



THE THEATRE
IN THE ROUND

THE THEATRE-IN-THE-ROUND AT THE QUADRANGLE
1998-1999 SEASON

JAC ALDER

EXECUTIVE

PRODUCER-DIRECTOR

PRESENTS

GROSS INDECENCY



THE THREE TRIALS OF OSCAR WILDE
by Moisés Kaufman

SHOW SIX: MARCH 4, 1999 THRU APRIL 4, 1999

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THEATRE THREE PLAYBILL

is a publication of

THEATRE THREE

THE theatre-in-the-round at the Quadrangle
2800 Routh Street • Dallas, TX 75201

Executive Editor.....JAC ALDER
Cover Illustrator....HARLAND WRIGHT

This playbill is published for *Gross Indecency*, the sixth show of the Subscription Series of the 1998-1999 season, playing from March 4 to April 4. Theatre Three will publish seven Subscription Series playbills this season. Those interested in advertising in T3 playbills may contact Kelley Hughes at (214) 871-2933.

Theatre Three is a 501(c)3, not-for-profit cultural institution incorporated in the State of Texas. Founded in 1961 by Norma Young, Theatre Three has been in continuous production since its founding. It was named for the three equally essential ingredients of significant theatre: gifted theatre artists, talented playwrights and experienced audiences.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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IN MEMORIAM

Theatre Three wishes to recognize contributions made in memory of or from the estates of ... Sam Catter, Board Member and Supporter; Bill Dallas, Scenic Designer; Scott Everheart, Actor; Paula Goodlet, Supporter and Subscriber; Oliver Hailey, Playwright; Anne Weeks Jackson, Vocalist and Teacher; Jim Jackson, Singer and Actor; Masha Porte, Supporter and Subscriber; Carolyn Ryburn, Playwright; Mary Blanche Scales, Supporter and Subscriber; Evelyn Wilke, Supporter and Subscriber. A new fund in memory of Theatre Three's Founding Artistic Director, Norma Young, began on her recent death in April of 1998. Contributions are still being received.

Beginning with the 1996-1997 season, all memorial gifts, unless otherwise designated, are placed in the theatre's new permanent fund.

FOR THEATRE GOERS WITH DISABILITIES

• **SEATING:** There are wheelchair locations at stage level available for performances. In addition, over half of the seats can be reached from staircases with handrails. Please advise the box office when reserving tickets of any special needs.

• **RESTROOM:** A wheelchair-accessible restroom is next to the box office.

• **PARKING:** Handicapped parking is available next to the Dream Cafe lawn and at the end of the courtyard shared by Theatre Three and the former North-South Restaurant.

ABOUT PARKING

All parking for Theatre Three patrons is free, including valet parking. Protected parking is available in the office tower garage. Surface parking is also available.

STAFF of THEATRE THREE

JAC ALDER.....Executive Producer-Director

TERRY DOBSON.....Assistant to the Producer

PRODUCTION

HARLAND WRIGHT.....Director of Design

BRUCE COLEMAN..Costumer & Staff Director

TERRY DOBSON.....Musical Director

BONNY HENLEY.....Technical Coordinator
& Staff Lighting Designer

INTERN STAFF

TOMMY LOONEY, RAMONA CRABTREE,
& KELLEY HUGHES

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JAC ALDER, Executive Producer-Director

presents



THE THREE TRIALS OF OSCAR WILDE

BY MOISES KAUFMAN

ACT I

Prologue
The First Trial

ACT II

Interview with Marvin Taylor
The Second Trial
The Third Trial
Epilogue
Coda

THE CAST (in order of appearance)

Narrator 9, the Judge.....CAMPBELL READ
Oscar Wilde.....TERRY VANDIVORT*
Narrator 1, George Bernard Shaw, Alfred Wood, & others.....THOMAS WALKER
Narrator 2, Fred Atkins, Sidney Wright, & others.....LINUS CRAIG
Narrator 4, Sidney Mavor, Queen Victoria, & others.....MARC HEBERT
Narrator 6, Edward Clark.....MARK STODDARD
Narrator 8, Marquess of Queensbury, Charles Gill, & others.....GORDAN FOX*
Narrator 3, Frank Harris, Charles Parker, & others.....MARK SHUM
Narrator 5, Edward Carson.....HUGH FEAGIN*
Narrator 7, Lord Alfred Douglas, Marvin Taylor.....DWIGHT SANDELL*

