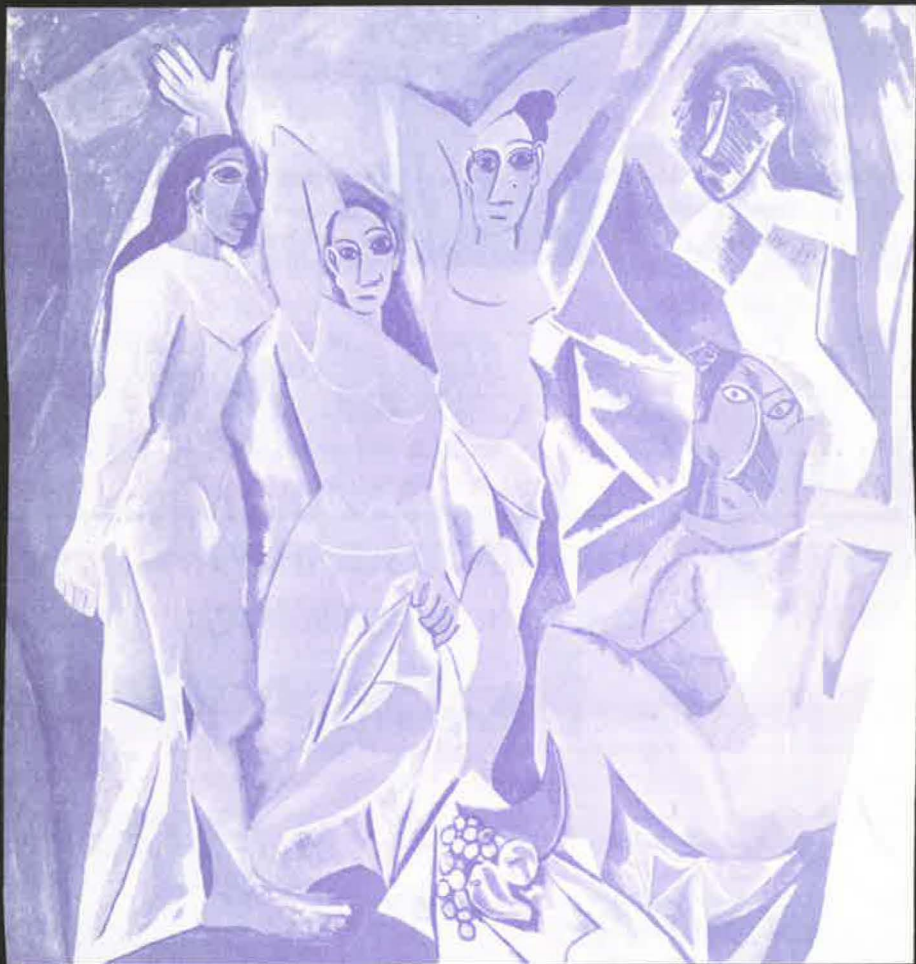


# THEATRE THREE

*THE theatre-in-the-round at the Quadrangle*



## THE WOMEN

*by Clare Booth Luce*

SHOW 4: DECEMBER 9TH, 1999 THRU JANUARY 16TH, 2000

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The Theatre Three Playbill is a publication of Theatre Three, Inc. 2800 Routh St., Dallas, TX 75201. This playbill is published for *The Women*, the fourth show of the 1999-2000 season: "Celebrate the Century," running from Dec. 9th - Jan. 16th, 2000. Those interested in advertising space may contact Marc Hebert at 214-871-2933.

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## About *THE WOMEN*

On December 26th, 1936, Clare Booth Luce's satiric comedy *The Women* opened on Broadway. It became the smash hit of the season and has continued to delight audiences ever since. Why do we still find *The Women* so appealing when most plays of the period are long forgotten? Obviously, Luce's acid wit for an evening of sharp one-just as soon eat my way across strength of the play is the intithem as they exercise, at the even in a nightclub powder though we are eavesdropping, without censorship, as there men are the central theme of divorce, seduction, each socially intimate yet essen-



Pierre August Renoir,  
*Nude in the Sunlight*

of gossip and triumph at one another's misfortune. We squirm as we feel the sting of the satire targeting our own present day society. Yet, we become so drawn to these fascinating characters that in the end we laugh, cry and cheer.

