



THEATRE IN-THE-ROUND

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

JAC ALDER

EXECUTIVE
PRODUCER-DIRECTOR

PRESENTS

A RIOTOUS COMEDY BY **DARIO FO**,
WINNER OF THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR LITERATURE ...



SHOW THREE: OCTOBER 22 - NOVEMBER 22, 1998

ABOUT...

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Thank you all!

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(Compiled by category & date received; reflecting Phoenix Fund gifts received as of 10/14/98)

The following donors have contributed to this season's Annual Operations' Drive, The Phoenix Fund (which began in late September). The goal for this year's campaign is \$60,000. At press time, monies received total \$27,120.

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JAC ALDER, Executive Producer-Director

presents
A comedy by the 1997 winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature,

DARIO FO



produced by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

THE ARTISTIC STAFF

DIRECTOR...Thurman Moss* • PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER...Jac Alder*
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR...Terry Vandivort* • SET DESIGNER/DIRECTOR OF
DESIGN...Harland Wright* • COSTUMER...Bruce Coleman • ASSISTANT TO
THE DIRECTOR...Tommy Looney

THE CAST

(in order of appearance)

ANTONIA.....Sharon Bunn*
MARGHERITA.....Mary Anna Austin*
GIOVANNI.....Thurman Moss*
SERGEANT, CABRINERI, UNDERTAKER, OLD MAN.....Tom Lenaghan*
LUIGI.....Terry Dobson*

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The acts take place in a working class apartment in Milan and various locales around the city.
ACT ONE: 5:30 P.M. • Intermission (15 minutes) • ACT TWO: 5:30 A.M.

THE CREW

ASSISTANT TO THE COSTUMER...Tish Mussey-Hitt • MASTER
CARPENTER...John Crawford • MASTER ELECTRICIAN...Eric Ladwig
• BUILDERS, PAINTERS, and TECHNICIANS...Ramona Crabtree, Tammy Coil,
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The Dallas Morning News

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT, DARIO FO



Italian dramatist **DARIO FO** was born in 1926 in San Giano, Lombardy. He began his career as a stage designer and author of comic monologues, and from 1959 to 1968 ran a small theatre company in Milan (*Compagnia Fo-Rame*) with his wife, the actress Franca Rame. His comedy had always been political, but with the abolition of censorship (in 1962) he aligned himself openly with the political left. Fo cultivated communist ties in the '60s, and founded *Nuova Scena* to artistically propound his politics.

However, Fo's political philosophies gradually evolved away from communism into socialist thought; in 1970, he broke from the communist party and founded *Il Collettivo Teatrale La Comune*. His international reputation grew from two major pieces written for this company: *Morte accidentale di un anarchino* (translated as *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*) and *Non si paga, non si paga* (translated originally as *We Can't Pay! We Won't Pay!*) The first English language translation of the latter of these works was at the Half Moon Theatre in Britain (1978). Rave reviews followed. *The Daily Telegraph*: "It

is rare to find a farce original enough to find humor in rising prices and quips in unpaid bills. This Dario Fo does with ease, thanks to an everlasting uprush of comic ideas and a natural liking for anyone in a desperate fix." This praise was echoed when Fo won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1997 and the Swedish Academy likened him to the "jesters of the Middle Ages" who relied on wit, irreverence and even slapstick humor to poke fun at authority while "upholding the dignity of the downtrodden."

For championing the downtrodden and sending his audiences into deliriums of laughter, he has become Italy's most popular modern playwright. The Vatican is appalled. When he was announced as the winner of the Nobel Prize, the Vatican newspaper *L'Osservatore Romano* was flabbergasted: "Giving the prize to someone who is also the author of questionable works is beyond all imagination." Nonetheless, audiences adore his radio and television performing and writing, cabaret musicals and plays with such delightful titles as *Cockadoodle*, *The Worker Knows 300 Words -- the Boss Knows 1000: That's Why He Is the Boss*, *Comic Mystery Play*, *Sane as Nutters*, *Death and Resurrection of a Puppet*, *The Finger in the Eye* and, the bane of the church, *The Pope and the Witch*. Fo's influences have been traced to such rich veins of comic sources as medieval jester performances, *commedia dell'arte*, slapstick, French farce, circus, Vaudeville, puppet and magic shows, and even Laurel and Hardy. Parallels are easily seen between *We Won't Pay! We Won't Pay!* and *Lucy, Ricky, Ethel and Fred* -- if their politics had only been more radical.

