GZNY

Department of Theatre, Florida International University
GZNY 2001

The Biltmore Hotel
Florida International University
Student Government Association
FIU Concert Choir

September 11, 2002
FIU TEATRE SEASON 2002-2003

Marvin’s Room
by Scott McPherson,
Directed by Therold Todd
October 17-20 and 24-27, 2002
Studio Theatre

A Streetcar Named Desire
By Tennessee Williams,
Directed by Leroy Clark
November 14-17 and 21-24, 2002
Mainstage Theatre

Mouth of the River
Written & Directed by Patricia Dolan
December 6-7, 2002
Mainstage Theatre

Hot L Baltimore
By Lanford Wilson,
Directed by Wayne E. Robinson, Jr
February 6-9 and 13-16, 2003
Mainstage Theatre

FIU Dance Celebrates the Classics!
February 27-28, March 1-2
and 6-9, 2003
Mainstage Theatre

Trojan/Courage
By Euripides,
Directed by Phillip Church
April 3-6 and 10-13, 2003
Mainstage Theatre

Mosshead by William Whitehurst
Directed by Leroy Clark
February 20-23, 2003
Mainstage Theatre

Brown Bag Workshops
Lunch-time workshops can be seen on the first Friday of every month in DM 150. Free and open to the public. Call for specific show information or visit our calendar of events at www.fiu.edu

Choral Music Program, Fall 2002

Tuesday, September 24th
FIU Concert Choir.
“Space; the final frontier”
WPA Concert Hall. Free. 8:00pm

Tuesday October 15th,
FIU Concert Choir,
University Chorale & Women’s Chorus
WPA. Concert Hall. Free. 8:00pm

Friday November 15th,
Miami Master Chorale & FIU Symphony Orchestra
“Stravinsky’s Symphony of Psalms” Lincoln Theatre, Miami Beach. 8:00pm
For tickets call 305-348-2896

Tuesday December 3rd,
Holiday Choral Concert
WPA. Free. 8:00pm

There has, is and always will be a chronicler. We are a people of storytellers. Storytelling is essential for the perpetuation of man’s identity. We are each filled with the need to tell our stories. We also possess an insatiable thirst to hear stories. Those of great joy and laughter and those of immense sorrow and pain. We need our stories immortalized. We are desperate to be remembered through past actions. The role of Messenger is the most important character in Greek theatre. The one who advances the story. The first mailman you like, the first newscaster, the first daily banner headline. Protagonists, antagonists and all those characters in between would flounder if the messenger were never to appear. “Waiting for Godot,” Samuel Beckett’s metaphysical speculation on the existence of mankind, explores the very theme of waiting; characters waiting for some kind of sign, some kind of messenger to advance their own destiny; to advance their own story. Whether it is playwright Tony Kushner exploring the epidemic of AIDS as a social metaphor or Neil Simon dwelling upon the comedy of generational interchange and exchange, theatre is, as Hamlet/Shakespeare reminds us, the mirrored conduit of life through which the importance of conveyor and conveyance remains preeminent. Theatre as document. Theatre as memory once the lights dim and the curtain falls. A shared moment in the space of a present moment that is already the past. How to capture such an enigma!

GZNY 2001 has been conceived as much as a memorial as a tribute. It has attempted to create a “sacred” space to which neighbors within the community have been invited to congregate. A blending of community professionals with a small group of performers: illusionists. A space in which the spirits of performer and audience are invited to become participants of the other, reaching out toward a rare and divine catharsis. A one-time-only event, staged, paradoxically, at the Biltmore Hotel, an historic building, once a place of healing during World War II, now a world-renowned luxury hotel. GZNY 2001 has attempted to be something other than traditional theatre. It has brought elements together at an alarmingly late stage in “rehearsal”. It is all happening almost for the first time, this “show” that you are about to see or already have seen. Illusion giving breath to reality. Or is it the other way around? Actors and community leaders writing their own material with the director lacing it together. No playwright on hand just group instinct and a collective experience. GZNY 2001 has also offered participants an opportunity to make their own personal statements. To share their views and feelings in public. Unorthodox theatre to say the least. But then, there was nothing orthodox about the attack on the World Trade Center. And so, to a point of return - a return via the memory was all that steered this project. The impact of visual images, heart-rending interviews and articles, disarming eye-witness accounts, testaments of history carved into the rock of our very own time. The story of history must be advanced, must be passed on. Art, chronicler of the ages, has, is and will forever be mandated to slake man’s thirst for stories.

Phillip M. Church
"Ceremony, she says, is society's cement; ceremony paints our sketchiest impulses; ceremony forms the seal between the cerebrum and the cerebellum."

(The Stone Diaries, Carol Shields)

Guest Participants

Mary Robertson,
former "Candy Striper," Biltmore VA Hospital

Don Slesnick
Mayor, Coral Gables

George Izquierdo
Miami Dade Fire Rescue Division.