we still find *The Women* so the period are long forgotten? and often vicious humor make liners like, "Watercress, I'd a front lawn." But the real mate view of women, seeing beauty salon, in the bath and room. We almost feel as as they reveal their thoughts are no men in sight. Of course the action. Fidelity, infidelity, woman competing for a tially predatory in their love We watch women who are

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Reservations: 214-871-3300

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## The Cast

Dallas/Fort Worth including *A Delicate Balance* at Circle Theatre, *Greetings* at Stage West, *All In the Timing* at Theatre Three and in *My Head Was a Sledgehammer* with Our Endeavors.



Linda Comess (Olga, Miss Shapiro, 1st Woman) was last seen in *Jungle Rot* at Plano Repertory Theatre. Other favorite recent productions include *Why We Have a Body*, *Lenny*, *Baby and the Bathwater* and *The Sisters Rosensweig* for which she received a Leon Rabin Nomination for Best Supporting Actress. She is looking forward to her role in Robert Altman's film *Dr. T. and the Women*. This performance is dedicated to all the amazing women in her life with love.

Sarah Jane Einerson (Miss Fordyce, Lucy, Dowager) is making her first appearance with Theatre Three. She has been seen at the Dallas Children's Theatre, Pegasus Theatre, Rising Moon Theatre and Garland Civic Theatre. Her favorite performances include *Philadelphia Story*, *XSR: Die!*, *My Sister Eileen* and *You Can't Take It With You*. Film work includes *Finding North*, *Strangers*, *Only in America* and *Robocop*. When not acting she enjoys spending time with her three pets, Blaze, Max and Cleo.



Juli Erickson (Countess) has appeared on stage in *Driving Miss Daisy*, *A Trip to Bountiful*, *A Woman of Independent Means*, *On Golden Pond* as well as many others. On Television she has guested on *Matlock*, *Walker, Texas Ranger* and *Tornado!* She recently wrapped the feature film, *Pelgidium*. On the Board of WIF/D and a member of STAGE, she is represented locally by the Kim Dawson Agency.

Rachel Kelly (Helene, Pedicurist, 1st Girl, Debutante) was last seen as Young Marnie and Elizabeth at the Lakewood Theatre and as Rachel in Irving Community Theatre's *Inherit the Wind*. She attended Circle in the Square Theatre School in New York City after travelling with a repertory company performing plays across the Southwest. Her most noted performances include *Barefoot in the Park*, *The Last of the Red Hot Lovers* and *I Ought to be Seen in Pictures*.



Ellen Locy (Miriam) last appeared at Theatre Three in *Fortinbras*. She is also a founding member of *Lone Star Comedy*. Other favorite appearances include *Voice Box*, *Desdemona*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Burn This*, *The House of Bernarda Alba*, *Hard Promises*, *Problem Child*, *Rough Riders* and the upcoming Robert Altman film *Dr. T. and the Women*. Ellen would like to dedicate this show to the memory of her mother—a fine woman and a great lady.

## The Cast

**Melinda Mills** (Mrs. Moorhead) has performed and directed in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex for more than 30 years. In 1999, she directed *Enter Laughing* for Onstage in Bedford and appeared as Tilly in *Holiday Rules are in Effect* for 11th Street Theatre Project and as Alice in *Jungle Rot* for Plano Repertory Theatre.



**Amy Moore** (Miss Trimmerback, 2nd Girl, Cigarettes) is making her first appearance at Theatre Three. She has been seen previously in *The Canterville Ghost*, *Most Valuable Player*, *The Emperor's New Clothes* and other shows at Dallas Children's Theater, where she also teaches acting. She holds a BFA in Theatre from The College of Santa Fe.

**Ellen Morgan** (Little Mary). Ellen's favorite roles include Mirette in *Mirette* at Lyric Stage, Annie in *Annie* at Texas A&M, Commerce, and Helen Keller in *The Miracle Worker* at Garland Civic Theater. Ellen, age twelve, is a sixth grade, gifted and talented student. She is represented by The Home Agency.



