

ANN ARBOR CIVIC THEATRE PRESENTS...

atch on the

by Lillian Hellman Directed by Ted Heusel

LYDIA MENDELSSOHN THEATRE

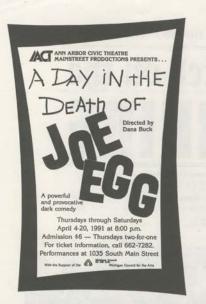
Feb. 27-Mar. 2, 1991 at 8:00 pm - Saturday Matinee at 2:00 pm

Ticket Information until February 24th 662-7282 ☐ Ticket Information after February 24th 763-1085



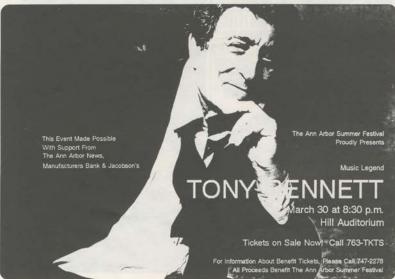
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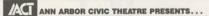






2351 E. Delhi Rd., Ann Arbor Phone (313) 663-0313





SAHINE

by Lillian Hellman 🗆 Directed by Ted Housel

LYDIA MENDELSSOHN THEATRE

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WATCH ON THE RHINE IS presented through special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc. 440 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016

The University of Michigan forbids smoking in any part of the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre.

SYNOPSIS

The scene of the play is the living room of the Farrelly country house, about twenty miles from Washington.

The time is late spring, 1940.

ACT I

Early on a Wednesday morning.

ACT II

About ten days later.

ACT III

A half hour later.

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission between Act 1 and Act II.



By popular request, we will now be serving desserts from 9:30 - 11 pm weekdays and until 12 midnight Fri, & Sat. Come enjoy our award-winning pastries, espresso, cappuccino, fine wines and cognacs.

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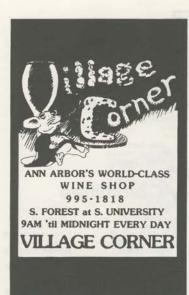
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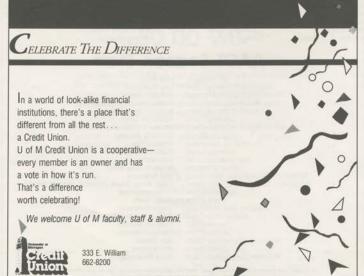
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MAJOR DATES IN THE EVOLVING WAR

1925

Autumn Mein Kampf (My Struggle), by Adolf Hitter is published, initially outlining the concept of *Lebensraum* - living space - required for the German people. Acquisition of this space, the author noted, "...was possible only in the East... If land was desired in Europe, it could be obtained by and large only at the expense of Russia." This volume was written while Hitter was serving a prison sentence for treason.

1929

By the end of this year, Adolf Hitler has assumed the title of "The Supreme Leader of the (National Socialist) Party and the S.A., Chairman of the National Socialist German Labor Organization."

1933

Jan 30 Hitler becomes Chancellor of Germany and the Third Reich is formally established.

1934

Aug 2 Hitler becomes President of Germany, as he retains simultaneously the chancellorship.

1936

July 16 Franco stages a right-wing military revolt in Spain and civil war breaks out.

Germany joins Italy in providing aid to Franco.

Germany contributes a half-billion marks in aid, dispatching to Spain planes, tanks, technicians, and an air force unit.

Italy sends 70,000 troops and vast supplies of arms and planes.

