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Inherit the Wind

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Taylor University Theatre presents

LAWRENCE & LEE'S

INHERIT THE WIND

February 17, 18, 19 & 20, 8:15 p.m.
Little Theatre
Taylor University
American playwrights JEROME LAWRENCE (1915- ) and ROBERT E. LEE (1918- ) were students in neighboring universities, Lawrence at Ohio State and Lee at Ohio Wesleyan. Lee was specializing in astronomy, but dropped that in favor of his partner-to-be's field of theatre. They met in New York in 1942 and decided to form a partnership. World War II intervened and the young playwrights entered the armed services. During that time they founded the Armed Forces Radio Service and wrote and directed the history-making broadcasts for D-Day, VE Day and VJ Day. Returning from the war, the team engaged in writing radio and television plays, books, magazine stories and record albums. They won two Peabody Awards for their broadcast writing.

In 1948 a musical comedy called LOOK, MA, I'M DANCING became their first work to reach a Broadway stage. INHERIT THE WIND scored a successful 803-performance run in New York in 1955 and went on to sweep across America. In 1960 it was released in film version starring Spencer Tracy as Drummond and Fredric March as Brady. In March of that year it enjoyed a successful run on the London stage and in 1973, along with Thornton Wilder's OUR TOWN, became the first American drama to tour the Soviet Union.

In 1956 they scored another hit with their comedy AUNTIE MAME which was converted into the popular musical MAME in 1966 with music by Jerry Herman. MAME ran 3 years and 8 months in New York--1,508 performances. Other plays and musicals include SHANGRI-LA (1956), IN HERIT THE WIND (1959), A CALL ON KUPRIN (1961), DIAMOND ORCHID (1965), DEAR WORLD (1969), THE INCOMPARABLE MAX (1971), and FIRST MONDAY AT THE CAFE (1972).

In 1965 Lawrence and Lee helped to found the American Playwrights Series which arranged to lease an outstanding play each year to fifty subscribing regional theatres. THE NIGHT THOREAU SPENT IN JAIL was written in 1970 for this program. Their interest in fostering new plays and playwrights has led them to found the Margo Jones Award and to participation in the O'Neill Foundation, the American Conservatory Theatre, the Broadcasting & Film Commission of the National Council of Churches, the Dramatists Guild, the U. S. State Department Cultural Exchange Committee and to be guest lecturers and teachers wherever young playwrights are developing.

In addition, Lawrence has been visiting professor of playwriting at Ohio State University and Lee is on the faculty of UCLA as professor of playwriting.

INHERIT THE WIND is not history. The events which took place in Dayton, Tennessee, during the scorching July of 1925 are clearly the genesis of this play. It has, however, an exodus entirely its own.

Only a handful of phrases have been taken from the actual transcript of the famous Scopes trial. Some of the characters of the play are related to the colorful figures in that battle of giants; but they have life and language of their own—and, therefore, names of their own.

The collision of Bryan and Darrow at Dayton was dramatic, but it was not a drama. Moreover, the issues of their conflict have acquired new dimensions and meaning in the thirty years since they clashed at the Rhea County Courthouse. So INHERIT THE WIND does not pretend to be journalism. It is theatre.

"He that troubles his own house Shall inherit the wind."
Proverbs 11:29

INHERIT THE WIND
Directed and designed by Dr. Oliver Hubbard
Costumed by Laura Lee Binder

THE CAST
(in the order of their appearance)

