

The University Theatre Fund

It is the students who are providing the impetus for our dream of a university theatre on campus. Realizing that we need a place for the teaching drama and the theatre, as well as for the presentation of plays, various musical programs, and many other forms of entertainment, Cap and Dagger has sponsored the theatre project.

Our present situation creates a great decentralization of effort, for we have costumes in one building, a carpenter shop in a second, storage in a third, rehearsals in a fourth, and plays in a fifth. A campus theatre would provide working and storage space in the same building, and permit the actors to become familiar with their stage more than two nights before performances. Eventually, classrooms in the building would provide an Arts center which could be used by several departments.

It is a bright dream, this university theatre we hope for. The generous contributions of groups and individuals, and the work and interest of many students will make it possible. The committee is happy to report that we have a fund of \$10,000 to date, and we are certainly going to continue working. Notice the theatre display in the lobby.

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This play is produced by special arrangement with the agent for University of Minnesota Press.



presents

The Good Woman of Setzuan

BERTOLT BRECHT

- - - by - - -

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Directed by

HARVEY M. POWERS, JR.

Assistant Director

ROBERT PINCUS

Set Designed by C. WILLARD SMITH and CARROLL BARNES

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January 11 and 12, 1952



The Directors

HARVEY M. POWERS - - -

Since his arrival at Bucknell two years ago, Mr. Powers has accumulated an astonishing list of activities. As advisor to Actors' Lab, he helped teach the theory and practice of theatre-in-the-round, and went on to play an instrumental part in the establishment of the Drama major at Bucknell. Harvey directed "The Vagabond King" and "Mlle. Modiste" for the University Players. Graduated from Tufts College in 1947 with an A.B. in Drama and Speech, Harvey went on to get an M.A. in Writing, Speech and Drama from Johns Hopkins, and has had additional experience in acting and directing with the Tufts Summer Theatre, and community theatres in Boston and Baltimore. As chairman of the University Players Board and technical advisor to all C&D productions, Harvey has established a second home at Bucknell Hall and laid out a schedule that includes everything but time to sleep.

ROBERT PINCUS - - -

A sophomore from Woodmere, Long Island, Bob steps into his first big job for C&D as assistant director. He lists "The Barretts of Wimpole Street" and "Twelfth Night" as two high school productions in which he took part, and was also responsible for the writing, direction, and production of a musical revue, "Senior Dayze at Woodmere High."



The Good Woman of Setzuan: The Problem of Evíl

Since Brecht has called his play a "parable," and since the play itself justifies this description, we may concentrate our attention on the idea of the drama rather than on character, plot, or dialogue. They exist merely for the purpose of enforcing the idea. This idea, or rather, problem, is the age-old question, expressed near the beginning of the play by one of the gods, "No one on earth can be good and stay good." The virtues of the Good Woman: generosity to the poor, hospitality, and, more generally, love for her poor neighbors, quickly lead her to abject poverty, from which she is rescued, temporarily, by her cousin, Shui Ta. He is practical, calculating, and a believer in discipline, qualities represented in this play as evil. Brecht's conclusion is that, in the world as it is, the good are speedily crushed, and that the only solution is to re-make the world.

One need not accept Brecht's thesis in its entirety to find the play immensely stimulating: the questions raised are of the first importance, and other questions unintended by the author are of even greater importance. In the latter class are, *Is* the Good Woman good in any meaningful and mature sense of the word? Is her cousin, Shui Ta, evil, and in what sense? A more fundamental question than these is raised by Shen Te's complaint, with which Brecht sympathizes, that goodness is not rewarded with material success in this world. In short, the entire question of what good is, both for the individual and for society, and of the relation of personal morality to society, forms the center of interest in this play.



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Synopsis of the Scenes

PROLOGUE: The outskirts of Setzuan. Evening.

- The Tobacco Store. Three days later. The Waterseller's Dream.
- 2. The Tobacco Store. The next morning.
- 3. The Park. Evening, several days later. The Waterseller's Dream.
- 4. The Square. The next morning.
- 5. The Tobacco Store. A few days later. (Ten minute intermission)
- 6. The Restaurant. The next day. The Waterseller's Dream.
- The Backyard. The following day. The Waterseller's Dream.
- 8. The Tobacco Factory. Montage. (Five minute intermission)
- 9. The Tobacco Store. Five months later. The Waterseller's Dream.
- 10. The Courtroom.