**Molly Moroney** (Edith) works in film, television and radio. Her voice has been heard for such diverse clients as Harrah's and McDonalds. In addition, she works with Bruce Carey through their production company Glass Ceiling, producing national radio ads and scripts for network sitcoms. Thanks to Bill, Bryan, Synthia Rogers and John Gossett for their continuing support.

**Lauren Ashley Puckett** (Miss Watts, Princess Tamara, 2nd Cutie) is thrilled to be making her debut at Theatre Three. She has been seen in roles such as Maria in the *Sound of Music*, Alice in *My Favorite Year*, Gloria in *Another Murder*, *Another Show* at Pegasus theatre plus many more. This performance is dedicated to Mom and Jo who are always teaching me how to be a woman and a friend. To God be the glory!



**Mary-Margaret Pyeatt** (Nancy) This is Mary Margaret's debut at Theatre Three. Elsewhere, she has been seen as Adelaide in *Gyps and Dolls* (1996 Leon Rabin Award), Josette in *Night and Day* (New Theatre) and Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Plano Repertory Theater). She also appears in the film *Barney's Magical Musical Adventure* as Twynkle the Elf.

**Ann T. Reeves** (2nd Saleswoman, Nurse, Sadie) "Thirty-two years between acting roles at Theatre Three says something at least for longevity." In between Ann's taught college theatre, practiced geriatric social work, free-lance directed/acted over much of Northeast



## THEATRE THREE

PRESENTS...

## THE WOMEN

### Artistic Staff

Director.....Niki Flacks  
 Costume Designer.....Bruce R. Coleman  
 Scenic Designer.....Harland Wright  
 Technical Director.....Mike Garner  
 Choreographer (Catfight).....Bill Lengfelder  
 Lighting Designer.....Kelly PerkinsSmith  
 Stage Manager.....Harland Wright \*  
 Production Assistant.....Nikki Heverly

\* Indicates Actor or Stage Manager as a member of Actors' Equity Association

### The Crew

Mike Garner, *Technical Director*. Nikki Heverly, *Master Electrician & Set Crew*, Linda Harrison, *Carpenter*. Pat Parise & Kenny Fuller, *Set Crew*. M.J. Pashley, Binnie Tamaro, Marco E. Salinas, Patty Korbelic, *Assistant Costumers*

### The Setting

New York City, 1936

#### ACT I

Scene I: Mary Haines' living room  
 Scene II: Hairdressing booth at Michael's  
 (a few days later)  
 Scene III: Mary's boudoir (an hour later)  
 Scene IV: A dressmaker's shop  
 (Two months later)  
 Scene V: Exercise Room in Elizabeth Arden's Beauty Salon (Two weeks later)  
 Scene VI: Mary's Pantry, Midnight  
 (A few days later)  
 Scene VII: Mary's living room  
 (A month later)

#### ACT II

Scene I: Room in a lying-in hospital  
 (A month later)  
 Scene II: Mary's living room in a Reno hotel (A few weeks later)  
 Scene III: Crystal's Bathroom  
 (Two weeks later)  
 Scene IV: Mary's Bedroom  
 (11:00 the same night)  
 Scene V: Powder Room at the Casino Roof (Later, the same night)



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## The Cast

Nancy.....	Mary-Margaret Pyeatt
Jane.....	Amy Shoults
Peggy.....	Sue Birch
Edith.....	Molly Moroney *
Sylvia.....	Leslie Alexander *
Mary.....	Penny Taylor
Little Mary.....	Ellen Morgan
Mrs. Moorehead.....	Melinda Mills
Crystal.....	Nicole Case *
Miriam.....	Ellen Locy
Countess.....	Juli Erickson
Exercise Teacher, 1st Hairdresser, Corset Model/Myrtle, 1st Cutie.....	Merrill Searcy
Olga, Miss Shapiro, 1st Woman.....	Linda Comess
Miss Watts, Princess Tamara, 2nd Cutie.....	Ashley Puckett
Maggie, 2nd Hairdresser, Negligee Model, 2nd Woman.....	Beth Bontley
2nd Saleswoman, Nurse Sadie.....	Anne Reeves
Miss Fordyce, Lucy, Dowager.....	Sarah Einerson
Helene, Pedicurist, 1st Girl, Debutante.....	Rachel Kelly
Miss Trimmerback, 2nd Girl, Cigarettes.....	Amy Moore



**Leslie Alexander** (Sylvia) Previous appearances at Theatre Three were in *Blithe Spirit*, *Broadway*, *Lady in the Dark* and *Lucky Stiff*. Other credits include *Macbeth*, *Twelfth Night*, *King and I*, *Gypsy* and *I Do! I Do!* for which she received a Rabin Nomination for Best Actress in a Musical. She has worked off-Broadway with the Light Opera of Manhattan as well as in the national tours of *Barbary Coast* and *Cinderella*. She also has extensive credits in film, TV, commercials, and voice-overs.

