Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris

Follow this and additional works at: https://pillars.taylor.edu/playbills

Part of the Acting Commons, Dance Commons, Higher Education Commons, Playwriting Commons, and the Theatre History Commons

Recommended Citation
https://pillars.taylor.edu/playbills/183
Taylor University Theatre Presents

Jacques Brel
is
Alive And Well
And Living in Paris

Little Theatre
October 12, 13, 14 + 15, 1977
JACQUES BREL
IS ALIVE AND WELL AND LIVING IN PARIS
Produced by the Communication and Theatre Arts Department

Director/Designer: Ollie Hubbard

OLLIE HUBBARD is beginning his second year as the Director of Theatre for the Communication and Theatre Arts Department at Taylor. Last year Mr. Hubbard designed the set for the Homecoming Weekend play THE MOUSETRAP, directed and designed BRIGADOON and directed and designed DOCTOR FAUSTUS which was also toured as a Religious Drama. He will be directing Bertolt Brecht’s GALILEO in February and designer and technical director for the April production, A DOLL’S HOUSE. Mr. Hubbard is presently completing his dissertation in Theatre Arts at Kent State University.

JESSIE ROUSSELOW is University Theatre Costumer and an associate professor of Communication and Theatre Arts at Taylor. ANTIGONE began her directing debut at Taylor in 1972 and she has continued to direct one play each season. In addition to directing the 1976 Homecoming play, THE MOUSETRAP, Ms. Rousselow has directed SKIN OF OUR TEETH, THE GLASS MENAGERIE, THE TROJAN WOMEN and THE MAGISTRATE. She will be directing Ibsen’s A DOLL’S HOUSE in April 1978. She is a doctoral candidate at the University of Minnesota.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

“Marathon” ........................................ Company
“Join us now we’re on a Marathon
We’re always dancing while the music plays . . .”

“Alone” ........................................ Mark
“We’re loyal you and I
To flowers that are dead
We forget how to cry
We save photos instead
And we find . . . we’re alone.”

“Madeleine” ....................................... Company

“I Loved” ......................................... Diana
“I loved all games and fairy tales
As strangely odd as that may seem”

“Bachelor’s Dance” ............................. Tim
“Through the window of life
We will go as girl and boy
To become man and wife
To become one with joy.”

“Timid Frieda” .................................. Kathy
“Will life seize her
On the street where
The new dreams gather . . .”

“Ne me quitte pas” .............................. Jacques Brel
“If you go away, on a summer day
Then you might as well take the sun away . . .”

“Sons of” ......................................... Kathy
“Sons of the great or sons unknown
All were children like your own . . .”

“The Desperate Ones” ........................ Company
“Let he who threw the stone at them
Stand up and take a bow,  
He knows the verb to love  
But he'll never know how . . .

**INTERMISSION**

"The Bulls" ........................................ Mark  
"On Sundays the bulls get so bored  
When they are asked to drop dead for us . . ."

"The Old Folks" ................................. Edie  
"The old, old silver clock  
That's hanging on the wall  
That waits for us . . . all."

"Marieke" .......................................... Diana  
"... In flanders field, the poppies die  
Since you are gone."

"Brussels" ........................................ Company  
"It was a time when brussels brustled"

"Carousel!" ........................................ Edie  
"And the whole world's madly turning  
Turning, turning til you can't see."

"If We Only Have Love" ........................ Company  
"If we only have love  
Then Jerusalem stands  
And then death has no shadow,  
There are no foreign lands . . ."

---

**ORCHESTRA**

Electric Bass ................................ Matt Bolinger  
Percussion ................................. Terry Seagingle  
Synthesizer ................................. Kent Mollenkamp  
Piano ............................................ Mark Brace

---

**THE COMPANY**

**GREGG FRANCIS** is a senior Communication and Theatre Arts major from Hammond, Indiana and has been active in theatre and music both in high school and college. He has participated in the musicals GEORGE M, BRIGADOON, and MY FAIR LADY, had roles in TEAHOUSE OF THE AUGUST MOON, and SIX ROOMS RIV-VU and last year directed “Visitor from Forest Hills” from PLAZA SUITE. Gregg was a member of his high school stage band and while at Taylor has been active in “The Serenaders”, student government and intramural sports. While postgraduate work will probably be a part of his future, teaching, directing Campus Life and working as a high school guidance counselor are Gregg’s considerations for career possibilities.

**TIM JOHNSON** is a freshman Music major at Taylor whose home town is Tokeyo, Japan. Tim was born and raised in Japan where his parents are missionaries. While in high school, Tim sang in the choir and also played piano accompaniment for the choir. In addition he was a member of a singing group that visited various Japanese churches. Tim’s theatre background includes parts in THE BARRETTS OF WIMPOLE STREET, THE SOUND OF MUSIC and one-acts THE BALD SOPRANO and THE EGG AND I. Tim’s future plans are undecided but it appears that music will always be significant in his life.
DIANA MURRELL, a junior English major at Taylor, previously participated in drama and music in her home town of Marion, Indiana appearing in a high school production of OLIVER and civic theatre productions of GODSPELL and WEST SIDE STORY. Diana was also a member of the Madrigal Singers and concert choir and maintained National Honor Society requirements. In addition to teaching English on a secondary level, Diana plans to pursue a Master's degree in music. She hopes to work with church music programs and possibly participate in a Christian singing group.

From Seoul, Korea where her parents are Salvation Army officers, EDIE JEANNE RADER has come to Taylor as a freshman Communication and Theatre Arts major. During her 15 years in Seoul, Edie appeared in the musicals GODSPELL, COME TOGETHER and SWINGING SAMSON and had roles in THE MATCHMAKER, PYGMALION, YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU and SILENT NIGHT. She participated in choir and several small singing groups and was student council president and a member of the drama club. After obtaining her degree at Taylor, Edie plans to pursue a Master's Degree in Communication at Wheaton college and anticipates a ministry through drama and music.