A true creature of the theatre, he is known for his set and costume design, poster and playbill illustration, historical theatrical research augmenting his writing and acting (and company management) career. He not only directs his own plays for his own companies, but directs works of other playwrights throughout Europe. *Il teatro di Fo* remains a rallying point for the political left, plays an important role in the movement for social change in Italy, and, not surprisingly, continues to increase in universal appeal, drawing followings from all levels and classes of society throughout the world of diverse political experience.

THEATRE THREE PLAYBILL
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HOW UP TO DATE CAN WE GET?

WEB SITE: <http://www.vline.net/theatre3/>

E-MAIL ADDRESS: theatre3@airmail.net

Theatre Three publishes will publish seven Subscription Series playbills this season. This playbill is published for *We Won't Pay, We Won't Pay*, the third show of the Subscription Series of the 1998-1999 season playing from Oct 22 thru Nov 22. Theatre Three welcomes advertisers in its playbill who can call Kelley Hughes at (214) 871- 2933 for information.

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.

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. Please advise of need when reserving tickets.
- **RESTROOM** A wheelchair-accessible restroom is next to the box office.
- **RAILINGS** Over half of the seats at Theatre Three can be reached from staircases with a handrail. Please advise the box office of this need when making reservations.

ABOUT PARKING

All parking options for Theatre Three patrons are *free, including valet parking*. Protected parking is available in the office tower garage. Surface parking is also available, though on popular restaurant nights is often limited. Handicapped parking is available next to the *Dream Café* lawn and at the end of the courtyard shared by Theatre Three and the old *North-South Restaurant*.

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 Co-ordinator
and Staff Lighting Designer
TISH MUSSEY-HITT.....Production Journeyman

INTERN STAFF

TOMMY LOONEY, RAMONA CRABTREE
and **KELLEY HUGHES**
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TERRY VANDIVORT.....Development Associate
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ABOUT THE ACTORS

In this show, playing MARGHERITA marks MARY ANNA AUSTIN's thirty second year of performing on Dallas area stages. She was last seen in *Marvin's Room* at the Water Tower Theatre in Addison. Previous shows at Theatre Three include *The Heidi Chronicles*, *A Small Family Business*, *Tiger Lady*, *Shadowlands* and *Sylvia*. Additional theatres include Dallas Theater Center, Stage West, Dallas Children's Theater, The Open Stage, Dallas Repertory Theatre, New Arts Theatre, The Odyssey Theatre in Los Angeles and the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco. She majored in theatre at Trinity University and graduated from the advanced training program at the American Conservatory Theatre. Awards include Dallas Theatre Critics Forum award for *Reckless*, a best supporting actress award for *A House with Two Doors* is *Difficult to Guard* at Stage West and a Leon Rabin nomination for her work in *Marvin's Room*.



AUSTIN

SHARON BUNN, playing ANTONIA, has performed in virtually every Theatre Three season. Her prowess as an actress and singer has been shown in a range of this theatre's most memorable productions including *Sweeney Todd*, *A Woman in Mind*, *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All for You*, *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*, *Safety*, *Top Girls*, *A Little Night Music*, *Anything Goes*, *Six Characters in Search of an Author* -- and this is an abbreviated list! She is a film actress (having worked on screen with such luminaries as Gene Hackman, Jack Nicholson, Shirley MacLaine) and is a passionate film historian as well as a teacher and a director (she recently directed *Danny and the Deep Blue Sea* to excellent notices for the theatre she founded (with Thurman Moss), The Lean Theatre. Along with another Theatre Three veteran actor (Terry Vandivort) she is working administratively to identify and locate all those artists who have been part of Theatre Three's history since 1961, an effort focusing on the theatre's upcoming 40 year anniversary.