**Sue Birch** (Peggy) is pleased to be making her Theatre Three debut. Other work includes *A Doll's House* (on the London fringe), *Babe*, *The Sheep Pig* at Dallas Children's Theater, *Ashes to Ashes* for the Intern Company at the Dallas Theater Center and most recently, *Family Room* for 11th Street Theatre Project.



**Beth Bontley** (Maggie, 2nd hairdresser, Negligee Model/Myrtle, 1st Cutie) graduated from Circle in the Square Theater School in New York and worked off-off Broadway for 16 years. Her Dallas work includes *Fefu & Her Friends* at Echo Theater. Beth teaches acting and is on three area faculties. She's happy to be at Theatre Three and is grateful that women's opportunities have "Come a long way, Baby!" since the '30s.

**Nicole Case** (Crystal) is a graduate of the National Shakespeare Conservatory in New York City. While in New York, roles performed include Carol, in *Oleanna*, and understudy for the NY National Tour. Nicole has had the pleasure of working with several theatres in



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THE **LEAN THEATER** COMING JANUARY, 2000

## For Your Information

### Regarding Theatre Three...

**T3**

Theatre Three is a 501(c)3, not-for-profit cultural institution founded in 1961 by Norma Young. It serves to celebrate and honor the three essentials of theatre for which she named it: gifted playwrights, talented theatre artists, and adventurous audiences.



### Regarding this performance...

- ⊙ There will be one twenty minute intermission.
- ⊙ Cameras or recording devices of any kind are prohibited.
- ⊙ Please turn off (or silence) all cell phones and pagers.
- ⊙ Please finish refreshments in the lobby.

### For theatregoers with disabilities...



- ⊙ Please feel free to call upon our staff for assistance.
- ⊙ Wheelchair locations are available at stage level.
- ⊙ Half of the seats may be reached by handrails.
- ⊙ A wheelchair-accessible restroom is next to the box office.
- ⊙ Disabled parking is next to the Dream Cafe.



### Regarding Parking...

All parking is free. Surface parking surrounds the Quadrangle. Garage parking is accessible on the east side of the Quadrangle.

Theatre Three is sponsored by its Board of Directors, by subscribers, by funds from the City of Dallas, Office of Cultural Affairs and The Texas Commission of the Arts.

Supporters also include The 500, Inc. and TACA. Season sponsors include:

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*Contributions to the Norma Young Fund are still being received and are welcomed. Beginning with the 1996-1997 season, all memorial gifts, unless otherwise designated, are placed in the theatre's new permanent building endowment fund.*

## The Cast

Texas, and been elected Pittsburg, Texas councilwoman four times. "Thanks to students, family, actors and friends for enriching my life."

**Merrill Searcy** (Exercise Teacher, 1st Hairdresser, Corset Model, 1st Cutie) is a Dallas native and a recent graduate of East 15 Acting School in London, England. She is pleased to be back in Dallas and performing at Theatre Three. Credits at school include *A Murder is Announced* (Letitia Blacklock), *Bazaar and Rummage* (Katrina), and *The Three Sisters* (Natasha).



**Amy Shoults** (Jane) Amy is delighted to be working with Theatre Three for her first time. She has appeared locally at Dallas Children's Theater and Hip Pocket Theatre. Amy holds a BFA in Theatre from UT at Austin and also serves as Artist-in-Residence in Dallas Public Schools.

**Penelope Taylor** (Mary) is delighted to be making her Theatre Three Debut. A transplanted New Yorker, she has appeared at Stage West, Pegasus Theater, Dallas Childrens Theater and other local venues. Her favorite roles include acting Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Maria in *The Contrast* and co-producing *Daughter Isabella*.