THE PRODUCTION'S ARTISTIC STAFF

Director.....JAC ALDER
Lighting Designer.....BONNY HENLEY
Scenic Designer.....HARLAND WRIGHT
Assistant Lighting Designer.....MIKE GARNER
Costume Designer.....BRUCE R. COLEMAN
Production Stage Manager.....TERRY DOBSON
Production Assistant.....TOMMY LOONEY
Property Master.....RAMONA CRABTREE
Wig Master.....JEFF BUSH
Master Carpenter/Master Electrician.....ERIC JOHN LADWIG
Set Crew.....NEIL FLEMING, PAT PARISE, BRIAN SMITH, TISH MUSSEY-HITT
Electrics Crew.....LESLI FULLER, KATIE BETZ, KEITH ALLEN,
BRIAN WALKER, JULIE CARPENTER, DAVID BATES,
ADRIAN ANKERSHEIL, MATT VAN VOAST, NICK MARSDEN

*=member, Actors Equity Association

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Oscar Wilde

**IMAGINE HAVING TO TESTIFY
ABOUT YOUR SEX LIFE.**

what presents you gave your lover...
how often you met..
why you chose someone so much younger,
and gambled reputation for scintillation...

SOUND FAMILIAR???



Moises Kaufman

Written and directed by an unknown dramatist, and originally staged on Off Off Broadway with a bare bones budget of \$15,000 and one set, *GROSS INDECENCY: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* has evolved into a theatrical sensation. Now drawing sell-out audiences in regional houses throughout the United States, the production is the third most produced play in the U.S. during the current '98-'99 theatre season. In addition, *GROSS INDECENCY* has taken the international theatre scene by storm, with lauded performances in Germany, Austria, Puerto Rico, Scandinavia, Israel, Hungary, and Greece. The story of this spare and highly original play has a familiar moral: persist in what you believe. It is also a tale which reaches far beyond its underpinnings of English intrigue -- written by a playwright whose first language is Spanish, **Moises Kaufman**, and dealing with one of Great Britain's most elegant epigrammatists, **Oscar Wilde**.

Using actual court records, a range of newspaper accounts, and Wilde's own creative work, Kaufman -- an intense 33 year old of Romanian and Jewish descent -- vividly relates the preceptitous fall of one of the most celebrated playwrights/essayists/novelists/raconteurs in the history of civilization. Educated at a yeshiva in Caracas, Kaufman arrived in the U.S. ten years ago to study theatre. In speaking to his own personal history and the success of his play, Kaufman observes in an interview with *The New York Times*, "Being Jewish in a Catholic country, gay in an Orthodox Jewish School, and coming to the U.S. and becoming a Latino, has given me an outsider's perspective." Wilde, too, had such an "outsider's" perspective. Born in Dublin, in 1854, Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde was an Irishman in Victorian England -- whose sexual predilection vaulted him, in 1895, from the upper echelons of London society to being an object of almost universal scorn in a scant three months. Wilde, a college educated scholar, passionate social critic, editor, lecturer, flamboyant personality, acclaimed author, and doting husband and father, was virtually undone by the courtroom proceedings. The ensuing prison sentence resulting from the runaway trials -- articulated in superb detail by Kaufman -- resulted in two years hard labor in the infamous Reading Gaol...which many attribute to Wilde's untimely death in 1900 at the age of 46.

Today, Wilde is remembered for his supreme wit and acclaimed literary works, including the novel, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, prose apologia *De Profundis*, and a collection of remarkable plays: *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *The Duchess of Padua*, *A Woman of No Importance*, *An Ideal Husband*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *Salomé*. And now, too, it appears Wilde will be remembered for the scandal ridden trials which both prosecuted and persecuted the author for -- what clearly should have been -- private and personal matters. As Wilde himself once quipped, "As delicious as scandal may be, one should always remember it is only gossip made tedious by morality."

