

Taylor University

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4-28-1976

No Exit

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Taylor University
Theatre

presents

Jean-Paul Sartre's



April 28, 29, 30
May 1 - 8:15 pm
Little Theatre

JEAN-PAUL SARTRE was born in Paris on June 21, 1905, the son of a Catholic marine engineer who died of tropical fever when the boy was two years old. Sartre grew up in the home of his maternal grandfather, Schweitzer, (Sartre was Albert Schweitzer's cousin), a Calvinist and a distinguished professor of German. At age six he began writing little comedies and poems. As a young boy Sartre was an intelligent pupil but had a deep dislike for mathematics. His mother remarried when he was 11 and the family moved to the provinces where he attended the **lycee** until he was sent back to Paris three years later.

Sartre graduated from the Ecole Normale Superieure in 1929 with a doctorate in philosophy. He also studied a year at the University of Freiburg, stronghold of Husserl's Phenomenology and Heidegger's Existentialism. About this time he began a union with the celebrated philosopher-novelist Simone de Beauvoir. Like her he became a **professor de lycee** in LeHarve, Lyon and Paris. In 1938, Sartre published his first novel **LaNausee (Nausea)** in which he developed the basic elements of his philosophy in terms of his doctrine of existence. A collection of short stories entitled **LeMur (The Wall)** was published in 1939 followed by his **Esquisse d'une Theorie des Emotions (The Emotions)**. With the outbreak of World War II Sartre was drafted and was taken prisoner upon the surrender of the French Army in 1940. He was repatriated in 1941 and returned to Paris where in spite of German occupation he could write and teach. Two of his plays were produced on the Parisian stage, **Les Mouches (The Flies)** and **Huis Clos (No Exit)**, and his major philosophical treatise **L'Etre et le Neant (Being and Nothingness)** was published during this period. At the same time Sartre was expressing his disillusionment with life and his message of man's need for engagement and responsibility to the people of Paris through articles in the clandestine press of the underground resistance movement. Sartre dramatized the glory of the resistance in his play **Morts sans Sepulture (The Unburied Dead, 1946, entitled The Victors** when produced in New York). That year he also saw published an existentialist melodrama, subsequently filmed, entitled **La Putain respectueuse (The Respectful Prostitute)**. His most popular success on stage and also as a film, **Les Mains sales (Dirty Hands)**, was published and produced in 1948. Other less popular but important dramas that followed were **Le Diable et le bon Dieu (The Devil and the Good Lord)**, 1951, **Kean**, 1953, and **Les Sequestres d'Altona (The Condemned of Altona)**, 1959.

Sartre is not only a dramatist of great talent, a remarkable novelist and brilliant essayist, he is also a disciplined philosopher. Sartre's philosophy of existentialism expresses man's eternal struggle to free life from the chains of matter and mechanism, from natural and social pressure and to come to an individual, self-dependent, free ethical existence. We may apply to Sartre the words by which Nietzsche characterized his Zarathustra: Sartre is the most pious of all those who believe not in God.

NO EXIT

Director: James Oosting
 Designer: Linda Kukuk
 Costumier: Jessie Rousselow

THE CAST

(In order of appearance)

Cradeau Jeff Prentice
 Valet James Oosting*
 Inez Kim Montgomery
 Estelle Retha Martin*

The play takes place in a
 room in Hell.

Following the play, there will be an informal discussion with the cast and director regarding the play. This will be held in the theatre to begin ten minutes after the performance. Anyone interested in discussing the performance and/or the play is welcome.

Presented by the Speech and Drama Department
 and Trojan Players

*Denotes Trojan Players Members

Our Next Production

On the Other Hand: Exercises in Point of View
 May 7 8:15 p.m.

Presented by the Advanced Oral Interpretation Class

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

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director Linda Kukuk*
Assistant to the Director Mike Swan

Set Committee NEIL WILLIAMS*
Barb Conway
Emily Forbes
Sue Glerum*
Sue Hendershot
Tom Lough
Kathleen Nussbaum
Peggy Skinner
Stu Turnbull*
Kathy Turner

Properties Emily Forbes
Sue Glerum*
Linda Kukuk*

Sound Denise Norman*

Make-up Kathy Block*

Lights Sue Hendershot
Peggy Skinner
Neil Williams*

House SUE HENDERSHOT
Peggy Franke
Denise Norman*
Becky Norris
Beth Waldrop

Program Cover Design Beth Lindborg

*Denotes Trojan Players Members

We wish to express our appreciation to those groups who contributed to this production: The Prophet Foods Company, Maintenance Department and The Print Shop.