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Past

(In order of appearance)

WANG	Edward H. Davis
FIRST GOD	Frank Boguszewski
SECOND GOD	Robert Starkey
THIRD GOD	Richard DeMott
SHEN TE	
MRS. SHIN	Winnie Glose
THE WIFE	Berda Stout
THE NEPHEW	Jim Logue
THE HUSBAND	Bruce Rabow
THE LINEMPLOYED MAN	Ron Clemens
THE CARPENTER	Donald R. Smith
THE BROTHER	Richard Kirschman
THE SISTER-IN-LAW	Patricia Forlifer
THE LANDLADY (MRS. MI TZU)	Lee Craig
THE BOY	Andrew Selinger
THE GRANDFATHER	
THE NIECE	Alice Hodge
SHUI TA	Virginia Naef
THE POLICEMAN	Robert Birnbaum
THE OLD WOMAN	June Hoffman
THE YOUNG PROSTITUTE	Alice Hodge
THE OLD PROSTITUTE	June Burns
YANG SUN	
MR. SHU FU	Fred Casciato
THE OLD MAN (MR. MA)	James Gregg
MRS. YANG	
THE PRIEST	August St. John
THE WAITER	David Swarr
THE CHILD	Alice Hooker



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Who's Who in the Cast

Edward H. Davis -

Plays Wang, the water-seller in a very liquid fashion. This surpasses even his triumph in "Leocadia" as the simpleminded ice-cream salesman which he played in a simple manner. Ed was also director for Shaw's "Heartbreak House" which opened the season for Cap and Dagger.

Frank Boguszewski -

Cast as God I, Frank has his first role in a C and D play. He has gained stage experience by singing in several minstrel shows.

Robert Starkey -

Portraying God II, is making his Bucknell debut, and has had experience in high school plays and dramatic programs.

Richard De Mott -

Playing God III is a freshman from Rochester where he had acting experience in high school productions.

Virginia Naef -

Portraying the title role of Shen Te tonight, Ginny has a dual part. She characterizes a good woman until, becoming confused, she assumes the part of a man to stay good. Last year she appeared as a French maid in "Leocadia," a strikingly different part from the lead in this production.

Winnie Glose -

Portraying Mrs. Shin tonight, has played Pina in "Winterset" and was assistant director "Counselor-at-Law." She has done extensive work on production and headed publicity for "Our Town."

Berda Stout -

The Wife tonight, had the lead, Amanda, in "Leocadia." This year, as The Wife she changes her characterization from sweet innocence to shrewishness.

Jim Logue -

As the Nephew is in his first play at Bucknell. In high school, Jim had parts in "Arsenic and Old Lace" and other plays.

Bruce Rabow -

Playing the Husband, is in his first play at Bucknell. Headed for a career in radio and television, he was announcer at WUSJ, Buffalo, and is now announcing on WKOK, Sunbury.

(Continued on page seven)

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THE BISON

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Who's Who In The Cast

(Continued from page seven)

June Hoffman -

as Mrs. Ma, is making her debut on the Cap and Dagger stage as a "nice old woman." She has been active behind the scenes since her freshman year, and was a member of her high school drama society.

June Burns -Plays the Old Prostitute. Although she has had many dancing roles, including that of ballet soloist in "Vagabond King," this is the first time she has opened her mouth on any stage.

David Norwine -

With this show, in which he plays Yang Sun, Dave marks ten years of dramatic experience, having played all types from the hilariously drunken Uncle Sid ("Ah Wilderness") to Randall the Rotter ("Heartbreak House"). Yang Sun, how-ever, is a new type to him, "---- I've never been a male Chinese Gold-digger before.'

Fred Casciato -Has an entirely different role as the

shrewd, sinister Shu Fu than his part as the mild-mannered Mazzini Dunn in "Heartbreak House."

James Gregg -

Portraying Mr. Ma, had the lead in "Ah Wilderness." He has been an active Cap and Dagger member since he came to Bucknell a year ago.

August St. John -

Who plays the priest, has worked for Cap and Dagger on the production of many plays and has done special projects for the publicity committee.

David Swarr -A sophomore from Ardmore, Pennsylvania, Dave plays the Waiter. He was active in his high school Drama Club.

Alice Hooker -

Who plays the Child, is only ten years old, but she has already played Hermia in "Midsummer Night's Dream" for the College Park Junior Dramatic Club. She is now rehearsing for Juliet in "Romeo and Juliet" to be given by the same organization in February at the Linntown auditorium.

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