Yet, even in recognizing the innate outrageousness in the public persecution Wilde suffered, Kaufman states, "You can't sanctify him...toward the end of the play, Wilde admits, 'I became the spendthrift of my genius. There's no faulting what I did...there's fault in what I became.' But one can also find fault with the so called 'sensibilities' of Victorian England, and the well documented 'lynch-like' atmosphere in the accounts of the trials." Therein, Wilde is chronicled as a victim of societal and judicial prejudice...the ultimate gross indecency.

ABOUT THE ACTORS



CAMPBELL READ (Narrator 9, the Judge) returns to the Theatre Three stage after a long absence. Theatregoers with a long memory may remember him as Lord Summerhays in *Misalliance* by George Bernard Shaw, as the trader Smithers in Eugene O'Neill's *The Emperor Jones* and in *Twice Over Lightly*, an evening of plays and music by Noel Coward. He also sang the role of Nanki-Poo in The Carolina Playmakers production of Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Mikado*.

TERRY VANDIVORT (Oscar Wilde) played last season as Harry in *Racing Demon*, as Grayson in *Dreams from a Summer House*. Other memorable roles include the Mysterious Man of *Into The Woods*, Jimmy in *The Gingerbread Lady*, Hysterium in *...Forum*, Estragon in *Waiting for Godot*, Polonius in *Fortinbras*, and Tristram in *Taking Steps*. He has also appeared in productions for The Lean Theatre, Dallas Shakespeare Festival, Dallas Theater Center, Addison Centre Theatre, Encompass Theatre (in NYC.) and Trinity Theatre (New York). He is the recipient of the Dallas Theatre Critics Forum Award and has twice received Theatre Three's Patron Favorite Award. Mr. Vandivort dedicates this performance to the memory of Matthew Shepard, victim of the grossest indecency.



THOMAS WALKER (Narrator 1, Wood, Shaw, & others) is welcomed back to his second production at Theatre Three. He was previously seen as Richard Noakes in Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia*. He has also performed at The Dallas Children's Theatre in productions of *The Emperor's New Clothes*, *Young King Arthur*, and *A Little Princess*.

LINUS CRAIG (Narrator 2, Atkins, Wright, & others) just finished playing Bob Cratchitt and Jacob Marley in a national tour of *A Christmas Carol*. Theatre Three audiences, depending on their age, may remember him from either the children show *Swimming with Polar Bears* and in *Amphytrion*. Other favorite roles include John in *Scotland Road* (Stage West), Marvin in *In Trousers* and Sandy Duncan's Assistant stage Manager (Water Tower Theatre). Unfortunately, his recent role in Mike Judge's film *Office Space* ended up (mercilessly) on the cutting room floor.



MARC HEBERT (Narrator 4, Mavor, Victoria, & others) is making his Theatre Three debut. Mr. Hebert has a B.A. in Advertising Art Directing from the University of Texas at Austin as well as a degree in Acting Performance. Marc is a member of The Lean Theater company and has recently been seen at Theatre Too in their production of Kevin Kling's *Lloyd's Prayer* which opened to rave reviews. Other Lean Theater credits include Lyle Kessler's *Orphan's* and John Patrick Shanley's *Danny and the Deep Blue Sea*. He has played the parts of Mr. Harker in *Dracula*, Bob in *Beyond Therapy*, and Marc Antony in *Julius Caesar*. Outside of the stage he has performed on *Walker, Texas Ranger* as well as many other television productions.

MARK STODDARD (Narrator 6, Clarke) makes his Theatre Three debut with this production. Having most recently appeared in Irving Community Theatre's *A Doll House*, his extensive list of credits includes Metro Players' *The Young Man From Atlanta*, and the Pocket Sandwich Theatre's *Catch Me If You Can*. He also worked for Dallas Children's Theatre in *To Kill A Mockingbird*, Water Tower Theatre's *Camping With Henry & Tom*, and Pegasus Theatre. His television and film credits include the PBS childrens series *Wishbone*, CBS Television's *Walker, Texas Ranger*, numerous commercials and industrials, and several motion pictures including Richard Linklater's *The Newton Boys*.