1938

- Feb 4 Hitler becomes Supreme Commander of all German military forces.
- Feb 20 Hitler announces to the Reichstag that it is the duty of Germany to protect the "general freedom, personal, political, and ideological" of the "..ten million Germans (who) live in two of the states adjoining our frontier (Czechoslovakia and Austria)."
- Mar 14 German military occupies the Czechoslovakian territories of Bohemia and Moravia. Hitter establishes a German Protectorate to govern Czechoslovakia.
- Mar 15 An agreement with Hitler results in Hungarian troops occupying the Czechoslovakian territory of Ruthenia, which is formally annexed to Hungary the following day.
- Apr 10 In a tightly-controlled general election, Austrians vote 99.75% to join their country with Germany, abolishing their territorial name "Austria" (Oesterreich, in German) entirely,
- Oct 1 Poland partakes of the Czech spoils, annexing the frontier district, Teschen. Shortly thereafter, Hungary slezes portions of Slovakia.
- Nov 20 Final terms of the Munich Agreement are negotiated between Germany and Britain, ceding 11,000 square miles of Czechoslovakia to Germany.

1939

- Aug 23 Germany and the Soviet Union sign a mutual nonaggression treaty, including trade agreements. They simultaneously sign a secret protocol which gives the USSR control of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia "in the event of a territorial and political transformation in the territories belonging to the Baltic States..." This protocol also splits Poland, giving the USSR the eastern portion, and Germany the west.
- Sept 1 Germany Invades Poland; annexes Danzig.
- Sept 3 Britain and France declare war on Germany.
- Oct The Warsaw ghetto is established as a restricted living area for Jews only. The ghetto remained open, to a gradually decreasing extent, for incoming and outgoing pedestrian traffic until December, 1940 when the wall was completed. Ten-feet high, with an additional 3 feet of barbed wire atop, the wall completely confined just over 500,000 women, children and men within just under 1,000 acres.

1940

- May 10 Churchill succeeds Chamberlain as British Prime Minister.
- May 14 The Dutch nation capitulates to Hitler.
- May 28 Belgium surrenders to Hitler.
- May 29 400,000 British soldiers begin evacuation from Dunkirk under continuous German mortar and Luftwaffe fire
- June 20 France is defeated. The armistice with Germany is signed at Complegne, the site of the German surrender at the end of World War I.

Sources:

The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich, WL Schirer, Simon & Schuster, NYNY, 1960.

Mein Kampf, A Hitler, Houghton Mifflin Co, Boston, 1939; and Verlag Frz. Eher Nachf. GMBH, 1925 & 1927.

The Gathering Storm, WS Churchill, Houghton Mifflin Co, Boston, 1948.

THE CAST

(In order of Appearance)

Anise
Joseph Jerry Klein
David Farrelly
Teck de Brancovis
Joshua Muller lan Lawler
Bodo Muller John Barber Babette Muller Lauren Muskovitz
Kurt Muller

THE STAFF

1	Director	Julie Miller
	Stage Manager	
	Set Designer/Set Dresser	
4	Set Builder	Jim Barnes
(Costume Designer	Barbara Wells
i	Properties	Betty Wamback
ï	Lighting Designer	Thom Johnson
Į.	Lighting Designer	IIIOIII JOIIIISOII
ij	Make-up Designer	Sophia Farah
1	Sound Designers	Arwulf Arwulf
		Jon Krueger
		Barry LaRue
		Hazen Schumacher

THE CREW

SET

Edie Faye Eric Hergt Jason Maier Shirley Mallette Ted Farah Stirling Friendship Henry Schuman

COSTUMES

Marjorie Cripps Florence Marguerite **PROPS**

Robert Wilcox Linda Getty

LIGHTS

Larry Cooperman

SOUND

Larry Cooperman

MAKE-UP

JoAnn Keosaian

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Verna Goss Margaret Mann

The lobby displays:
Fred Beutler
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Precision Photographics

Michelle Tresh-Snips Hair Salon

A special acknowledgement from cast, staff, and crew, of cast member Susan Morseth, who, despite a broken ankle and subsequent surgery, has proven once again that she's a real "pro"

A SPECIAL THANKYOU TO THE FOLLOWING GOOD FOLKS WHO HELPED MAKE STEEL MAGNOLIAS A BIG SUCCESS, THEIR NAMES MAY HAVE COME IN AFTER THE PROGRAM WENT TO PRESS BUT THEIR WORK IS, AS ALWAYS, GREATLY APPRECIATEDI

