

Synergic Theater

15th Season

DAVID MANNING & SUZANNE WHITE MANNING, Directors

with Guest Artist
RICHARD HAISMA

June 2-4, Schaeberle Theater, Pace University

presented in cooperation with the
PACE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF THEATER AND FINE ARTS
and Schimmel Center for the Arts

funded, in part, by a grant from
Samuel H. Scripps
and donations from friends of the Synergic Theater

Lighting: Christopher Thomas

House Manager & Stage Crew: Evalyn Bladstrom

Pre-production crew: Douglas Manning

COMING EVENTS...

"The Fool" will be presented on Monday, June 6, 7:30 pm as part of the Schimmel Center for the Arts' new "Alternative Space" program. For further information call (212) 488-1716.

The Synergic Theater's 15th Season continues with a Synergic Theater Workshop, June 14-30 & July 5-15 and a Space Harmony Workshop June 20-24, both here at Schaeberle Theater, and will culminate with a re-staged version of their shadowscreen production "Lost" at the Schimmel Center for the Arts, September 8-18. For further information, as well as background on the company and its directors, see enclosed flyer or call (212) 799-5562.

Richard Haisma will be teaching his Choreographic Intensive/NYC, July 5-August 7 at the Universalist Church, 4 West 76th Street. For further information and background on Richard Haisma, see enclosed flyer or call (212) 431-7294.

THE KINGFISHERS
(premiere)
a poem by Charles Olson

Staged and Performed by Richard Haisma

Charles Olson (1910-1970) spent most of his life in the seaport town of Gloucester, Mass. He was rector of Black Mountain College from 1951-56, a time when John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Buckminster Fuller, Robert Creeley, and Robert Duncan were there teaching and performing. He wrote "The Kingfishers" in 1949 in part to distinguish his own direction in poetry from that of "Reverend" T.S. Eliot and in part to counter the chic pessimism contained in Eliot's "The Wasteland". Both poems are images of a civilization in decay, but Olson's actually contains the process and seeds of natural renewal.

OLD STONES

(NY premiere; premiere: Institut del Teatre, Barcelona, Spain, 1985)
Movement theater drawn from Catalan Romanesque imagery

Choreographed by Suzanne White Manning, in collaboration with David Manning

Performed by Lynn Anderson, Alyssa Bonilla, Katy Matheson, Janett Pabon, Dotti Anderson Schofield, Nancy Putnam Smithner

Costumes: Dotti Anderson Schofield, with assistance from the cast

Slides: Villajoan (northern Catalunya) and Museum of Catalan Art, Barcelona

Music: Excerpts from "Rosari" by Pau (Pablo) Casals, sung by the Escolania (and choir) of Montserrat (Catalunya); "Concert Pieces" by Couperin and "Song of the Birds" (Catalan folksong) performed by Pau Casals with pianist Mieczyslaw Horszowski, recorded live at a White House concert, November 1961.

Music notes: The distinctly personal style Casals brings to the Couperin music is also intrinsically expressive of his beloved Catalan homeland. Deeply disappointed when the allies would not carry their fight against facism into Spain, he refused to perform in the U.S. and denied himself even setting foot on Spanish soil as long as Franco was in power. He relented, however, on one of these resolves at an invitation from President Kennedy to perform at the White House, resulting in the recording from which the cello works are taken. (He wrote "Rosari" for the Monserrat Escolania, the 2nd oldest boys choir in Europe.) As was his tradition, he ended the concert with the Catalan folksong, "Song of the Birds", which we continue here for bows and into...

INTERMISSION

THE FOOL
(NY premiere; premiere: Synergic Theater, San Francisco, 1979)

Written and directed by David Manning,
staged in collaboration with Suzanne White Manning

Performed by Suzanne White Manning

Narrated by Richard Haisma and Nancy Putnam Smithner

Music: "'O Sole Mio", sung by Enrico Caruso; "La Foule", sung by Edith Piaf;
"Les Orgues de Barbarie", Piaf; "Mia Sposa Sarà la Mia Bandiera", Caruso;
"Fais Comme Si", Piaf; "So Vous l'Aviez Compris", Caruso.

Music note: The demands of their music, their audience and their own nature
drove both Enrico Caruso and Edith Piaf to an early death at 47/48 years old.

Text note: "The Fool" is excerpted from the novel "Cabbages and Kings" by
David Manning and has been published in The Sun and The Guide.

(pause)

DO ANIMALS MEDITATE?
(premiere: December, 1987, Minneapolis)

Choreographed and danced by Richard Haisma

Costume by Richard Haisma

Music by Michael Hanish and David Parsons

The Synergic Theater would particularly like to thank Al Dumais,
Chairman of the Pace University Department of Theater and Fine Arts, Saint
Samuel H. Scripps, the Schimmel Center for the Arts, Jess Adkins, and the
following individual contributors: Gay Delanghe, Anne Deloria, Robert
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Mr. & Mrs. J.W. Manning, Luise Scripps, Dorothy Silver, Larry Tseng, Ron &
Karen Wertheimer, Arthur and Gerry White, Jackie Wilde, and George Willis.

In both workshops and performances, the Synergic Theater is devoted to
creating artistic expression in movement/image/sound drawn directly from
personal, cultural and historic sensory experience. It is operated under
the auspices of the Synergic Foundation for the Arts, a non-profit
corporation. Donations in any amount are welcome, desperately needed,
effectively applied and tax-deductible (within IRS regulations.) Checks
can be sent to: 22 West 90th St., #5F, New York, NY 10024.

CAST...

Lynn Anderson (dancer) has been following her love of movement since the age of 4. She has performed, taught and choreographed for regional companies in the Southeast. Fascinated by the inherent inner movement and voice of the body, she is a student of body mind centering and currently studying deep tissue balancing.

Evalyn Bladstrom (house/crew) will graduate from college in 1988 after completing her credits at NYU. She has apprenticed at Vasser's Summer Theater and has also studied acting at Circle in the Square. Eve would like to thank Jean McCormick for introducing her to the Mannings/Synergic Theater.

Alyssa Bonilla (dancer) is a student of Classical South Indian Dance and exploring new avenues of expression through the Synergic Theater.

Katy Matheson (dancer) was in the premiere performances of the Synergic Theater in 1974. She has also performed in Washington, DC and New York and created several improvisational works in collaboration with composer Art Becofsky.

Janett Pabon (dancer) was led to the Synergic Theater by her intense love for dance, history and travel. She recently graduated from the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and is now looking forward to exploring new ideas in the theatrical arts. In the fall, Janett will be joining the Stage 13 theater troupe in Nuremberg, Germany. This is her first production with the Synergic Theater.

Dotti Anderson Schofield (dancer), MA & CMA, has been recently certified as a Movement Analyst at the Laban/Bartenieff Institute of Movement Studies. She is a founding member of the Desert Dance Theatre and Aurora Mime Theatre, both based in Arizona. She has danced in musical theater and national commercials.

Nancy Putnam Smithner (dancer) is an actress, writer and director and also teaches acting and mime at New York University. She is currently performing her solo show throughout New York City and works as a clown in hospitals for the Big Apple Circus' Clown Care Unit.

Christopher Thomas (lighting), a member of the faculty of Pace University's Department of Theater and Fine Arts, works as a set designer, lighting designer, director and teacher. He has worked as set and lighting designer in more than 200 productions for various companies and received an OBIE Award in 1974 for his design in the production "Lady from the Sea." His stage design includes "Cabaret" in Hong Kong, "A Member of the Wedding", "The Tempest", "King Lear", and "A Streetcar Named Desire."