
Theatre Productions

Communication & Theatre Arts

12-1-1972

Apology

unknown

Follow this and additional works at: <https://collected.jcu.edu/plays>

Recommended Citation

unknown, "Apology" (1972). *Theatre Productions*. 63.
<https://collected.jcu.edu/plays/63>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Communication & Theatre Arts at Carroll Collected. It has been accepted for inclusion in Theatre Productions by an authorized administrator of Carroll Collected. For more information, please contact mchercourt@jcu.edu.

LTS WORKSHOP '72

PRESENTS

APOLOGY
PLATO

DECEMBER

1-2-3

8-9-10

8:30 PM

LITTLE THEATRE

JCU SPEECH DEPT

At the age of seventy, Socrates was tried at Athens on the threefold charge of introducing new divinities, of denying the gods recognized by the state, and of corrupting young men. The Apology professes to be his defense spoken in court. Although Greek writers seldom tried to report speeches with verbal accuracy, the Apology probably represents the general drift of Socrates' actual speech, and indeed is perhaps of all Plato's writings the one that most faithfully records his master's words. The speech falls into three parts: in a formal defense Socrates ostensibly meets the charges of his accusers; after the condemnation, he speaks, as Attic law permitted him to do, in mitigation of death by the hemlock; he discourses prophetically, for the benefit of those who will hear him, on the significance of the case.

It can hardly be doubted that if Socrates had wished to condescend to a conventional defense against the vaguely worded accusation, fortified by the usual pleas for mercy, he could have saved his life. But such a compromise with his conscience was the last thing to be expected of him. He does not wish to die; and he does not wilfully provoke his judges; nevertheless he realizes that his real opponent is not so much the insignificant Meletus or the bitter Anytus as public resentment for his frank criticism of the Athenian democracy, allying itself with a mere prejudice against the life of reason, a prejudice aggravated by the unjust suspicion that the dangerous Alcibiades and Critias may have learned too much from Socrates. So Socrates does indeed make a defence, adequate enough for a fair-minded jury, but devotes most of his time to his real defence, the interpretation of his past life, addressing himself less to his immediate audience than to all men of good will.

The great interest of the Apology, therefore, lies in its autobiographical character and in the comic contrast that Socrates draws between his life, the constant life of disinterested philosophic inquiry, and the petty world of bargain and intrigue in which his judges move. For all his grotesque exterior, this "gadfly" is obedient to an inner voice; and his martyrdom is preferable to the injustices of his accusers.

W. C. G.



MEET THE CAST

BOB POPP

Bob, a senior English major from Lakewood, returns to the Little Theatre to play Socrates. Previously, he appeared in the LTS production of THE SECOND GENESIS.

His future plans include graduate work in the areas of drama and literature with an eye toward teaching, writing about, and working in the theatre.

DAVE FRANCESCONI

Dave, who plays Meletus, is a senior Speech major from Akron. Dave has had little experience in theatre because he has concentrated his studies on Radio and T. V. Production.

The APOLOGY is his first attempt on stage. Dave intends to go on to graduate school in T.V. productions.

DAVE EGET

Dave is a senior Philosophy major from Lyndhurst. Last year he appeared in Gertrude Stein's WHAT HAPPENED?.

Dave has written his own material for the Narrator. He has been bitten by the theatre bug, and is currently screening the various professional actors training schools in New York.

Cover Design by GARY SMITH

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Narrator.....DAVE EGET
Socrates.....BOB POPP
Meletus.....DAVE FRANCESCONI

SCENE:

The Open Court.
Athens, Greece.
399 B.C.

PART I

Socrates Meets the Charges
Of His Accusers.

INTERMISSION 10 MINUTES

PART II

Socrates Proposes A
Counter-Penalty

PART III

Socrates' Informal Address
To The Court.

PLEASE:

No Smoking, Drinking, or Eating
in the Theatre.

No Picture Taking During The
Performance.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director.....LEONE J. MARINELLO
Stage Manager.....JOAN OSBORNE
Lighting.....BOB MOORE
Costumes.....KATHY SHARKEY
Make-Up.....ANNA LASZLO
Publicity.....DAN PIETRAGALLO
Bookholder.....THERESE ROEMER
Technical Assistants...BOB LAROCCA
 PETER MARINELLO
 STACIE MUND
 CHRIS NULLE
 ANN PIPIK
 JACK MANNEN

LTS WORKSHOP

The LTS WORKSHOP is a special project of the JCU Speech Department to encourage original and creative work in the theatre arts.

SPRING LTS WORKSHOP PRODUCTIONS (Dates to be
Announced)

LOVERS (WINNERS) by Brian Friel
Directed by Alanna Fallon

LUV by Murray Schsigal
Directed by Jack Mannen

A MUSICAL REVUE
Directed by Ed Donnelly