Myrna Clowney Jeanne Grae Debbie Mitchell Joe Lamb Joy Scarpuzza Dena Stevens

ABOUT THE CAST

LAURIE GREIG ATWOOD (Sara Muller) is familiar to AACT audiences from her several appearances on our MainStage, including lead roles in BORN YESTERDAY, PLAY IT AGAIN SAM, PLAZA SUITE, LUNCH HOUR, HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES and APPLE TREE, Tonight's appearance is Laurie's first in a dramatic role, in real life, she is the mother of three children, a physical fitness enthusiast, and Director of a child care program.

JOHN BARBER (Bodo Muller) appears on the AACT stage for his first time this evening; however, he comes to us with a lot of experience, including roles in OKLAHOMA with the Young Peoples' Theatre, FIDDLER ON THE ROOF and THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES with Junior Theatre; and CINDERELLA with the Goodtime Players. John's non-theatrical interests include electronics and computers.

WILLIAM J. CROSS (Kurt Mulier) WATCH ON THE RHINE marks the long-awaited return of this popular leading man who first performed with AACT in the 1960's. Three-time winner of the AACT Best Actor Award, Bill's compelling talent has been enjoyed in such shows as THE CRUCIBLE, HARVEY, THE FANTASTIKS, ANGEL STREET, and THE SLEUTH with AACT; ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA and A DOLL'S HOUSE with The University of Michigan in addition to appearances with Canterbury Loft Theatre, The Black Sheep Repertory Theatre, and Eastern Michigan University, among others. Bill also holds substantial credentials in radio announcing, voice-over and narratives, modeling, and film.

JERRY KLEIN (Joseph) promises to steal the show as he enters, crosses, exits, and tosses the ball this evening. Jerry is an accomplished actor, sporting stage experience in over twenty shows with AACT, Performance Network, Saline Area Players, Blacksheep Theatre, and community theatre groups in Chelsea, Dexter and Ypsilanti. In his spare time, he keeps busy with local and national television commercial work.

CHRIS KOROW (David Farrelly) has come on like "gangbusters" since his 1985 arrival on Ann Arbor-area stages. Eighteen shows later, Chris has worked his way from bit parts to the winner of AACT's 1989 Best Actor Award for his portrayal of Alan Felix in PLAY IT AGAIN SAM, in which he took a Woody Allen role, written by Allen for Allen, and made it his own, Chris's other credits include LONE STAR, THE ANASTASIA AFFAIRE, THE GLASS MENAGERIE, LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, and most recently, THE MOUSETRAP. Off stage, Chris is a senior software engineer for a small Ann Arbor software firm.

IAN LAWLER (Joshua Muller) This is lan's second AACT production; his first being MainStreet's recent production of AH, WILDERNESSI, in which he played Richard Miller, and for which he won Ann Arbor News critic, Christopher Potter's Best Drama Actor award for 1990. He also holds credits with Junior Theatre, one commercial, and an advertisement in The Detroit News "TV Book". Ian is a freshman at Ann Arbor's Community High School, and enjoys various sports including bowling and shooting pool.

PHILLIP J. MATORA (Teck de Brancovis) Previously seen by AACT audiences in I'M NOT RAPPAPORT and WOYZCEK, Phil boasts a full list of twenty shows throughout the greater Ann Arbo-Detroit area, including JACQUES AND HIS MASTER, OLD TIMES, THE BLACK PAVANE, TRIFLES, THE ODD COUPLE, and LOOK HOMEWARD ANGEL.

SUSAN MORSETH (Marthe de Brancovis) WATCH ON THE RHINE Is the fifteenth show Susan has appeared in since joining AACT in 1985. Her most recent roles were Cora in THE RIMERS OF ELDRITCH, Lily in AH, WILDERNESSI, and Gladys in A LESSON FROM ALDES.