BUNN

TERRY DOBSON as LUIGI is a tireless and dedicated performer who is to this season what Carl Ripkin was/is to baseball. In the season's first show, *Death Defying Acts* he played two roles: a desperate suicide prevention center phone attendant and a manic depressive husband with an unfaithful wife. While that successful show was running, he was preparing the musical materials for the singers and the orchestra for *The Threepenny Opera* which he then conducted and accompanied at every performance. Then while *The Threepenny Opera* was performing, he was busy memorizing and rehearsing for *We Won't Pay! We Won't Pay!* His responsibilities at Theatre Three include assisting the Executive Producer-Director (Jac Alder) with fundraising, company management and relations with those agents who represent playwrights and composers. For the Turtle Creek Chorale he does arranging, performing and conducting for their "show" group, ENCORE! This is Mr. Dobson's eighteenth year of association with Theatre Three.



DOBSON

Playing SERGEANT, CABRINERI, UNDERTAKER and OLD MAN is TOM LENGAHEN, a veteran of Theatre Three productions of *Disgraceful Acts* (the double bill of *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All for You* and *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*), and *Sylvia*. His work at other theatres includes Actors Stock Company and The Gryphon Players. Most recently he appeared in *Reefer Madness* at Pegasus Theatre and performed recently for Undermain Theatre in *The Joy of Going Somewhere Definite* and *The Seagull*. He is a past recipient of the Critic's Forum Award for the role of Richard in *Tiny Dimes*. A veteran of stand-up as well, he appears regularly at the Addison Improv following his appearances at comedy clubs around this state as well as clubs in Colorado, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. He made his film debut in *Robocop* for Orion Pictures.



LENA'GHEN

THURMAN MOSS as GIOVANNI is also the director of *We Won't Pay! We Won't Pay!* In the season's first show, *Death Defying Acts* (a bill of one-acts by David Mamet, Elaine May and Woody Allen) Moss acted in all three shows and directed May's piece, *Hotline*. Wearing multiple hats professionally, he teaches for KD Studios and for the Dallas County Community College District, administers at Theatre Three as its Associate Producer and Director of Operations. Last season he directed *Old Wicked Songs* and *Dreams from a Summer House*. He has served The Lean Theatre (which he co-founded) as writer, director and actor. The Lean Theatre "discovered" Dario Fo and gave *We Won't Pay! We Won't Pay!* its Dallas premiere in the back of a shopping center's ice cream parlor. When Theatre Three's producer, Jac Alder, chose "Sex and Money" as the theme for the current season, he asked Moss to mount a mainstage production of the newly honored playwright for a wider audience.



MOSS

THE THRESHOLD OLD CAMPAIGN

The Threshold Campaign at Theatre Three solicits donations for its permanent fund to be used to endow the facility. This is a four year campaign and bricks with donor names are placed in the courtyards at the thresholds to the facility in recognition of gifts. These installations are done twice yearly. In addition to the first donors to the campaign (whose bricks are already installed) the below-listed generous individuals have made donations that will be recognized in the late fall '98 installation. If you would like to join in this campaign, please use the donation slip at the right or phone the theatre and speak to Natalie Gaupp
Anonymous (in honor of Norma Young), Diane and Larry Finstrom, Elizabeth Rivera, Keith Schwartz, B. Moss, Bruce Coleman (Bruce C., Terry D., Susan, Sean, Natalie, Lisa, Tish, Liz, Gaitley, Patrick), Douglas & Connie Wilson, Bob Downs, In Memory of Blanquietta Hogue, In Memory of Robert Kendall Downs, Buff Shurr, Dr. Janiz Minshew-Shurr, Maya Xing Shurr, Charles & Pat Hayward, Richard A. Wright, Elizabeth Farren, Judy Meagher, Milton & Ann Killen, Cullen & Dolores Rogers, Christie Rogers, Matthew Rogers, Don & Judy Lambert, Marion Brockett, Dianne Brockett, Emily E. Brockett, Rebecca L. Brockett, Ida V. Hall, Jerry & Marianna Scroggins, In remembrance of Lola Gertrude Preuss, placed by her loving family, Donald F. Learne, Peggy A. Learner, Lucy H. Masters, In loving memory of Paul J. McMasters, Jim Oates, Kay Champagne, Connie S. Walker (In Memoriam Bill Green), Michael and Nicole Javier, Jamie Pringle and the cast of *The Threepenny Opera*, Bill and Elaine Johnson, Claudine Sherrill, Stan Graner and Jim McBride.

