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Brecht on Brecht

George Tabori

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BRECHT ON BRECHT

by George Tabori

APRIL 22, 23, 24, 25
29, 30

MAY 1, 2 1971 8:30 P.M.

JCU SPEECH DEPT.
BRECHT on BRECHT

Give us more light on the stage, Electrician!
Let the people see the way we work.

Let me have people out front
Who are awake, yes even alert.

A theatre you can't laugh in
is a theatre to be laughed at.

I, Bertolt Brecht, displaced in asphalt cities
Brought from the black forest, inside my
mother's womb.

I was born a rich man's son. ...
But when I grew up, I looked about me
And didn't like the people of my class, ...
So I quit my class and cast my lot
With the common people.

My mother died yesterday in the evening. The
first of May. And now I can't ever claw her
out of the earth with my fingernails.

For her sin was black but her pain was great.
Therefore, I beg you, check your wrath and
scorn
For man needs help from every creature born.

There is only one way to fight authority. ...
Outlive it.

The passport is the most distinguished part
of a man's anatomy. It's more difficult to
make a passport than a human being.

Order is organized extravagance.

One cannot reach a man's humanity without
a bit of snafu or bribery. ...With a bit
of bribery you might even get justice.

When nothing is right in the right places,
you've got disorder. Where in the right
places there is nothing, that's order.

I.
To be able to show you what I see
I read up on the theatre of other peoples,
other ages. . . .
The Chinese, so expert on family life,
On man's many-colored fate in the towns.

Especially those who don't have much to eat
like to give some away. People probably
like to show what they can do, and how could
despite it better than by being kind?
Being wicked is just being clumsy. When
someone builds a machine or plants some rice,
that's really a sort of kindness.

When the house of a great one collapses
Many little ones are slain.
Those who had no share in the good fortune
of the mighty
Often have a share in their misfortunes.

Terrible is the temptation of goodness.

In the bloodiest times
There are kind people.

You want justice, but do you want to
pay for it?

Take note when men of old concluded;
That what there is shall go to those who are
good for it.

For my obituary:
Don't write that you admire me!
Write that I was an uncomfortable person,
and that I intend to remain so after
my death.
Even then there are certain possibilities.

That is all and it is not enough
Yet it may tell you I am still alive
As the man who takes a brick along
To show the world what his house was like.
Every day to earn my daily bread
I go to the market where lies are sold
Hopefully
I stand in line with the other salesmen.

Teaching without students
Writing without fame
is difficult.

On my wall a wooden mask:
Face of an evil Japanese fiend, lacquered in gold.
I see with sympathy
The swollen veins on his brow, showing
How exhausting it is to be evil.

I am a playwright. I show you
What I have seen. In man's markets
I have seen how man is bought and sold.
This is what I show you, I the playwright.

The way people cast a play!
As if all cooks were fat, all farmers tough,
all statesman stately!

Our public, too, should have a chance to
test the player's words.

Comrades, I can see you in New York
Reading my little play with embarrassment. ...

You clutter the great showplace of the stage
With pots and pans. A stink of cabbage
Drifts in from the stove. What is bold becomes nice.
What is history becomes commonplace.
Instead of astonishment you work for sympathy.

I take it the only aim of science is to ease human existence.

I catch a rabbit, but you catch a man.
Man is made in God's image. Not so a rabbit ...And God will pass judgement on you.
PRODUCTION STAFF

Director .......... LEONE J. MARINELLO
Stage Manager .......... RICHARD SNIDER
Lighting ............ JACK MANNEN
Sound ............... JERRY NOVAK
Make-up ............. MARIE D'AMICO
                      NIKKI BONDI
Choreography .......... ELEANORA KOVACS
Bookholder .......... DIANNE HANZEL
House Manager .......... CHRIS WELSH
Stage Assistants ...... JOE MARINELLO
                      PETER MARINELLO
Program Cover .......... ROB FAY
Quad Billboard .......... BOB QUART

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The LTS thanks all those who assisted us in presenting this production.

