



AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATER FESTIVAL XXIII

PRESENTED AND PRODUCED BY THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

*Supported in Part by
The Kennedy Center Corporate Fund
The US Department of Education
Ryder System*

This production is an Associate entry in the American College Theater Festival (ACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for adjudication by a regional ACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in ACTF programs involving awards, scholarships, and special grants for actors, playwrights, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Last year approximately 800 productions and 17,000 students participated in the American College Theater Festival nationwide. By entering this production, our department is sharing in the ACTF goals to help college theater grow and to focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

UAB

**THEATRE AND DANCE
PRESENTS**



*Bell Theatre
October 23-27
8:00 p.m.*

*Co-sponsored by the
Cultural Activities
Committee*

LYSISTRATA

By Aristophanes

Translated by DOUGLASS PARKER

LYSISTRATA

by
Aristophanes
A Modern Translation by
Douglass Parker
With a New Musical Score Composed by
Dennis West

Director Bob Funk
Musical Director Dennis West
Choreographer Jinny Pearce
Set and Lighting Design Melissa Shafer
Costume Design Harry C.S. Wingfield
Properties Design Lisa G. Dean and Daniel S. Neil
Sound Design for Intermission
and Preshow Patrick Johnson*

CAST

Lysistrata Jinny Pearce*
Kleonike Christen A. Simon
Myrrhine Mala Hoffmeister
Lampito Laura J. Fitzgibbon
Korinthian Girl Amber Feldman
Policewoman Lillian Pearce
Woman #2 Shannon Brooks
Woman #3/Peace Jeannie Butts
Koryphaios of Men Daniel S. Neil
Old Man #1 Tommy Macon
Old Man #2 Whitt Brantley*
Koryphaios of Women Gina Billy*
Old Women #1 Lisa G. Dean
Old Women #2 Michelle Daniels
Commissioner Victor McCay
Kinesias/Policeman #1 Jason P. McLaughlin
Spartan Ambassador/Herald/
Child/Policeman #2 A. Vastine Stabler
Slave/Policeman #3/Spartan Soldier Brent Smith

There will be a ten minute intermission between Act I and Act II.

Produced through a special arrangement with
Samuel French, Inc., 45 W. 25th St. New York, NY 10010.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES CONTINUED

Lysistrata is a satire with a deep and important message filled with wild and zany cartoon-like character types. Thus the acting style is farcical and must be exaggerated to the level of caricature. There is an "extensive interpolation of song, dance and comedic acrobatics; wild animal movements, adaptation of dances and victory antics, kicking, slapping and so on" (7).

The works of Aristophanes are as important today as they were in his time." His influence on subsequent satire and farce is very great. But valuable as he may be as a commentary on a uniquely valuable area of art in others, his true claim upon our attention is as the most brilliant and artistic and thoughtful wit our world has known" (8).

- (1) The Complete Plays of Aristophanes, edited by Moses Hadas, Bantam Books, Inc., New York, 1971, p.1.
- (2) Hadas. p.1.
- (3) Hadas. p.7.
- (4) Hadas. p.287.
- (5) Hadas. p.4.
- (6) Aristophanes Four Comedies, by Dudley Fitts, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Publishers, San Diego 1962, p.3.
- (7) Acting in Person and Style, by Jerry L. Crawford, William C. Brown Company Publishing, Dubuque, Iowa, 1980, p.161.
- (8) Hadas. p.11.



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Born in 445 B.C. Aristophanes produced his first play, Archarnians at the age of 20. Before his death in 388 B.C. he wrote at least 44 plays. Of these only eleven complete plays remain for our enjoyment!

"Aristophanes is not the most profound or exalted of Greek poets, but he is the most creative" (1). For him there were no limits or boundaries. He "abolishes history and all ordinary constraints of space and time, of gravity and physiology" (2). In his plays he creates his own reality and from this place we can better see the foibles and follies of the real world. His plays span the whole spectrum of comedy ranging from obscenity and broad farce to high satire. He "told his audiences what was wrong with foreign policy or politicians, or how educationists were corrupting sound learning or neoteric poets corrupting good taste, and he invited immediate action, not merely a change in attitude" (3). So in Lysistrata, written during the war with Sparta in 412 B.C., Aristophanes works to save his city-state of Athens from the destruction caused by its long war with Sparta. The theme is clear, we must end the war! In the story, Aristophanes has the women declare a sex strike until the war ends. "His sympathetic understanding of the plight of women, whose lives war leaves sunless and empty, is touching and timeless in its relevance" (4). Yet at the same time the play is extremely bawdy. "Aristophanes' plays are saturated with obscenity; excretory and sexual functions are explicit or implicit on every page, and dozens of seemingly innocent words apparently carry obscene connotations" (5). "The play is ribald, by any standards. Partly this was an attempt to make laughter succeed where rage and tears not to speak of common sense, had failed. Partly, too, it was ritualistic, or semi-ritualistic: the origin of Old Comedy in ancient fertility rites is reflected in the theme of Lysistrata" (6). Since Old Comedy grew out of the religious rites of fertility, the plays are filled with sexual language, actions, gestures, and with the use of the phallus.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director/Stage Manager Bryan McCoy*
Costume Shop Supervisor Helen Robbins
Make-up Design Jinny Pearce*
Master Electrician Laurie McMunn
Production Crew Lisa G. Dean, Tim Holden,
Daniel S. Neil, Patrick Johnson*,
Sonya Leslie, Brent Smith, Karl Zier*,
Kelley Swatzell, Laura J. Fitzgibbon,
Christen A. Simon, THR 101 and THR 121 classes
Sound Operator Kelly Swatzell
Costume Crew Shannon Brooks, Michelle Daniels,
Evelyn Rodenbach, Tommy Macon, LaBron Pate
Wardrobe Crew Tommy Macon, Shannon Brooks
Make-up Crew Michelle Daniels
Box Office Manager Heather Strong*
Program Dana Gilliland

CREDITS

Billie Sheldon, Beverly Crider, Jennifer Willard, U.A.B.
Report, Kaleidoscope, Birmingham News, Birmingham
Post-Herald, Jessie West, Cheryl Jackson, U.A.B.
Ambassadors, WVTM-TV, Channel 13, WBHM

A special thank you to Dr. Hubert Harper Jr.

Recording or taking pictures of this production is prohibited.

* Denotes membership in Alpha Psi Omega, national theatre honorary.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FALL DANCE UAB

Nov. 9 & 10 at 8:00 p.m. and Nov. 11 at 2:00 p.m.
Bell Theatre

BLITHE SPIRIT

Feb. 5 - 9 at 8:00 p.m.
Bell Theatre