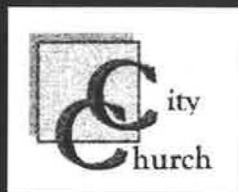
## About the Director



**Niki Flacks** was last seen at Theatre Three in *Design for Living* and is delighted to be back this time directing. Dallas audiences will remember Niki's work at the Shakespeare Festival and The Theatre Center. On Broadway she co-starred in *Private Lives* (with Maggie Smith, directed by Sir John Gielgud), *Candide* (directed by Harold Prince), *Dinner at Eight* (directed by Tyrone Guthrie) and *Spokesong* (directed by Kenneth Frankel). Seasons at the Tyrone Guthrie Theatre, Yale Rep, Washington Area Stage, Long Wharf, Atlanta Alliance and Buffalo Arena. Musical tours and Off-Broadway: *West Side Story* (opposite Richard Chamberlain), *Fiddler on the Roof* (opposite Leonard Nimoy), *Company*, *When You Comin' Back Red Ryder?* and *Off the Wall* (with Henry Winkler). Television: starred as the infamous Karen on *One Life to Live*, as well as many guest appearances on other series. Films: *Semi-Tough*, *The Lathe of Heaven*, *Miriam*, *Raggedy Ann and Andy*. Directing: *The Seagull*, Margo Jones Theatre at SMU, *Three Divas*, Deep Ellum Opera and most recently the world premiere of *Autumn Music* at the Pentameters Theatre in London. Often called a Renaissance Woman, Niki is also president of The Bergerac Company, a training and consulting firm which uses theatre techniques to teach business people to be more effective communicators.

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 Jack and Mary Bush, Mr. & Mrs. Cyril Cohen, Audrey Curtis, Gen. & Mrs. Harry J. Dalton, Patricia & J.B. Doak, Ms. Florence Doswell, Mr. Robert J. Downs, Dr. & Mrs. Philip Fischer, Mr. & Mrs. William H. Frank, Mr. & Mrs. Richard I. Galland, Jo-Lou & Peter Gaupp, Dr. & Mrs. Leonard Graivier, Dick & Jacqueline Grote, Col. William H. Hastings, Dr. & Mrs. Warren C. Johnson, Betty E. Kelly, Mr. Stephen A. B. Krant, Mitchell Madden, Ms. Hilda S. McLaughlin, R.H.S. Mitchell, John Roschke, Joyia Elinson & Jerry L. Setliff, Mr. & Mrs. Robert S. Sloan, Mr. Marvin S. Sloman, Sharon Fay Snow, Carroll Staton, Don & Sally Weatherford, Mr. & Mrs. Douglas A. Wilson, Charles W. Yates

DIRECTORS' COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP (GIFTS FROM \$500 TO \$999)

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PRODUCERS' COUNCIL (GIFTS OF \$1000 AND UP)

 Ruth & Ken Altshuler, Jill & Al Anderson Jr., Mr. William R. Bond, Mr. & Mrs. J. Roland Dykes, Mrs. Allen Early, Ms. Emily Jefferson, Dr. & Mrs. Lloyd Kitchens, Mr. & Mrs. Dick Kruizenga, Mr. David G. Luther Jr., Ms. Elizabeth Rivera, Laura Jeter Weems

From the desk of Jac Alder:

Theatre Three's annual campaign, THE PHOENIX FUND,  
solicits contributions from individuals.

Never have individual contributions been more needed. Mergers, relocations, policy changes and other factors obliterated the effectiveness of our corporate campaign. As for government support, Texas still is 52<sup>nd</sup> in the states and territories in support of the Arts, and as we know, the National Endowment has been eviscerated. Locally, TACA and The 500 Inc. are reorganizing in the face of their declining ability to raise funds by their traditional methods. As I write this, The Phoenix Fund has gathered a total of \$39,895 from the generous individuals listed above. It would be our honor to list YOUR name in support of reaching this year's \$100,000 goal. Please help.







In theater,  
*experience* life.

For centuries, the theater and the arts have enriched millions of lives.

Just like a newspaper, theater introduces us to new ideas, experiences and new perspectives — which makes life better for all of us. Through our support of the arts, we are committed to providing the opportunity for everyone to “experience life.”

**The Dallas Morning News**