ABOUT THE ACTORS (continued)

GORDON FOX (Narrator 8, the Marquess, Gill, Lockwood) is pleased to be returning to T3 after a ten year absence. He has appeared here as Henry in different productions of *The Fantasticks*. Texas credits include: *The Tempest* at Ft. Worth Shakespeare Festival; *Inherit the Wind* and *A Christmas Carol* at The Alley Theatre; and *Phantom and Carnival* at Lyric Stage. Other regional credits include: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Much Ado About Nothing* at Kentucky Shakespeare Festival; *Abie's Irish Rose* and *Girl Crazy* at Mill Mt. Theatre; and *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *On Golden Pond*, and *A Christmas Carol* at the Old Creamery Theatre.



MARK SHUM (Narrator 3, Harris, Parker, Moises, & others) happily returns to Theatre Three's stage. Audiences may remember Mark from his roles in *Our Town* and as Valentine in *Arcadia*. Since then Mark has kept very busy with other local theatres. He has garnered rave reviews for his performances in *Reefer Madness* at Pegasus Theatre and *Turn of the Screw* at Circle Theatre. Both shows were named among the best of 1998 by *The Dallas Morning News*. Other area favorites include Elomire in *La Bete* and Etienne in *A Fitting Confusion* both at Plano Rep. Algernon in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Angelo in *Measure for Measure*, and Entsheawful in *Cinderella*. Mark wants to thank his family for their unending support, understanding, and love.

HUGH FEAGIN (Narrator 5, Carson) has had a long association as a leading actor at Theatre Three beginning in '63 when he debuted in the role of Reverend Shannon in *The Night of the Iguana*. Educated at the University of Texas at Austin and the Goodman Theatre in Chicago, Mr. Feagin has made career in his native city of Dallas. While his impressive T3 credits include *Our Town*, *The Price*, *Tobacco Road*, *A Small Family Business*, *Shadowlands*, *Waiting for Godot*, and *Racing Demon*, Mr. Feagin also has been on most of the other stages of the city, including Addison Center Theatre, Dallas Theater Center, Dallas Shakespeare Festival, and Stage West. He recently completed another assignment for Dallas Children's Theatre playing Farmer Hoggett in *Babe the Sheep Pig*. He is a volunteer Master Gardener with the Extension Service.



DWIGHT SANDELL (Narrator 7, Douglas, Taylor) recently appeared in *Every Secret Thing* at the Lakewood, and *Joseph & Mary* at Lyric Stage. Prior Theatre Three credits include *Strider* and *Sweeney Todd*. Dwight has appeared at most of the area's regional theatres, including Dallas Theater Center, Casa Manana, Circle Theatre, Undermain Theatre, and the former New Arts Theatre and Dallas Repertory Theatre. At Stage West, he won a Best Actor award for Alan in *Equus* and Best Supporting Actor for Calabazas in *A House with Two Doors...* At Lyric Stage, he won a Leon Rabin Award for Sipos in *She Loves Me*.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR, JAC ALDER

Jac Alder co-founded Theatre Three in 1961 with his late wife, Norma Young. He has served the theatre as its Executive Producer-Director since. He takes on a full range of theatrical assignments including directing (as in *Gross Indecency...*), translating (as in this season's *The Miser*), and acting (as in last season's *Old Wicked Songs*). Mr. Alder was on the founding boards of the Dallas Arts Coalition, and the Dallas Arts Combine (now called Texas Arts Marketing). He served on the state-wide board of non-profit theatres, Texas Non Profit Theatres, and currently serves on the board of Texans for the Arts, a statewide Arts advocacy organization. He was recently inducted into the Southwest Theatre Association's Hall of Fame and has also been honored with the Dallas Historical Society Award for Excellence in the Creative Arts.



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