A junior Communication and Theatre Arts major from Pinconning, Michigan, KATHY TURNER has been active in theatre and music both in high school and college. Before coming to Taylor Kathy sang with the Midland Community Chorale, was a member of Drama Club and the National Honor Society and enjoyed the distinction of being included in Who's Who in American High Schools. She also had roles in BAREFOOT IN THE PARK and UP THE DOWN STAIRCASE. Kathy made her acting debut at Taylor as an urchin in THE ROAR OF THE GREASEPAINT - THE SMELL OF THE CROWD. Later shows include THE MAGISTRATE, the unforgettable Mrs. Boyle in THE MOUSETRAP, BRIGADOON and a number of one-acts. Kathy hopes to join a religious drama or repertory theatre troupe or possibly work with a large church group in theatre and music.

As a freshman Communication and Theatre Arts major at Taylor, MARK WELCH has already compiled an impressive list of credits in the fields of music and theatre. While attending high school in Marion, Indiana, Mark participated in the musicals OLIVER, A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM, and A THURBER CARNIVAL and was cast in THE BALD SOPRANO and HERE'S LOVE. He was a member of The 26th Street Singers, The Singing Travelers and his high school orchestra and choir. Thespians and Stage and Stammer, both drama clubs, were also part of his high school activities. Following high school Mark traveled two years with the singing group The Celebration. Mark plans a career in Christian drama and film-making.
JACQUES BREL was born in Brussels in 1929, the son of a well-to-do manufacturer. He was expected to go into his father’s business and, indeed, worked in it briefly until his desire to write and sing songs prompted him to desert. At first he sang his ditties in little Belgian cafes, then went to Paris to seek his career, which unfolded slowly. Not until three years passed did he begin to get engagements in the important cellar-clubs and then in the 1960’s he became the leading chansonnier or “troubadour pop” singer and songwriter of France, the author of nearly 300 soul-searching songs. He swept the nation, playing its biggest theatres and concert halls, making records that sold all over Europe. In 1965 and again in 1967 he came to New York for concerts which were sold out in advance. He returned in 1969 to see on stage what his friends and American adaptors had done with his material. He was delighted with their effort, and returned in January 1972 to attend the gala celebration of the fourth anniversary of the show that was held before a cheering, packed house in Carnegie Hall. Nat Shapiro of Columbia Records had this to say about Jacques Brel: “No one else can compose and write and sing as consistently and as brilliantly as he can. His songs are surely some of the most dazzling examples of what is happening in popular music throughout the world today.”

THE ADAPTORS

ERIC BLAU, son of a New York taxi driver, did two seemingly incompatible kinds of writing for fifteen years that brought him little reputation, before he set about adapting JACQUES BREL. One kind of writing was to “ghost” magazine and television material for prominent sports figures, such as Mickey Mantle, Roger Maris, Whitey Ford and Jimmy Taylor. The other kind was to translate serious French poetry. Blau, an admirer and friend of Brel’s since the late 1950’s, was the first to bring Brel’s music to the American theatre when he presented a revue called “Oysters!” (containing two of Brel’s songs) at an off-Broadway theatre in 1961.

MORT SHUMAN, born in Brooklyn, has admitted to having been “kicked out of college for making too much noise in the piano lounge.” This turned him to music-making as a career, in which he thrived. Starting as a rhythm and blues writer, he teamed up with Doc Pomus, and they achieved splendid success, winning 12 BMI awards and selling more than 20 million records. Prospering, Shuman traveled widely, spending months of each year in Paris and London where he wrote for stars of those cities. Meeting Jacques Brel, he became his devoted friend and admirer, learned to speak French, and determined to bring Brel’s work to the English-speaking world.

During intermission we invite you to visit the exhibit of Taylor Alumnus Aletha Jones now being shown in the Chronicle-Tribune Art Gallery on the main floor of this building.
PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director ............................................ Ollie Hubbard
Set Committee .................................................. Harold Blum
  Tom Lough ...................................................... Brenda Conway
  Tracy Sibley ................................................... Colleen Coughenour
  Julee Volz .................................................... Robyn Felton
  Neil Williams .................................................. Wayne Grumbling
  Lisa Wortman ................................................... Rhonda Jetter
  Ellen Duckworth ................................................ Pam Kareus
  Tammy Lane ....................................................
Murals ............................................................. Tracy Sibley
Lighting ............................................................ Bill Wallace
  Tom Lough ...................................................... Bob Parish
Sound ............................................................. Terry Haines
  Dr. Frederick Shulze ........................................
Make-up ......................................................... JULEE VOLZ
  Sara DePree .................................................... Ruth Bardsley
  Lisa Barth ...................................................... Jill Laird
Costumes ......................................................... Julie Stow
HOUSE ............................................................ SARA DE PREE
  June Jager ...................................................... Kim Archer
  Julie Maxfield ................................................... Wendy Branch
  Kathy Miller .................................................... Kay Brondyke
  Julee Volz ...................................................... Jenneva Haskins
  Beth Jacober ....................................................
Program Cover Design ........................................ Angie Landon

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

For their generous help in making JACQUES BREL possible, our thanks to:

Top Hat Tuxedo Rental  ........................................ Upland Green House
K-Mart Center ..................................................... Upland, Indiana
Marion, Indiana

Neil Williams, Wayne Grumbling and Bob Parish, Alumni of the CTA Department
Jackie, Becky and Mark for sharing their Daddy
Dr. Fred Shulze for his help in recording the orchestra for the show
Our CTA majors, without whose dedication none of this would be possible.

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION

THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE .................. December 2 and 3

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