he was killed, so were the ideals of the sixties.

Today, modern society seems to reflect the atmosphere of the sixties. War, crime, and violence plague the streets of America. Before the end of the 20th century American society will need to think about changing. Will we revert back to the sixties era of demonstrations, sit-ins and peace rallies? The students of today are going to be in a position to institute a change, but will they? The Day They Shot John Lennon shows us that in order to bring forth change, we must stop killing the great artists and the great orators and the great leaders for they are the messengers of a better society. It tackles the issue of action versus inaction. Is it better to think and reflect or to take action and react?

If we’ve done our job, The Day They Shot John Lennon will force you to think about your position in society. We hope it will leave you with a call to action and a need for change. Thank you for coming.

L. David Erste, Director

PLEASE NOTE

We ask that patrons refrain from eating, drinking or smoking in Marinello Little Theatre. Taking flash photographs during the production is distracting and potentially dangerous to the actors, as it may disorient them--please wait until after the performance.
THE CAST

Laura Bertrand (Fran) is a junior philosophy major, from Hiram, OH. She is best known for her role as Marshael Foster in *The Wake of Jamey Foster*. She frequents Rainbow Gatherings and enjoys pure mayhem, in general.

Meghan Sweeney (Sally) is making her John Carroll debut. She is a sophomore from Dayton, OH, who enjoys dancing and volunteering at a Nature Center. She wants to do something in either French or English. She is also a member of the BAVE.

Ed Merson (Kevin) has performed in such plays as *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* and *M Is For the Million* in high school. He is making his stage debut at John Carroll. Ed is a freshman from Detroit, MI who is studying International Business, but he ultimately wants to become a geography professor.

Joseph Kilbane (Mike) is a native Clevelander making his theatrical debut in his freshman year at John Carroll. In his spare time he plays the trumpet in the John Carroll pep band. Joe enjoys conquering the world, sleeping and watching Animaniacs. He ultimately wants to find a job over Christmas Break.

Brian M. Love (Larry) has performed in high school productions of *Guys and Dolls* and *Oklahoma*, but is on stage for his first time at John Carroll. He is a communications major originally from Lorain, OH. Brian is on the varsity baseball team and a Resident Assistant in Bernet Hall. He enjoys volleyball, singing, and hanging out with the Warner Bros. (and their sister, Dot).

Patrick White (Morris) hails from Toledo, OH, home of the Mudhens. He is currently attending his third year at John Carroll, although he's not sure if he is considered a junior. Although he is making his John Carroll acting debut, he was called back for the hit NBC television show, *California Dreams*. He either wants to continue acting or tend sheep.

Eric Bilas (Silvio) is on stage for the first time at John Carroll. He
is a freshman who hails from Youngstown, OH. Eric is a School of Business hopeful who enjoys bird watching and deep-sea diving. **Ed Armbruster** (Gately) is a sophomore communications major from Cleveland, making his theatrical debut at John Carroll. In his free time, he enjoys origami and playing cricket. Ed was just recently promoted to the jewelry counter at TJMaxx. **Arn Howald** (Brian) has worked backstage for such John Carroll plays as *Big River, The Wake of Jamey Foster,* and *Speed the Plow.* Arn was also seen on stage in *Hold the Script.* He is a sophomore who calls New Concord, OH his home. Arn loves horse-back riding, France and all things French (except Louis XVI).

**SPECIAL THANKS**

The director, cast and crew of *The Day They Shot John Lennon* would especially like to thank the following people for their support:

- Jim Beck
- Kathy Dolan
- Imaginations in Motion
- Becky Erste
- Datavid
- Jim Parker
- David Reese
- Dr. Alan Stephenson
- James F. Sislo
- Karen Gygli
- The Children of the Night
- WUJC
- *The Carroll News*
- The Brotherhood of Iota Chi Upsilon
CAST

Fran ............................................... Laura Bertrand
Sally ............................................. Meghan Sweeney
Kevin ............................................... Ed Merson
Mike ............................................... Joseph Kilbane
Larry ............................................. Brian M. Love
Morris ............................................. Patrick White
Silvio ............................................... Eric Bilas
Gately ............................................... Ed Armbruster
Brian ............................................... Arn Howald

SETTING

It is December 9, 1980. The play takes place across the street from the Dakota apartment building, 72nd Street and Central Park West, New York City. A large crowd has gathered at the scene where John Lennon was shot.

The music used for this show is taken from the following albums:

  The John Lennon Collection
  Let It Be
  Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band
  Revolver
  The White Album
**PRODUCTION STAFF**

Director
L. David Erste

Assistant Director
Michael James

Stage Manager
Jeri Sprague

Scenic Designer
James F. Beck*

Video Production & Lighting Designer
James E. Parker*

Costume Designers
Sheila O'Rourke

Lighting, Sound & Video
Christine Szudy

Stage Crew
Tom Ariale

Properties Master
David Blasko

Makeup and Hair Designers
Brian Peebles

Publicity
Colleen Dorony

Box Office
Andrea Nolan

Publicity Photographer & Program Design
Kevin Whaler

Graphics Artist
Joseph M. Guay*

*ALPHA PSI OMEGA*

Alpha Psi Omega is the national theatre honorary fraternity. Members of Alpha Psi Omega are committed to the production of quality collegiate theatre throughout the United States. The Mu Theta cast of Alpha Psi Omega is chartered at John Carroll University, and its members serve the local communities in their production of theatre. Induction eligibility into the fraternity is determined by participation in theatre.
THE PRODUCTION STAFF

L. David Erste (Director) is originally from Brecksville, OH. He is making his directorial debut. Dave is a senior majoring in communications. He likes to mountain bike, to listen to jazz and fly-fish. After graduation, he plans to backpack across Europe in a motorcycle with a side-car. Dave hopes to continue acting and directing in the future.

Michael James (Assistant Director) is a senior English major from Pittsburgh. The Day They Shot John Lennon is his first John Carroll theatre experience. He has just returned from a trip around the world--studying in South America, Africa and Asia. He hopes to continue in John Carroll theatre in the future and to graduate on time.

James F. Beck (Scenic Designer) received his B.A. from Hiram College and an MFA in Production Design and Technology from Ohio University. Jim currently serves as both faculty member and technical director at John Carroll. Since coming to John Carroll four years ago, Jim has directed and designed The Crucible, Baby and Could Angels Be Blessed, and designed the set for Ten Little Indians, A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Eighth Order, The Diviners, The Nerd, Holiday and The Wake of Jamey Foster.

James E. Parker (Video Production, Lighting Design) is a '93 grad and recipient of the Alpha Psi Omega Outstanding Achievement in Theater award. He has numerous credits here at John Carroll including: director of The Diviners, lighting design for The Nerd, On Tidy Endings, Ten Little Indians, Big River and Misery Loves Company's production of Camille, set designer and graphic artist for Speed-the-Plow, and sound design for The Wake of Jamey Foster. Jim has recently founded Imaginations in Motion, a computer generated imaging company specializing in video graphics for local production houses, corporate video production, and an assortment of consumer based services.