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J.B.

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TROJAN PLAYERS
1960-61 Playbill

Taylor University

The Trojan Players of Taylor University

Presents

the 1959 Pulitzer Award-winning play

J. B.

by Archibald MacLeish

as part of the 1961 Fine Arts Festival

Maytag Auditorium

May 4 and 5, 8:15 p.m.

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

CAST FOR J.B.

Roustabouts	Gary Parker, James Yoder
Prop Women	Elaine Brunz*, Anna Ruth Lybrand
Mr. Zuss	John Oswalt*
Mr. Nickles	Harry Haakonsen*
Prompter	Warren Otter
Sarah	Leona Lewis*
J. B.	Kenneth Blackwell*
Rebecca	Elizabeth Barkman
Ruth	Diane Van Valkenburg
Mary	Joan Wines
David	Robert Finch
Jonathan	Omer Young*
First Maid	Anna Ruth Lybrand
Second Maid	Elaine Brunz*
End-of-War Celebrants	Gloria Griffin*, Omer Young*
	Dennis Thompson*, Janette Lister*, Stephen Balanda*
First Messenger	Gary Parker
Second Messenger	James Yoder
Girl	Janette Lister*
Her Escort	Stephen Balanda*
Mrs. Adams	Elaine Brunz*
Mrs. Murphy	Joan Wines
Mrs. Botticelli	Louise Smith
Miss Mabel	Judith Cook*
Mrs. Lesure	Janette Lister*
Jolly	Katherine McAndrews*
Boy	Michael Alspaugh
Bildad	Paul Nelson
Zophar	Allen Goetcheus
Eliphaz	Thomas Schlee

*Denotes Membership in Trojan Players

Reverend Warren Otter is the minister of
Trinity Methodist Church, Kokomo.

SCENE: A traveling circus which has been
on the roads of the world for a long time.

The play is in two acts.

Punch will be served during the 15-minute intermission.

The part of The Boy will be played by Mitchell Young.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director-Designer Jim Young

Assistant Directors David Dickey
Janet Watson*

Lighting Sterling Davis*
Arthur Bakewell, James Crowder*

Properties Loretta Young*
Barbara Bennett, Myra Bullock, Elaine Peterson, Sandra
Phillippe, Elaine Springer

Stage Paul Pascoe*
David Boyer, David Cutting, Kathryn Heavilin*, Beverly
Jacobus, June Nilsen, Jill Schoemaker, Carlton Snow*,
Dennis Thompson*, Omer Young*, Paul Lingle

Publicity Judy Boll*
Stephen Balanda*, Stanley Spear*, Karen Whiteman

House Audrey Raab*
Priscilla Burns, Marjorie Komp*, Sandra Krehbiel,
Lou Larson*

Box Office Phyllis Porter
Joseph Brain*, Barbara Davis, Peggy Ingle, Lawrence
Uhrich

Costumes Marjorie Monce*, Sandra Rupp*
Lois Charles, Lanny Losure

Make-up Janet Case*, Lloyd Tucker*
Dorothy Baker, Gloria Griffin*, Jeannette McClure,
Dennis Thompson*, Joan Wagner

Masks by Maureen Kacsur*

*Denotes Membership in Trojan Players

The music for J. B. is the original score used in
the New York production, composed by David Amram.

INTRODUCTION TO THE PLAY

by Archibald MacLeish

This is the argument of the play:

Two unemployed actors, one old, the other young--Mr. Zuss and Nickles--have been reduced to selling balloons and popcorn in an ancient circus which has travelled through the towns and cities of the earth, year after year, time out of mind, playing the Old Testament story of the sufferings of Job.

Dissatisfied, as actors often are, with the interpretation of the story, they make up their minds, late one evening when the show is over and the tent empty, to play it themselves as they think it should be played. Mr. Zuss casts himself as God. Nickles is cast as Satan. And the two take on themselves the wager of the Book of Job: Satan's wager that if God will strip Job of everything he has, Job, the perfect and the upright man, will curse God to His face.

And so they begin. But hardly has the action started when the old circus and the ancient tale prove to have a life and movement of their own. The Godmask and the Satanmask found in a battered wardrobe

speak the lines of the Bible for themselves when an unseen prompter gives them their cues. And when the time arrives for Job to appear with his wife and children he is not called: he comes.

But it is not out of the Old Testament that Job appears to Mr. Zuss and Nickles but out of the American present--J.B., not Job. And the Messengers Nickles sends to him to report the terrible disasters which are to try his soul are present messengers--a pair of circus roustabouts dressed first as soldiers, then as newspaper reporters, then as traffic policemen, then as air-raid wardens. Also, the disasters they report, one after the other, are present disasters--disasters which have occurred. And the Comforters, when at last they come, are modern comforters.

As for the end of the play, it belongs neither to Nickles nor to Mr. Zuss, but, as in the Book of Job itself, to the courage of a woman and a man.

OTHER PROGRAMS IN THE FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

Friday, May 5, 9:30 a.m.

Lecture, Trends in Contemporary Painting

Wilbur D. Peat, Director

Museum of John Herron Art Institute, Indianapolis

Saturday, May 6, 8:00 p.m.

Concert by the Taylor Symphonic Band

Dale Shepfer, Conductor

Sunday, May 7, 7:30 p.m.

Sacred Cantata by the Oratorio Chorus

"Hymn of Praise" by Mendelssohn

Marvin Dean, Conductor

An art exhibit will be displayed throughout the Festival.

