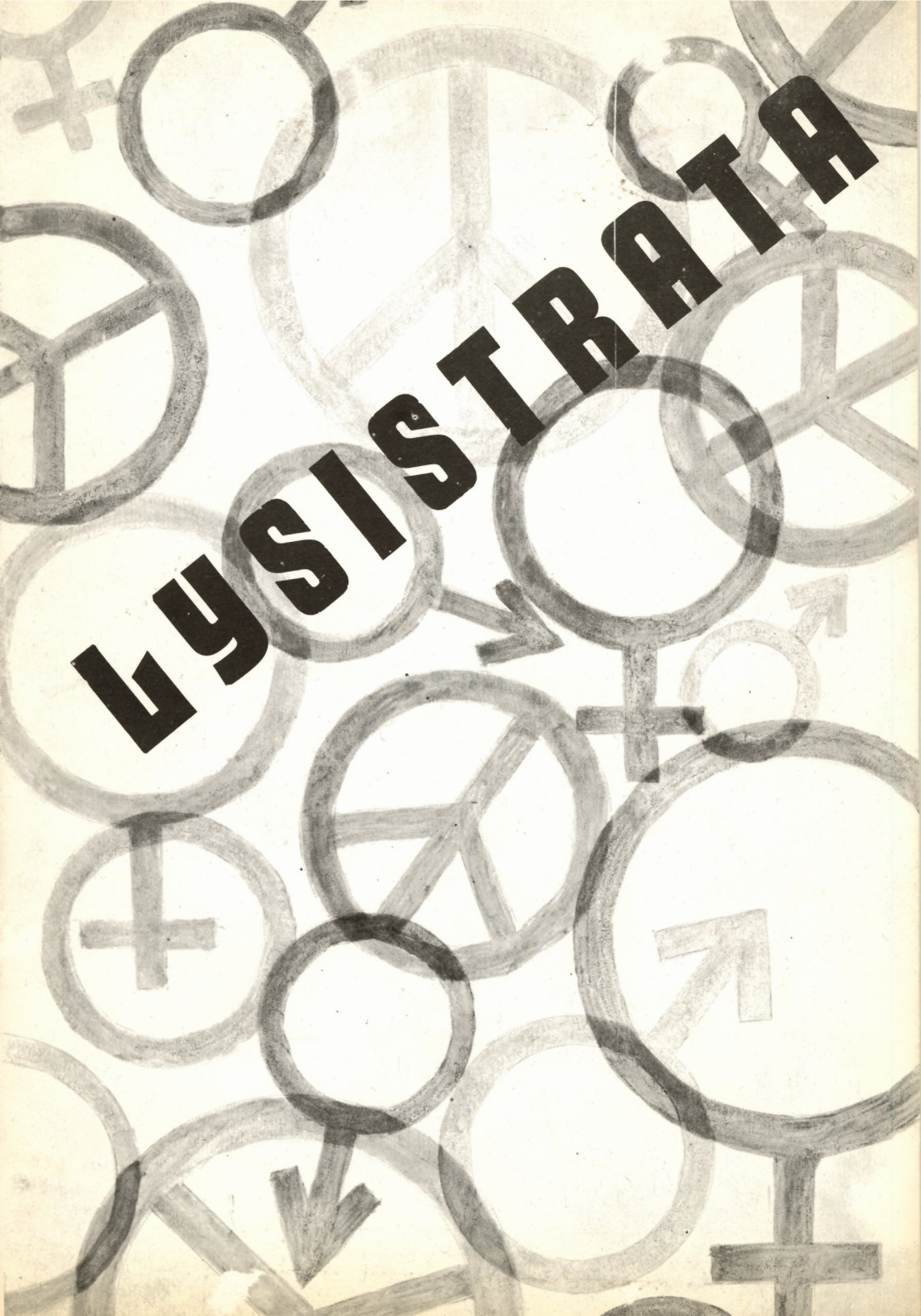


WYSSISTRATA



This show is produced by special arrangement with
Horcourt, Brace and World, Inc., New York, N. Y.

CAP AND DAGGER

presents



LYSISTRATA

by

ARISTOPHANES

Translation by

Dudley Fitts

Music by

Peter Eggers

Additional Music by

Rich Eisenberg



Directed by

Harvey M. Powers

Production Design by

Joe McCarthy

Costume Design by

Judy Casimir — Chellie Colio



BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY THEATRE

Lewisburg, Pennsylvania

MAY 8, 9, and 10, 1969

SPEAKING ABOUT THE PLAY

Aristophanes lived out his youth under the shadow of a vicious and unpopular war that dragged on interminably between Athens and Sparta. Attica was ravaged by repeated invasion, famine, and plague. Athens itself was a refugee city, overcrowded and underfed.

Four years before *Lysistrata* was first acted, Athens had conquered the neutral island of Melos and annihilated its male inhabitants. This incident had deepened the rift between the hawks and doves of Athens.

Then, just a year before Aristophanes composed *Lysistrata*, Athens sent a mighty armada against Sicily. Shortly before it sailed, someone — perhaps a group of peace demonstrators — knocked the noses and phalluses off all the statues of Hermes in the city. The Athenians read in this act not only public outrage but also an ill omen for the forthcoming military venture. Amidst public dissension and under a cloud of superstitious apprehension, the great fleet set sail to its doom. In the Sicilian Expedition, Athens lost great numbers of her young men and ships and nearly exhausted her capacity (spiritual as well as economic) to continue the war.

It was in this atmosphere that Aristophanes wrote the last of his great comedies dedicated to peace. That he should have found anything left to laugh about is truly amazing. But, of course, it had to be laughter with a difference. In the *Acharnians* Aristophanes had said "Let's laugh the war-mongers out of existence, and each Athenian make his own peace." In the *Peace* he had said "There are others like us in Sparta; let's get together and pull together and we might make it."

But now, in the *Lysistrata*, the laughter has a somber background. It is a laugh. What emerges is part farce and part dream — a dream of what might have been and could be if only we could resort to solutions of an absurd and lovely simplicity — if only men could be persuaded to lay down their arms and walk away from war.

Lysistrata's name means nothing less than "Disperser-of-Armies."

—H. M. P.

THE CAST

In order of appearance

<i>Mother</i>	Diane Betzendahl
<i>Kalonike</i>	Jan Ekman
<i>Myrrhine</i>	Bonnie Spring
<i>Lampito</i>	Judy Richardson
<i>Women of Athens and Sparta</i>	Joan Slovitt Maryvonne Boisson Libby Dodd Annette Lord
<i>Leader of Old Men</i>	Richard Schmenner
<i>Chorus of Old Men</i>	Richard Beardsley Edward Denny Gary Koutnik Glen Maynard James McShane Gerald Terpak
<i>Leader of Old Women</i>	Shirley Ambrose
<i>Chorus of Old Women</i>	Maggie Crowson Margaret Gough Peggy Harris Sandra Martin Penny McGowan Rebecca Nisley
<i>Commissioner of Athens</i>	Glenn Everett
<i>Men of Athens and Sparta</i>	Larry Baker Michael Hastings Christopher Gallup John Marlier
<i>Kinesias</i>	Charles Pollock
<i>Spartan Herald</i>	Stuart White
<i>Spartan Ambassador</i>	Robert Lucke
<i>Spartan Girl</i>	Laurie Campbell

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Trumpet Arrangements by Rich Eisenberg

Piano and Organ Peter Eggers

Electric Guitar David Weinberger

Electric Bass Gary Raynor, Skip Satterwhite

Drums Barry Floyd

Trumpet Rich Eisenberg

Saxophone Mike Gorman

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