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Voters who believe that we need to maintain our cultural institutions, and ensure the arts are available to all

Texas schoolchildren as part of a quality education need to write, e-mail and personally contact state elected officials urging them to support the Texas Commission on the Arts appropriations and to use a small percentage of the state's surplus for a one-time LOAN to the Cultural Trust Fund, a financial device created by the legislature itself to fund the Texas Commission on the Arts. This is the year to be politically active on behalf of the arts in Texas.

Let's move Texas from DEAD LAST to ALIVE AND KICKIN'!

• Ad placed on behalf of TEXANS FOR THE ARTS.

Though the advertising editor of this playbill is delighted to place the above ad as a public service, he'd also like to place a few ads for paying advertisers interested in reaching Theatre Three's talented audience. For ad rates for this playbill, call Kelley Hughes and let him "explain the program"! Call him at (214) 871-2933.

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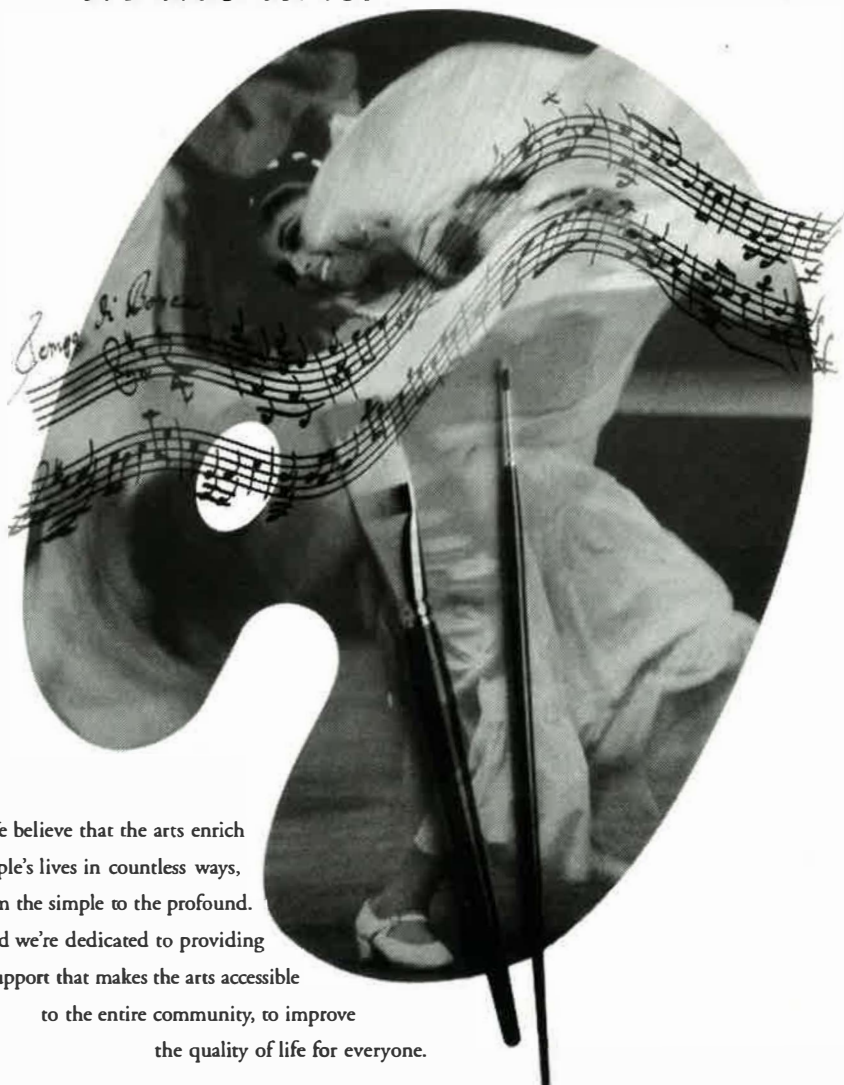
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