3-22-1973

The Skin of Our Teeth

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taylor university theatre presents

A1

thornton wilder’s

THE SKIN OF OUR TEETH

march 22, 23, 24
8:15 pm
little theatre
art and theatre building
Thornton Wilder was born in Madison, Wisconsin. In 1906 his father, a newspaper editor, was appointed to the Hong Kong and subsequently the Shanghai consulate. Thus Wilder spent some of his childhood in the Orient though his experiences were confined to foreign-colony schools. Eventually he returned to America and finished high school in California. He attended Oberlin College and then Yale University. He completed his B.A. in 1920. In that year Yale Literary Magazine concluded serial publication of his first full-length play THE TRUMPET SHALL SOUND. After Yale, Wilder went to Rome on a fellowship and studied archaeology at the American Academy there. Upon his return in 1921 he taught French at the New Jersey preparatory school for four years, and completed his master's degree in French at Princeton University. Wilder first achieved literary importance with the publication of a novel, THE BRIDGE OF SAN LUIS REY. The novel quickly became a best seller and was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1928. Following this success Wilder and his sister toured Europe where he spent most of his time in theatres whose productions he reviewed for Theatre Arts Monthly. Wilder was particularly interested in studying "presentational" drama, with which he had already experimented in his short works and which he was to develop in his most distinguished full-length plays.

Between 1915 and 1927 Wilder wrote some forty, three-minute dramatic sketches, sixteen of which he published in 1928 as THE ANGEL THAT TROUBLED THE WATERS AND OTHER PLAYS. These are three-character religious or philosophical parables, some dealing with biblical and religious figures, others with composers and writers, and still others with fictitious characters. In 1931, Wilder published a collection of one-act plays under the title THE LONG CHRISTMAS DINNER AND OTHER PLAYS IN ONE ACT. His growing literary reputation brought him many lecture invitations, including an appointment at the University of Chicago where he taught literature one semester a year from 1930 to 1936.

Wilder was first produced on Broadway with LUCRECE, a translation of Andre Obey's poetic play LE VIOL DE LUCRECE. Wilder's translation of Ibsen's A DOLL'S HOUSE opened on Broadway in late 1937, less than two months before his masterpiece OUR TOWN. His second Broadway play, THE MERCHANT OF YONKERS, was subsequently revised as THE MATCHMAKER. During the war, Wilder's reputation as a dramatist grew with THE SKIN OF OUR TEETH for which he won his third Pulitzer Prize. He continued writing, lecturing and traveling but produced few important works following the novel THE IDES OF MARCH in 1948. In 1950-51 he was the Charles Eliot Norton Professor of Poetry at Harvard and published his lectures on American writers and his researches on the early Spanish drama. Wilder's works are significant for their originality and their effect on subsequent presentational drama in America and abroad. Their popularity has made at least some of his works classics during his own lifetime.

The Skin of Our Teeth

Directed by Jessie Rousselow
Set, Lighting and Costume Design
by Harvey Campbell

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Announcer ........................................ Kathy Showers
Sabina, the Antrobus maid ..................... Linda Sulfridge
Mr. Fitzpatrick ................................. Steve Frick
Mrs. Antrobus .................................... Marilyn Jones
Dinosaur ............................................ Elizabeth Maishment
Mammoth ............................................ Dave Hosmer
Telegraph Boy ....................................... Steve Frick
Gladys, the Antrobus daughter ............... Judy Elliott
The young Henry .................................... Randy Landon
The mature Henry ............................... Monty Swetnam
Mr. Antrobus ....................................... Don McLaughlin
Doctor ............................................... Nick Sanders
Professor .......................................... Monty Swetnam
Judge ................................................ Mark Terry
Home ................................................ Olav Haug
Miss E. Muse ...................................... Cheryl Willmore
Miss T. Muse ...................................... Kathy Klosterman
Miss M. Muse ...................................... Pam Spencer
Fortune Teller ..................................... Sherrie Walker
Broadcast Official ................................. Mark Terry
Mr. Tremayne ...................................... Olav Haug
Hester .............................................. Margaret Saunders
Ivy .................................................... Debbie Lewis
Fred Bailey ......................................... Nick Sanders
Coveeners ......................................... Elizabeth Maishment, Margaret Saunders
Cheryl Willmore, Kathy Klosterman, Dave Hosmer, Nick Sander, Olav Haug, Pam Spencer, Mark Terry

Act I: The Antrobus home, Excelsior, New Jersey

Ten minute intermission

Act II: Atlantic City Boardwalk

Ten minute intermission

Act III: The Antrobus home, Excelsior, New Jersey

Presented by the Speech and Drama Department and Trojan Players

Our Next Production: GRIMM'S FAIRY TALES
May 11 and 12, 1973

*Denotes Trojan Players Membership

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

Technical Director..................Harvey Campbell*
Assistant to the Director............Sue Van Poucker
Set Construction....................Lisa Barkman
                                      Robert Marks
                                      Brad Moser
                                      Joe Rupp
Properties.........................Pam Spencer
Sound...............................Warren Brose
                                      Kathy Showers
Lights...............................Lisa Barkman
                                      Brad Moser
                                      Joe Rupp
                                      Robert Schobert
Painting.............................Lisa Barkman
                                      Robert Marks
                                      Pam Spencer
Make-up.............................Jennifer Horton
                                      Debbie Lewis
                                      Pam Spencer
Costumes............................Lisa Barkman
                                      Mara Hill
                                      Margaret Jackson
                                      Marilyn Jones*
                                      Debbie Lewis
                                      Jessie Rousselow*
Photography.........................Harvey Campbell*
                                      Educational Media Center
House.................................SYLVIA CAMERON
                                      Miriam Gandolfo
                                      Kathy Sakuta
                                      Kathi Kiel
                                      Kimberly Watkins

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