

# Summer and Smoke

by Tennessee Williams
October 20-24, 1976



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Ann Arbor Civic Theatre

presents

## Summer and Smoke

by TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

directed by Karen Smith

set designer Gary G. Smith costume designer
Mildred D. Lintner

lighting designer
Mark E. Bowles

assistant director and stage manager
Runelda Medrano

and produced by Gary G. Smith

#### SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The entire action of the play takes place in the town of Glorious Hill, Mississippi. Time: turn of the century, through 1916.

#### PROLOGUE: A SPRING

#### PART I: A SUMMER

Scene 1. A fountain in the town square. Near dusk on July 4. Scene 2. The office of Dr. John Buchanan, Sr., later in July.

Scene 3. The rectory of Rev. Winemiller, some time later.

Scene 4. The rectory, on a following evening.

Scene 5. The doctor's office, later that evening.

Scene 6. The rectory, near dusk on the following Saturday.

Scene 7. A roadhouse near Glorious Hill, later that evening.

#### PART II: A WINTER

Scene I. The rectory and the office, an evening in August.

Scene 2. The rectory, sometime later.

Scene 3. The rectory and the office, an afternoon in autumn.

Scene 4. The fountain, an afternoon in December.

Scene 5. The doctor's office, one hour later.

Scene 6. The fountain, some weeks later.

#### CAST

Alma Winemiller (child)	Beth Dunstan
John Buchanan (child)	Christopher Livesay
Reverend Winemiller	
Mrs. Winemiller	Wendy Rogers
Alma Winemiller	Susan Morris
John Buchanan	
Roger Doremus	
Dr. John Buchanan Sr	Warren Eveland
Rosa Gonzales	
Nellie Ewell	Susan Watson
Mrs. Bassett	
Vernon	
Rosemary	Jill Carsten
Gonzales	Joseph Medrano
Dusty	
Archie Kramer	

#### PRODUCTION CREWS

LIGHTS Steve Stannard, master electrician Claudia Kerfoot, Joseph Medrano

COSTUMES Kitty Hilmer, costumier

PROPS Nick Petri, property master

SET Larry Hill, master carpenter

Paul Sisson, Steve Stannard, carpenters

Dorothy Milne, Ivey Cooley, Lynn Williams, George Garza.

Angie Jones, Keith Jordan

SOUND Larry Hill, sound engineer
Paul Sisson, assistant engineer

MAKEUP Sophie Farah, chairman

Cheryl Hodges, Linda Davidoff, Mina Sonda, Angie Jones,

Lynn Williams

#### **AACT BUSINESS STAFF**

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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Editor's note: Ted Heisel, the Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Board President for 1976-1977, is no stranger to AACT in any capacity. He has served on the board many times and has directed on the average of once per year since he joined. His most recent production was The Little Foxes, earlier this year.

We welcome you once again to another great season for Ann Arbor Civic Theatre.

I would like to take this opportunity to reminisce with you over some of the great moments in my twenty-six years with AACT.

Some of my friends who have passed on have brought outstanding performances to this theatre. Todd Jones, past president played varying roles and had the lead in Three Men On A Horse when he was tragically killed the morning before the play went up.

Jay Michael, former radio star of the Lone Ranger and Green Hornet and other shows, brought his talent to AACT with several unforgettable moments - the greatest of which was in The Cain Mutiny Court Martial, in which the entire audience stood to applaud his exit. He has also passed

Sally Keplinger surprised Hollywood producer George Seaton with her performance in Country Girl; he had just produced the movie in Hollywood with Grace Kelly. He attended an AACT dress rehearsal of the show and then came again opening night with flowers for Sally. Sally also passed away at a young age.

And lest we forget those outstanding performers who have gone on to Broadway and Hollywood:

Marian Mercer, recently seen on TV'S The Seagull, has played on many network shows. She was also the stage and touring company's "Little Mary Sunshine"; she received her start in our production of Bus Stop.

Beverly Owen, who appeared in the television show The Munsters, and is now the Miss Ivory Soap on TV, played her first lead in AACT's Hatfull of Rain.

Ruth Livingston played many leads for AACT. She starred in our first production of Summer and Smoke, before heading to New York, where she is today.

Ken Johnson, well-known character actor for AACT is now working on his fourth movie in Hollywood.

Tom Leith left Ann Arbor to travel with a Lawrence Olivier production. He was last seen in Streetcar Named Desire. Tom now lives and writes in New York.

There are many people in other aspects of AACT to whom I would like to pay tribute; they have all played their parts in building Ann Arbor's most successful theatrical organization. I am happy to be a part of it and I extend an invidual invitation to everyone of you to give us your talents whatever they may be.

