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Ghosts

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UNIVERSITY THEATRE PRESENTS
HENRIK IBSEN'S
GHOSTS
IN READERS' THEATER

SCHREINER AUDITORIUM
SEPTEMBER 25, 1971
8:15 PM

TAYLOR UNIVERSITY
Henrik Ibsen was born at Skien, Norway, March 20, 1828. When he was eight his father became bankrupt, and when he was sixteen, he was apprenticed to an apothecary in Grimstad. He began to write poetry at nineteen and at twenty-one finished his first play. At twenty-two he left the apothecary and was admitted conditionally to the University of Christiania (Oslo) where he studied and wrote for a year and a half. He had no later formal education. In 1851 Ole Bull appointed him playwright at the Bergen Theatre. He stayed in Bergen five years and there wrote or revised five plays. Then he became Director of a theatre at Oslo which failed after five years. Thereafter Ibsen depended for his livelihood on his pen or on grants from the University or the state. While living in Oslo, he married and had one son.

In 1864 he left Norway in disgust because Norway had not fought for Denmark in the Prusso-Danish war. He did not return to live in Norway until 1890. He lived at various times in Rome, Dresden and Munich. All his plays of international reputation were written after 1864. His work became steadily more widely known and his prosperity increased but his life remained uneventful. He wrote twelve plays during the twenty-six years away from Norway and four after he returned. In 1900 he suffered a stroke which made him nearly helpless, and in 1906 he died.

Ibsen was thrust into world prominence in 1879 with the production of his play A DOLL'S HOUSE, which dealt with a problem much in the public mind: the emancipation of women. He boldly asserted that since a wife has moral responsibility as serious as her husband's she should have the same freedoms and the same dignity. By this play Ibsen marked himself as a rebel. Later works related not only to the emancipation of women but also emancipation from familial and societal tyrannies: Ibsen is repeatedly called the father of the modern drama, and his influence can be readily seen in all the later drama of the Western world. He brought to the theatre a new and higher standard of intelligence; his plays have a richer and deeper thought content. He improved technique: his plays move without that artificiality which haunts drama and makes it more subject to dating than any other literary form. He gave his characters lives rooted in a developed past, so that what appears in the play arises out of their histories. Technical study of how he accomplishes this if always rewarding; no playwright is more masterly.

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**GHOSTS**

Cast of Characters

- Mrs. Alving, A widow ................. Joann Neuroth
- Oswald Alving, her son, an artist .... Jim Oosting
- Manders, the Pastor of the parish . . . . . Cornelius House
- Engstrand, a carpenter ............. David Klopfenstein
- Regina, his daughter, in Mrs. Alving's service . . . Joyce Richardson

The action of the play transpires at Mrs. Alving's house on one of the large fjords of Western Norway.

Two ten-minute intermissions

For those that would like to discuss the ideas suggested by the play or the style of presentation, there will be an open discussion with the cast and director immediately following the presentation in the Auditorium.

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Our next production: THE IMAGINARY INVALID

October 14 and 16 8:15 p.m. Oct. 15 9:15 p.m.

Presented by Speech and Drama Department and Trojan Players

*Denotes Trojan Player Members

As a courtesy to the actors, please do not use cameras during the program.
PRODUCTION STAFF

Director .................. Allen Goetcheus
Designer-Technical Director .... Harvey Campbell
Costumier .................. Jessie Rousselow
Assistant to the Director ...... Bev Finley
Assistant to the Technical Director, Linda Sulfridge*

Set Committee .................. Cheryl Fesmire*
 .................................. Lyn Heaney
 .................................. Don McLaughlin
 .................................. Alison Muesing
 .................................. Nona Tonisen
 .................................. Sue Von Poucher

Properties .................. MARILYN JONES
 .................................. Sylvia Cameron
 .................................. Debi King
 .................................. Carolyn Savage*
 .................................. Sue Surber

Lights .................. Don McLaughlin
 .................................. Nancy Spaulding

Sound .................. Linda Sulfridge*
 .................................. Dana Taylor

Make-up .................. JANE FALION*
 .................................. Jean Riley

Costumes .................. Kathy Jenkinson*
 .................................. Barbara Tatter

House .................. SUE SURBER
 .................................. Becky Baldock
 .................................. Belinda Braggs
 .................................. Susan Brooke
 .................................. Sylvia Cameron
 .................................. Jenny Cashdollar
 .................................. Laura Ewald
 .................................. Karen Fosnough

Box Office and Publicity ........ Jeanne Bullock
 .................................. Mary Nacey

Program Cover Design ........... Mary Nacey

*Denotes Trojan Player Members