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A Doll's House

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Taylor University Theatre presents

Henrik Ibsen's

A

DOLL'S

HOUSE

Little Theatre
May 3, 4, 5 and 6, 1978
A Doll's House

Director: Jessie Rousselow
Designer: Ollie Hubbard

The Cast

Torvald Helmer, a lawyer ............... Doug Oliver
Nora, his wife .......................... Kimberly Montgomery
Dr. Rank ............................... Carey Alstadt
Mrs. Linde .............................. Catherine Curtis
Nils Krogstad, also a lawyer ............. Mark Welch
The Helmers' children ................. Jabin Burnworth
................................................ Greg Kroeker
................................................ Lisa Loy
Anne-Marie, their nurse ............... Kris Anderson
Helen, the maid .......................... Brenda Conway

The action takes place in the Helmer's apartment.
Norway, 1879

There will be a two minute scene break between Acts 1 and 2 and a
ten minute intermission between Acts 2 and 3.

Musical Selections Heard this Evening

Peer Gynt Suites ........................ Edvard Grieg
No. 1, Op. 46
No. 2, Op. 55
(1843-1907)

A Communication & Theatre Arts Department Production

Acknowledgments

For their generous help in making A DOLL'S HOUSE possible, our thanks to:

Germann's Edelweiss Wood Burning Stoves
8675 East 700 South
Upland, Indiana Phone: 998-7407

Bradley's Odds-N-Ends
Antiques and Old Things
3107 South Washington Street
Marion, Indiana Phone: 668-8448

As a courtesy to the actors, please do not use cameras during the
performance.

From the Director

The question "what constitutes a good marriage?" has often been
explored in all types of literature attesting to its universal
significance for our society. The poet, novelist or playwright who
sets out to explore the issue of the good marriage will have to
recognize the possible range of associations and images which this
theme will call up in the audience member's mind. Depending
upon the individual's personal experiences and the cultural milieu
surrounding the person, answers might conceivably range from
there is no such thing as a good marriage to a very specific list of
qualities, characteristics, and role expectations necessary for
each partner to possess in a good marriage. Despite this potential
diversity of responses, a truly great artist can provide us with a
unique discussion high in associational value for a great many
people. Henrik Ibsen has achieved this uniqueness and
associational potential in his three act play, A DOLL'S HOUSE.

In order to present us with some alternative perspectives on the
question of a good marriage, Ibsen introduces us to Torvald and
Nora Helmer and allows us to spend three important days with
them. As we meet them, the Helmers have been married for eight
years. They view their home as a haven of refuge from the outside
world. They are happy and content because Torvald has a secure
position and because they have three beautiful children. Their
marriage works well because they have developed a pattern of
accommodation which is pleasant and predictable. Each of them
has developed finesse at manipulating the variables in any
situation so that the end result is harmonious. The central
metaphor which Ibsen uses to explore the Helmer's marriage is
that of a game. Games are characterized by the presence of rules,
strategy and tactics. We have not been long in the Helmer
household before we discover some of the key rules they use in
playing the game called marriage. We also discover the key
strategy of each of the players and observe them making various
tactical moves as the game progresses.

Ibsen seems to be saying that a marriage structured in this way can
function smoothly and even happily. However, he does not leave
the Helmers in this euphoric state. Before the play is over an
externally imposed crisis forces the Helmers to face the fact that
some things are not covered by the rules of the game they have
learned to play so adeptly by living together for eight years. Their
familiar, well-worn strategies for coping and responding fail both of
them. It becomes clear that if the miracle of miracles is to occur
the game will have to be abolished, and they will have to find new
ways to build authentic relational bridges between themselves.
This new pattern of relationship will have to acknowledge that
first and foremost each of them "is a human being" and that each
must strive to develop the hidden potential in their unique
personhood.

Ultimately, each of us must draw our own conclusions about what
constitutes a good marriage. Those of us who have lived with
Ibsen's magnificent play during the past six weeks have had our
perceptions of the possible alternatives significantly expanded.
We hope that your experience with the play will yield similar
positive experiences for you.

J. L. R.
Production Staff

Assistant to the Director .................................................. Tim Johnson
Technical Director ......................................................... Ollie Hubbard
Assistant Technical Director ............................................. Rhonda Jeter
Set Committee ............................................................. Brenda Conway
Brian Davis
Ollie Hubbard
Tom Lough
Doug Marlow
Tracy Sibley
Bill Wallace
Lighting ............................................................... KATHY TURNER
Gregg Francis
Tom Lough
Doug Marlow
Sound ................................................................. Brian Rishaw
Properties ............................................................. RHONDA JETER
Glenda Greenwood
Joy Manda
Doug Marlow
Denise Norman
Becky Norris
Make-up .......................................................... TOM LOUGH
Lisa Barth
Sharon Gentry
Bonnie Weimer
Costumes ............................................................. Sharon Hutchison
Jill Laird
Terri Rupp
Julie Stow
House ............................................................... EDIE RADER
Wendy Branch
Julene Brueckner
Sarah Burgoon
Robin Chernenko
Debby Cox
Vickie George
Robin Greenman
Rene Haymaker
Lori Oestreicher
Martha Palmer
Enid Ruyle
Carolyn Turner

During Intermission

Nora’s favorite bakery will be selling macaroons and punch in the lower lobby for your refreshment,
and

May 4, 5 and 6, the Annual Student Art Show will be on exhibit in the Chronicle-Tribune Art Gallery located on the main floor of this building.