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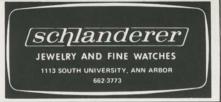
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#### THE STAFF

GARY G. SMITH, producer. If Gary were to wear simultaneously all the hats which he occupies for this production, he would probably stand at least eight-feet-nine-inches tall. In addition to the "trivial" job of producer, he is also designing the set and the poster, coordinating the activities of all the design staff, and is married to the director. While he is new to AACT, he is by no means a stranger to the stage; he has an MFA degree in Production Design from Ohio University, and has designed numerous productions for Hope College, EMU, and recently the Ypsilanti Celebrants. Some of his designs include That Championship Season, Streetcar Named Desire, Oklahoma!, The Miser, and St. Joan. Gary also recently completed performing the title role in Celebrant's Man for All Seasons.

KAREN SMITH, director. The other half of this talented husband-and-wife team is just as experienced in theatre as her husband. Karen holds a BFA in Acting/Directing from Ithaca College in New York and did graduate study at (remarkable coincidence) Ohio University. Karen's extensive directorial credits include Loot, The Zoo Story, I Can't Imagine Tomorrow, and just recently Doing a Good One for the Red Man for Yosi Celebrants. Her acting roles include Rosalie in Carnival. Ruth in Wonderful Town. Jessica in The Merchant of Venice and Margaret in (another remarkable coincidence) A Man for All Seasons. AACT is fortunate to have two such talented individuals as the Smiths and we hope they will return to do other shows with us.

MILDRED D. LINTNER, costume designer. Milly Lintner is a long-time friend of civic theatre. and is a truly experienced person in theatre in general. She has costumed over 100 shows, including Twelfth Night, Guys and Dolls, Romeo and Juliet, Kiss Me Kate, and The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail and Earnest in Love for AACT. She has also directed Life with Father and performed such memorable parts as Gootch in Mame and Bloody Mary in South Pacific, Ms. Lintner is currently a professor of design at Bowling Green State University. Since her husband works in South Lyon, and Milly in Bowling Green, they have compromised on Temperance, Michigan as their home.

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MARK E. BOWLES, lighting designer. Here is another individual who is in danger of being crushed under the weight of the hats he is wearing for this production. In addition to designing the lighting, he is playing Roger Doremus, acting as Production Design Coordinator for the entire season and typing these very words as program editor. He received a BS from the big U in Computer Science, and works as a free-lance (i.e. unemployed) computer consultant. His previous lighting designs include Camelot for UM Musket in 1969, two seasons of reperatory in Menlo Park, California, and last year's AACT production of Promises, Promises. He also appeared last January in one of our studio productions. Under Milk Wood.

LAWRENCE J. HILL, master carpenter. Larry is one of those people who has been doing theatre all his life, only never on stage until recently. Larry has been involved in every AACT production since Arsenic and old Lace last year, acting as set carpenter, draftsman, production crew member, and as general-all-around-valuable-person. He is also currently involved in the Comic Opera Guild, and is performing in their Babes in Toyland. There are those who wonder how he finds time to hold down his full-time job as an Architectural Designer and also function as AACT's season shop co-foreman.

RUNELDA MEDRANO, assistant director and stage manager. Runelda wrote on her program info sheet "ancient member of Civic Theatre," and although we would quibble with her choice of words, it is certain that she has been an integral part of the growth of AACT for many years. She has functioned as A.D./stage manager on at least a dozen shows, and has performed in two of our shows. She is also the recording secretary and co-treasurer of AACT. Her husband, Joe, is in the cast of Summer and Smoke and is also a veteran civic theatre member.

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#### THE CAST

SUSAN MORRIS, Alma Winemiller. Our leading lady is a lady of much accomplishment in the theatre, not the least of which is the Best Actress award she received from AACT audiences and members last year for her performance as Martha Brewster in Arsenic and Old Lace. Ms. Morris has appeared in many parts for the University Opera, Gilbert and Sullivan Society, and the University speech department as well as AACT. In the past year or so, she has directed The Night Thoreau Spent In Jail for AACT, a fund-raising production of G & S's Trial By Jury, and has performed in our summer season's Miss Julie. Susan is the Vice-President of AACT, and works for the UM department of Romance Languages.

WILLIAM J. CROSS, John Buchanan. Bill has performed in many of AACT productions over the past few years, but he had to go to the Theatre Company of Ann Arbor to find a part he could really get his teeth into: the title role in *Dracula*. For us, he has performed major roles in *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie, Barefoot in the Park, Hogan's Goat, The Fantasticks* (as El Gallo), *Ten Little Indians,* and most recently he was the sage of Walden in *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail.* Mr. Cross has a Masters degree from U of M in theatre, and currently works as a recording technician for the U of M School of Music.