Dan Thornhill
Captain, Coral Gables Fire Department

Bill Schwartz
Lieutenant, Metro Dade Police Department

Ana Anacona
Flight Attendant, American Airlines

Arcenio Cruz
ROTC, Soldier of the Year Nominee

Anita Meinbach
Teacher of the Year, Dade County

Tim Crowther
Photography teacher, Ponce de Leon Middle School

"All day thy wings have fanned
At that far height, the cold thin atmosphere,
Yet, stoop not weary to the welcome land
Though the dark night is near."

(William Cullen Bryant)

"Everyone eats, everyone can dance. Not everyone dances (alas)." (Susan Sontag)

FIU Concert Choir
Director, John Augenblick

Sopranos
Mary Ellen Assue  Susan Hamilton  Angelica Martinez
Mari Mercado  Barbara Tarajano  Janie Urquhart

Altos
Pamela Ashcroft  Jacqueline Feliciano
Grisel Ibenez  Adela Peeva

Tenors
Myngoe Brashears  Jonathan Gonzalez  Gerado Oviedo
David Perira  Lucien Morcau

Basses
Michael Harris  Francis Koolman  Richard Langley
Raul Machado  Masahisa Akada  Hugo Rodriguez
George Wilkerso  Gus Zayas

nothing she did
or said

was quite
what she meant

but still her life
could be called a monument

shaped in a slant
of available light

and set to the movement
of possible music

(from "The Grandmother Cycle" by Judith Downing)

"9/11 is about memory - now remember to hold the one you love."
Florida International University
High School Summer
Play Production Program Scholarship Fund

Your donations are being requested to help provide high school students with scholarship funds for a new credit course being offered in the Department of Theatre & Dance at Florida International University. The course will run for five weeks in Summer B semester, 2003. High school students at the junior and senior levels will be eligible to interview and audition for one of 30 places in the company. Two students will be enrolled in each of the following areas of production: directing, playwriting, set design, costume design, stage management, production and business management. A total of fourteen performers will be enrolled. The course will run from 9:00am - 4:00pm Monday through Friday with an hour lunch break. The course will be closely mentored by two fulltime department faculty members. The morning session will offer text-based study, learning about the history and development of American and global theatre. The afternoon session will be devoted to the researching, discussing, planning and rehearsing of an original work based upon local, national or international themes. The final production, written, directed, designed and marketed by the students themselves, will then be given a public performance at the conclusion of the semester. Auditions and interviews will be conducted at each of the Dade County high schools. Students must submit an application along with a teacher's letter of recommendation.

GZNY 2001 is an example of the kind of theatre created purely from an ensemble spirit and collaboration. We hope audience members will generously support the High School Summer Production Program Scholarship Fund, and will take an active role in following the development of young people as they learn to create new forms of expression through the power and magic of theatre.

For further information please call 305-348-3358

"We that are young shall never see so much, nor live so long."
(Edgar, "King Lear")

SPECIAL THANKS

Yolanda Woodbridge,
(Archangel of Coral Gables)
Jessica Morffi Gloria Burns Hector Ramos
Tom K. Hagood Marina Pareja Ronnie Mittleman
Deon Butler Oscar Negret Awni Issanglez
Peggy Nolan Stacy West Catherine Motolongo
Connie Crowther Abel Cornejo Alberto Romeu Studio,
Inc Wilfredo Marrero Jr
12th Av.Graphics

"M'ai" - the quality of space between two people."

Original cast
This project was first conceived through a class project with students from an Introduction to Theatre for majors course, and performed at FIU on December 11th, 2000. Credit and thanks go out to all those who participated so generously. Yecid Benavides, Heather Brummer, Anesys Campos, Aryan Figueroa, Karen Garcia, Monica Goss, Daniel Gutierrez, Sandra Hensley, Julia LaVault, Ian Lausek, Fletcher McCune, Herman McGloun, Michael Nunez, Minette Perez, Kathryn Perry, Irma Reyes, Jessica Smith, Keith Utermark, Nadya Vera, Ramon Veunes, Stephanie Kinton, Antonio Valcarcel

"We are all brothers together - we have a common destiny no one goes it alone. We're for each other - you just don't go your own way."
(FDNY firefighter at Ground Zero)
ACTORS
Joanne Marsic
Joel Kolker
Ana Fletcher
Rey Dabalsa
Laverne Lewis
Walter Reyes
Natalia Romero
Jean Will Gerdes
Freddy Le Phar

Guest Monologists
(In order of appearance)
Mary Roberson
Don Slesnick
George Izquierdo
Cpt. Dan Thornhill
Lt. Bill Schwartz
Lisa Petrillo
Ana Anaconda
Arcenio Cruz
Anita Meinbach
Tim Crowther
Victor Reymond

Children
Agatha Bacelar  Mathew Horn
Nastasha Rodriguez  Katerina Rodriguez

Production
Concept & direction, Phillip M. Church
FIU Concert Choir director, John Augenblick
Choreography, Edward Rozinsky
Lighting design, Steve Welsh
Technical director, David Whitlock
Stage manager, Christian Frank
Sound technician, Danny Suarez
Light board operator, Gustavo David Ortiz
Public relations, Aileen Isquierdo, Bettina Gonzalez