Our personal thanks to Miss Viveca Lindfors for her encouragement.

BRECHT ON BRECHT is produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.
THE CAST
(as seated from left to right)

Chair No. 1.............ALANNA FALLON
Chair No. 2.............RICHARD SNIDER
Chair No. 3.............MARY BETH REILLEY
Chair No. 4.............ELEANORA KOVACS
Chair No. 5.............DAN KEENAN

SCENES

Part I: LIFE
Intermission 10 Minutes
Part II: THEATRE

N.B. There will be no curtain calls.

PLEASE: No smoking, drinking or eating in the theatre.
No picture taking during the performance.

4.
RICHARD SNIDER is a senior English major at John Carroll and has been with the Little Theatre Society since his sophomore year. Since that time he has taken roles in TOPAZE, THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AND HIS WIFE, and PROMETHEUS BOUND. Rick worked the lights for the production of THE ZOO STORY and THE LESSON and has been stage manager for the last three semesters. Rick transferred from Marycrest College in Davenport, Iowa, where he had roles in THE GRASS HARP, THE AMERICAN DREAM, THE PIED PIPER OF HAMLIN, and YERMA. Rick has also worked at Ursuline College in its production of KING MIDAS AND THE GOLDEN TOUCH. Rick takes the role of Galileo in our excerpt from THE LIFE OF GALILEO.

DAN KEENAN is at JCU on the army’s degree completion program. Dan was formerly at John Carroll from 1959 to 1963, and at that time performed with the LTS in THE VISIT and THE RAINMAKER. Dan has played in BYE BYE BIRDIE and THE FANTASTICS with the Augusta Georgia Players and done many shows in Germany and Viet Nam while with the army. A speech major, Dan hopes to go into television and movies when he graduates this May. Dan narrates the story of THE OLD HAT.
MEET THE CAST

ELEANORA KOVACS, although making only her first appearance with the LTS, is no newcomer to the stage. Eleanor has had fifteen years of dancing instruction at the Nadjan School of Ballet and the Lilian Patty School of Ballet. She has choreographed THE WIZARD OF OZ and THE CRUCIBLE for Beaumont High School. Eleanor performs frequently with the Hungarian Group Theatre, her most notable accomplishment there being the production of CAROUSEL. A history and speech major, Eleanor takes the role of Shen Te in our excerpt from THE GOOD WOMAN OF SETZUAN.

ALANNA FALLON is a sophomore speech major. She has appeared once before with the LTS in THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AND HIS WIFE. Next year, Alanna will be studying at the University of Dublin in Ireland. Alanna plays Natella Abashwili in our excerpt from THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE.

MARY BETH REILLEY is a sophomore with a major in English here at John Carroll. Mary Beth played in the FANTASTICS and ALAS, BABYLON at Regina High School. At JCU, Mary Beth worked with last year’s LTS Experimental Theatre in THE BALD SOPRANO. Mary Beth has spent one year at the Playhouse Youth Theatre. Mary Beth is making her first appearance with the LTS and takes the role of Grusha in our excerpt from THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE.
MEET THE CREW

JERRY NOVAK is our sound man. Jerry has performed for the LTS in THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AND HIS WIFE and worked crew for THE ZOO STORY and THE LESSON, and PROMETHEUS BOUND. Jerry is a sophomore major in English and has plans for attending the University of Lancashire in England next year.

JOHN MANNEN is our light man. John has worked with the LTS one other time, taking the role of the Unknown Soldier in THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER AND HIS WIFE last year. John is a sophomore psychology major.

MARIE D'AMICO has done make-up for LTS productions for three years, beginning in her freshman year with the production of TOPAZ. Besides the make-up chores, Marie appeared as a maid in AGAMEMNON. Marie designed unusual make-up for the Professor in THE LESSON and also designed face painted masks for the mythological characters in PROMETHEUS BOUND. Marie is a junior speech major.

NICKI BONDI is our make-up assistant. Nicki helped last semester to apply the face masks in PROMETHEUS BOUND.