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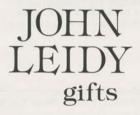
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RON URICK, Reverend Winemiller. Ron is making his return to the stage after a twenty-year absence. His last performance was in 1956, in *My Three Angels* at Ohio State University. Ron has also acted in *Carousel* and *Bus Stop*. He is a professor of Educational Leadership at Wayne State University in Detroit, and he says he works on his lines while commuting to Detroit every day.

WENDY ROGERS, Mrs. Winemuller. This is AACT's first chance to see Ms. Rogers on stage, though she has acting and tech experience with the Northwestern Michigan College Players, in Traverse City. She has participated in a Readers' Theatre for the Young at EMU and worked on technical crews for our own summer season this year.

SUSAN WATSON, Nellie Ewell. Susan's last performance for AACT was as a child in our 1964 production of *The Miracle Worker*. Between then and now she has been busy at EMU performing in *The Heiress, Man and Superman, The Birthday Party, O Dad, Poor Dad,* and *Awake and Sing.* And if you want to know how she was motivated to return to AACT after thirteen years, all we have to say is that she recently completed performing the role of Mrs. Moore with the Smiths in Celebrants *A Man For All Seasons*.

WARREN EVELAND, Dr. John Buchanan Sr.. A professor emeritus at the UM school of Public Health, Mr. Eveland is developing himself as a character actor. He played in our production of Arsenic and Old Lace as the Minister, and has appeared in I Never Sang for My Father, The Devil's Desciple, Come Back Little Sheba and Enter Laughing.



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DONNA CASWELL, Mrs. Bassett. Ms. Caswell is attempting to outdo her sterling performances as a gingerbread girl in third grade, and in many parts in high school drama and debate. She is employed by the Washtenaw Council on Alcoholism, as a social worker, doing community education and therapy.

JOSEPH MEDRANO, Gonzales. Joe got tired of writing after scribbling no less than sixteen AACT productions on his program information sheet. His first role for us was in *Darkness at Noon*, in the early sixties, and he has had major roles in *The Brass and Grass Forever*, A Man For All Seasons, Guys and Dolls, Never Too Late, Arsenic and Old Lace, and most recently as Oscar Hubbard in The Little Foxes.

JAMES BOWER, Vernon. Jim is making is AACT stage debut in this production, having performed in high school and college shows at Central Michigan University. Mr. Bower is a consulting psychologist and sometime golf fanatic.

THOMAS SIMONIAN, Archie Kramer. A student at the U of M, Tom has performed in the Couzen Ensemble's production of *Moonchildren* and in recent speech department productions of *Goblin Market* and *Camino Real*. He is also a disk jockey on WCBN-FM and a self-admitted music freak.

CONCHITA RIPOLL, Rosa Gonzales. Ms. Ripoll, a native of Cuba, is making her Ann Arbor stage debut with this performance. Conchita is a craftsman and a maker of jewelry. We are told that she just recently moved north from Florida and has not experienced the wonderfulness of a Michigan winter. We hope, after it starts to snow, that Conchita decides to stay anyway.

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BETH DUNSTAN, Alma as a child. Dear reader, are you ready for the heavy experience of this little lady? (a) A school girl in AACT's Prime of Miss Jean Brodie; (b) Hellen Keller in a Williamsport, PA production of The Miracle Worker; (c) Lighting, for The Lady's Not For Burning, and (d) "several school plays (Ann Arbor).

CHRISTOPHER LIVESAY, John as a child. Another experienced young actor, Chris has been with Junior Theatre for over a year, and is currently a student of CHS. Besides our production he is working on school plays of *Antigone* and *Night Watch*.

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#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

We wish to thank the following individuals and organizations for their assistance in the building and creating this production:

Gerald and Joe Deline Suhelya — Flamenco Choreography U of M Medical School — Anatomy Chart WPAG — assistance with sound cues



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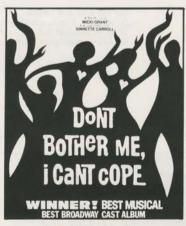
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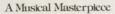


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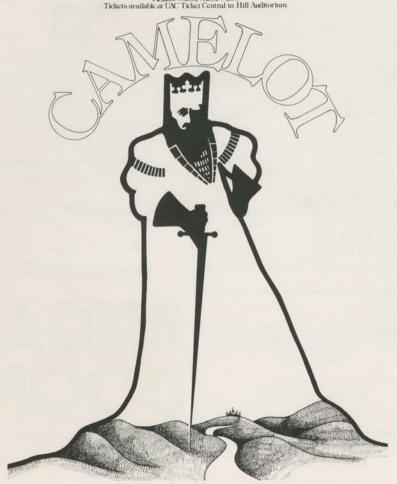


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