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The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail

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Taylor Theatre

presents

Jerome Lawrence
and Robert E. Lee's

THE NIGHT
THOREAU
SPENT IN JAIL

October 25, 27, November 1, 3, 1990
Little Theatre
Taylor University
A Word from the Director:
The late 1960's and early 1970's saw a youth movement sweep this country. In colleges and universities across the land young people were challenged (and challenged the "Establishment") to reassess their values, their beliefs, their attitudes, their behavior, their institutions, and their lifestyles. As with any movement based in idealism, there was much in the youth counter-culture movement that was excessive in its reactionary impulse and potentially damaging to the human spirit. Nevertheless, there was much that rang true to the heart and to a higher raison d'etre that resonated with the ideas and ideals of Emerson and the lifestyle of Thoreau. Simplicity of means, healthy self-reliance, communion with nature and nature's God, were advocated as means of aspiring toward the best that human experience was capable of providing. Slavery, exploitation of labor, the war in Mexico, the despoothing of the planet, rampant materialism, were attacked as means of destroying the best that human experience was capable of becoming. The youth of the 60's and 70's have become the "Establishment" of the 90's. And as is the case in every time and season, we run the risk of fulfilling the prophetic words of Thoreau to his own generation: "We have become everything we protested against."

"The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail" asks us (along with him) to consider the human condition, to reevaluate our attitudes toward our planet, our fellow human beings, our governing institutions, and the use of force as a legitimate means to an end, given the capacity of human beings for rationalization of motive and inhumanity of action. For Thoreau, it was a night well spent. We hope that you can say the same.

A NOTE on 19th Century Transcendentalism:
The God of Transcendentalism is not the God of Christianity, and yet the God of Christianity is the God of Transcendentalism. The "Intelligence that Governs the Universe," "The Universal Mind," are expressions of a limited perception of God which, nevertheless, captures legitimate aspects of His Being. By understanding the impulses in the human spirit which make Transcendentalism an appealing ideal, I believe that the truth of our Christian world views can ultimately be strengthened in the process. We hear a great deal today about "New Age" philosophy. Much of this philosophy is embodied in 19th century Transcendentalism. When people become interested in matters of the spirit, regardless of the source of that interest, I believe that Christianity is posed no threat, but rather provided an opportunity for the truth to be heard in the hearts of our fellows. The Spirit is thereby evangelical.
PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistants to the Director ........ Lauri Mullens
                                    Deanna Slough
Technical Director ................ Dr. Oliver Hubbard

Set Crew .......................... JASON WELCH
                                    Bruce Fouse
                                    Jason Purcell
                                    Jeff Ramsdale
                                    Garrick Shanley
                                    Deanna Slough
                                    Karen Stafford

Light Crew ........................ LAURI MULLENS
                                    Ellen Christensen
                                    Dan Kett
                                    Jim Palmer
                                    Rosie Seville
                                    Jason Wolf

Audio Technicians ................ ILAN KIBBEY
                                    Tim Grable
                                    Mike Long

Projectionists ..................... DAN WESTLAKE
                                    Jennifer Baginski
                                    *Jeff Bennett
                                    Amy Phillips
                                    *Jim Church
                                    Jennifer Lengacher
                                    Debbie Kinch

Make-up Crew  ..................... BETH KROGER
                                    TRACY TOBEY
                                    Kari Parker
                                    Beth Delmastro
                                    Nanci Swanson
                                    Alicia Helyer
                                    Beth Lundquist
                                    Debbie Kinch

Properties  ......................... HOLLY GAFF
                                    Ellen Christensen
                                    *Jim Church
                                    Heather Hisson
                                    Beth Siekerman
                                    Tricia Cable

Costumes  ........................ ELYCE ELDER
                                    Wayne Bernhardt
                                    Todd Fisher
                                    Cathy Itzes
                                    Sherri MacFadyen
                                    Steve Richard

House  ........................... JIM CHURCH
                                    MINDI FISHER
                                    Kim Nelson
                                    Heidi Oakley
                                    Aaron Pike
                                    Marc Plastow
                                    Pam Reeder
                                    Brain Wildeboer
                                    Dawn Bartow
                                    Kris Bowgren
                                    Ellen Christensen
                                    Jamie Costas
                                    Madawna Hix
                                    Sabrina Munsen

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