Howard ...................................... Jay Caven
Melinda ....................................... Nancy Dennis
Rachel Brown ................................ Vicki Cruse
Meeker ....................................... Ken Delp
Bertram Cates ................................ Mike Burchfield
Mrs. Krebs .................................... Tammy Cripps
Mrs. Goofellow ................................ Debbie Messamore
Rev. Jeremiah Brown ........................ Tim Stevenson
Sillers ....................................... Scott Etchison
Bannister .................................... Rick Sprunger
Bollinger ..................................... Dave Wilkie
Dunlap ....................................... Kurt Bullock
Mrs. Loomis ................................ Jody Luxford
Mrs. Blair .................................... Laura Lee Binder
Hot Dog Man .................................. Bob Brothers
Mrs. McLain ................................... Betsy Burns
Hornbeck ..................................... Mark Burkholder
Mayor's Wife .................................. Priscilla Smith
Elijah .......................................... Andrew Borgstrom
Sunny ......................................... Susan Binder
Monkey Vendor .............................. Harvey Warwick
Mayor .......................................... Mark Stevens
Matthew Harrison Brady .................... Dave Shipley
Mrs. Brady ..................................... Rodelyn McPherson
Tom Davenport ................................ Steven McPherson
Finney ......................................... John Gongwer
Photographer/Reporter ..................... Mark Allan
Henry Drummond ......................... Doug Oliver
Judge .......................................... Randy Wyatt
Reuter's Man .................................. Kirby Bradley
Dr. Page ....................................... Mark Nussbaum
Dr. Aaronson .............................. Tim Himmelwright
Dr. Keller ................................... Brian Westrate
Harry Y. Estesbrook ....................... Edward Campbell

ACT I Scene i .......................... The Hillsboro, Tennessee town square
Scene ii ................................. The courthouse lawn, a few days later

ten minute intermission

ACT II Scene i ................................ The courthouse lawn, the same night
Scene ii ................................... The courthouse lawn, two days later

ACT III The courthouse lawn, the following day

This Evening's Music

"Whispering" ............................. John Schonberger, Richard Coburn & Vincent Rose
"My Blue Heaven" ......................... George Whiting & Walter Donaldson
"Deep Night" ............................. Rudy Vallee & Charles Henderson

A Communication & Theatre Arts Department Production

You are invited to stay for an informal discussion immediately following the play.
Production Staff

Assistant to the Director ................................................................. Jo Hamm
Set Design Coordinator ................................................................. Scott Pugsley
Technical Director ........................................................................ Janet Lavin
Set Crew ........................................................................................... Jim Bates
Tim Himmelwright, Nancy Barnum, Mark Hubbard, Becky Hubbard,
Kurt Bullock, Jody Luxford, Tammy Cripps, Tom McWatters, Ken Delp,
Jim Ogborn, Scott Etchison, Doug Oliver, Doug Hamm, Dave Shipley, Jo Hamm,
Jillane Sikkenga

Light Crew ....................................................................................... Vicki Cruse
Georgia Reasner, Kirby Bradley, Dan Dominick

Audio Technicians ............................................................................ Tim Himmelwright
Janet Lavin

Properties ........................................................................................ ELIZABETH MCDUFFIE
Nancy Barnum, Jennifer Braun, Mindy Date, Jody Luxford

Make-up ............................................................................................. LORI MILLER
Joanie Anderson, Nate Burcham, Cathy Bush, Susan Glassburn, Kathy Lehman,
Jill Meckley, Janice Shipley

Costume .............................................................................................. LAURA LEE BINDER
Susan Binder, Linda Britton, Tammy Cripps, Julia Shepherd

Program Cover Design ...................................................................... Jennifer Helvie

House .................................................................................................. TERESA CRESS
Kelly Isakson, Cheryl Johnson, Cindy Johnson, Mary Moore, Laurie Mowery,
Monica Sheets, Sue Wright

Acknowledgments

For their generous help in making INHERIT THE WIND possible, our thanks to
Dr. Dale Heath, the Taylor Music Department, the Jones Funeral Home and Deforest Optical,
1377 North Baldwin, Marion, Indiana.

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

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

During intermission we invite you to visit the art exhibit of senior art major Carol De Haan in
the Chronicle-Tribune Art Gallery on the main level.

Our Next Production

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST ................................................................ April 28 - May 1