

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Mailed Oct. 19, 1987

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - The Youngstown State University Theatre will present five plays during its 1987-88 season.

Stephen Sondheim's "Company" opens Nov. 12. The show is a musical of contemporary values and has been called "a landmark musical" by critics.

According to Dr. Timothy J. Lyons of Austintown, dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts who is directing this play, "Company" is about that real and essential aloneness possessed by each person, and what happens when love and sex and vows and a contract threaten painful independence.

"Company" will run Nov. 12-15 and 19-22 in Bliss Hall's Spotlight Arena Theatre.

"The Dining Room" by A.R. Gurney, Jr. will open Jan. 7. In this humorous theatrical tour de force, the actors change roles, personalities, and ages, as they depict the dying lifestyle of upper middle class WASPdom.

Dr. Frank Castronovo of Boardman, YSU associate professor of Speech Communication and Theatre, will direct the play, which will be presented Jan. 7-10 and 14-17 in the Spotlight Arena Theatre.

"The Birds" by Aristophanes will open Feb. 25. This show lends a comic sense to humanity's crazy cosmic dream. It has been called one of the greatest comedies.

"The Birds" will run Feb. 25-28 and March 3-6 in the Spotlight Arena Theatre and will be directed by Dr. Dennis Henneman of Boardman, professor of Speech Communication and Theatre.

Egyptian composer Halim El-Dabh is composing original music for this YSU production of the classical Greek masterpiece.

FOR RELEASE:

ADD ONE

Bernard Pomerance's powerful and poignant drama, "The Elephant Man," opens April 21.

It is a true story of one John Merrick whose body is hideously and repulsively deformed, but within is a remarkably sensitive and intelligent being.

"The Elephant Man" will be directed by Dr. Bill G. Hulsopple of Youngstown, professor of Speech Communication and Theatre, and will be presented in the Spotlight Arena Theatre April 21-24, 28-30 and May 1.

The University Theatre will conclude its season with Johann Strauss' "The Gypsy Baron."

Opening May 20, the operetta will be directed by Dr. Donald E. Vogel of Poland, professor of Music. It will run May 20-22 and 27-28 in Ford Auditorium, Bliss Hall.

Curtain time for all performances on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays is 8 p.m. Sunday matinees are at 3 p.m.

The opening night of each production will feature a "First Nighters' Buffet" at 6 p.m. at the Wicker Basket restaurant in YSU's Kilcawley Center.

Both theatres in Bliss Hall are easily accessible and can accommodate handicapped patrons. Parking is available in the Wick Avenue Parking Deck on weekdays and Saturdays and in any surface lot in the Spring Street area. There will be a parking fee.

more

YSU news

Youngstown State
University
News Service
Youngstown
Ohio 44555
Telephone 742-1704

FOR RELEASE:

ADD TWO

Admission to University Theatre productions is by reserved seat ticket only. Tickets may be reserved by calling the University Box Office at (216) 742-3105. Box Office hours are 10:15 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. two weeks prior to each opening performance. Because of heavy demand for tickets, advance reservations are strongly recommended.

The price for tickets to the general public is \$5 per performance for plays ("The Dining Room" and "The Elephant Man"), and \$7 per performance for musicals ("Company," "The Birds" and "The Gypsy Baron"). Special rates for non-University students, senior citizens, and groups are available.

Season coupon books may be purchased for \$25 (senior citizens and YSU alumni for \$15) by contacting the University Theatre Box Office, Youngstown State University, Bliss Hall, Youngstown, Ohio, 44555.

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - John Kennard, noted New York photographer, will speak at 4 p.m. Oct. 21 at the Butler Institute of American Art at the fourth annual "Symposia on American Art" presented by the Butler and Youngstown State University's Art Department.

The program is free and open to the public.

The YSU/Butler Symposia Series annually brings artists, art historians, and critics to address important contemporary issues in American Art.

It is sponsored by the interface program between the University's Art Department and Butler Institute, and is made possible by a grant from the Youngstown State University Foundation.

Kennard began concentrating on his baseball theme in the summer of 1979 at St. Louis' Busch Stadium while freelancing. He moved to New York City in 1980, receiving a fellowship which permitted him to resume his baseball project.

Recently the artists' work and philosophy have been the subject of major essays in "MD" and "Ambassador," while a principle exhibition of photographs has been seen at New York's O.K. Harris Gallery.

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Youngstown State University's Black Studies Program will give its first presentation of the 1987-88 year, a "Celebration of the Black Family," at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4, in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center, Spring Street.

Featured guest lecturer will be Atty. Patricia Russell-McCloud, president of Russell-McCloud & Associates of Atlanta, Ga., noted for her challenging insight into the inconsistencies of public affairs.

The program is free and open to the public. Since the focus of the program is designed for all the family, parents are encouraged to bring their children.

A graduate of Howard University School of Law and Kentucky State University, Ms. Russell-McCloud holds two honorary degrees. She is a former chief of the Complaints Branch, Mass Media Bureau of the Federal Communications Commission. She is a member of many professional and civic organizations, including the National Bar Association, the National Urban League and Links, Inc. She is a former national parliamentarian for Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Following her talk, audience members will have an opportunity to participate in a question and answer period.

For further information, contact YSU's Black Studies Department at 742-3097.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: A press conference for Patricia Russell McCloud will be held at 3 p.m. that day (Nov. 4) in the Buckeye Reception Room of Kilcawley Center.

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