11-15-1978

The Dark at the Top of the Stairs

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Taylor University Theatre presents

THE DARK AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS

November 15, 16, 17 and 18, 1978
Little Theatre
Taylor University
FROM THE DIRECTOR

The power of this play is derived from its realism. As Tennessee Williams comments in his introduction, "It (reality) is done, as they say, with mirrors, but the mirrors may all of a sudden turn into x-ray photos, and it is done so quietly and deftly that you hardly know the moment when the mirrors stop being mirrors and the more penetrating exposures begin to appear on the stage before you."

THE DARK AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS weaves no magic spell. It is extraordinary neither in its plot nor its characters. The people we meet in this drama are not uncommon, but their involvement with life reveals much about the juxtaposition between hope and despair in our own experiences. Life for the Flood family includes the making of constant mistakes that result in the pain of loved ones and in turn necessitate the asking of forgiveness. The growing relationships within their family are contrasted to the stagnant existence of Lottie and Morris. The beauty of the Flood family comes from their plodding determination to work out their problems despite anger and frustration. As Cora discovers, life does not come in a box marked "Happiness." It only comes as "life itself."

K.G.M.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

For their generous help in making this production possible, my thanks to:

My parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Montgomery
Bradley's Odds-N-Ends
Antiques and Old Things
3107 South Washington Street
Marion, Indiana Phone: 668-8448

Ms. Lena Stewart
Taylor University Maintenance Department

DURING INTERMISSION

we invite you to visit the exhibit of oils by Indianapolis artist Helen Woodward in the Chronicle-Tribune Art Gallery on the main floor of this building.

To Toots: to love and relationships and never giving up.

K.G.M.
THE DARK AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS

Directed by Kimberly Montgomery
Set Design by Ollie Hubbard
Costume Design by Jessie Rousselow

THE CAST

Rubin Flood ........................................... Mark Welch
Cora Flood ............................................... Colleen Coughenour
Sonny Flood ........................................... Dan Burden
Jonathan ................................................... Brent Nordquist
Reenie Flood ........................................... Brenda Conway
Flirt Conroy ............................................ Pamela Kareus
Morris Lacey ........................................... Harold Blum
Lottie Lacey ............................................ Kathleen Turner
Sammy Goldenbaum ................................. Michael McGinnis
Punky Givens ........................................ Randall Wyatt

The action of the play takes place in the home of Rubin Flood in a small Oklahoma town. The time is the early 1920's.

Act I: A Monday afternoon in early spring.
Act II: After dinner, the following Friday.
Act III: The next day, late afternoon.

There will be a two minute scene break between Acts I and II, and a ten minute intermission between Acts II and III.

MUSICAL SELECTIONS HEARD THIS EVENING

From RODEO
"Corral Nocturne" ................................. Aaron Copeland
"Appalachian Spring" .............................. Aaron Copeland

A Communication & Theatre Arts Department Production

OUR NEXT PRODUCTION

OURTOWN ........................................ February 21-24, 1979

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

Assistant to the Director ...................................................... Catherine Curtis
Technical Director ............................................................... Ollie Hubbard
Set Committee ................................................................. Harold Blum
Brenda Conway
Ken Delp
Lighting Design ................................................................. Brenda Conway
Lighting ........................................................................... Kevin Conklin
Doug Oliver
Sound .............................................................................. Brian Rishaw
Properties ................................................................. KIMBERLY MONTGOMERY
Kevin Conklin
Vicki Cruse
Karen Smith
Karol Svanoe
Joy Wilson
Make-up ................................................................. TERRY HAINES
Kevin Conklin
Brenda Conway
Douglas Oliver
Randy Treu
Costumes ................................................................. Laura Lee Binder
Debbie Spears
Bonnie Veenstra
Debbie Watson
Piano ................................................................. Tim Johnson
Sue Laphan
House ................................................................. MARK COLLINS
Edie Rader
Laura Alley
Cathy Breen
Sara Burgoon
Sherilyn Creutz
Robert Engel
Beth Hinz
Beth Jacober
Kristyn Karr
Joy Wilson
Kathy Pickett, alt.
Program Cover Design ......................................................... Robert Todd