LAUREN MUSKOVITZ (Babette Muller) is seen this evening in her third AACT show, having previously performed in MAME and THE MUSIC MAN. Additional theatrical experience has been gained with The Burns Park Players in IF THE SHOE FITS, DAMN YANKEESI, and GREASE. Lauren is a sixth grade student at Greenhills who enjoys basketball, softball, tennis, hockey, and horseback riding in addition to her demonstrated attraction to drama.

ANNE B. WALKER (Anise) has been involved with many local community theatre groups both on and off stage, has appeared in several AACT productions, and currently serves on the Board of Directors. Most recently, she was seen as Nelly Windrod in THE RIMERS OF ELDRITCH on AACT's MainStreet stage, in BATACLANIRVING BERLIN SONGBOOK with Comic Opera Guild, and in QUILTERS with the Saint Andrew's Players. Anne also plays the role of Betty in the ongoing travelling production of THE BUBBYLONIAN ENCOUNTER, sponsored by AACT and the Washtenaw Area Council for Children.

PHYLLIS WRIGHT (Fanny Farrelly) A full recitation of Ms. Wrights' credits would nearly fill this page, thus we must suffice to say: Active with AACT for more than forty years, Phyllis Wright is a pillar not only in the AACTing community, but in the Ann Arbor-area aris world as a whole. Her service encompasses more than fifty years of volunteerism and leadership. Ms. Wright's stage experience has been earned in New York City, Colorado, and Oklahoma, in addition to Michigan. Her AACT appearances include THE BARRETTS OF WIMPOLE STREET, THE LATE CHRISTOPHER BEAN, THE ROYAL FAMILY, PLAZA SUITE, and her 1989 tour de force in THE GIN GAME.

ABOUT THE STAFF

JIM BARNES (Set Builder) is an habitual audience member who was seduced backstage in 1981 to become master carpenter for The University of Michigan Gilbert and Sullivan Society, where he has also served as technical director and set designer (THE MIKADO). His ventures in AACTing include building large props for our 1984 production of FIDDLER ON THE ROOF, and general scene shop assistance for several other shows. An Eastern Michigan University Professor Emeritus of Physics, Jim plays golf as much as possible, square dances, and volunteers as a guide at the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum.

TRACY BOYLE (Stage Manager) began her work with AACT as assistant stage manager for THE MUSICAL COMEDY MURDERS OF 4940, and as part of the set construction crew. She went on from there to run lights for AACT MainStages THE MOUSETRAP and AINT MISBEHAVIN'; and MainStreet's TWELFTH NIGHT and THE RIMERS OF ELDRITCH. Last month, she helped the props crew for STEEL MAGNOLIAS. On the rare occasions when Tracy is not in the theatre, she works as the office manager for a local roofing company. Her mother, Joan, is responsible for introducing Tracy to AACT, and Tracy assures us she will have her revenge. . . Although she would first like to thank her mom and Joe for their support and for all the dinners in the 'fridge.

SOPHIA FARAH (Make-up Designer) has been an active member of AACT since 1962. Her finely skilled hand has enhanced visages and created images for AACT, The University of Michigan Gilbert and Sullivan Society, and many others throughout the intervening years. "Sophie", as she is known to chums, fondly recalls her early days with AACT in the Mulholland building, the passage of time and other AACT locations, and she now looks forward to the new AACTing home to come.

DEBORAH GREENE (Producer) Asked by Mr. Heusel in July, 1990, to consider producing her first show, this show, Ms. Greene rather incautiously replied, "For you, Ted; only for you." Apart from this rather daunting task, Deborah is engaged seven days each week at Kaleidoscope Books & Collectibles, where she and her husband, Jeff Pickell, offer 17,000 used and rare books and collectible items, weekly literary readings and storytimes for children.

TED HEUSEL (Director) Frequently hailed as Ann Arbor's "Sidewalk Mayor", or Mr. Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. Ted is otherwise known as the host of American radio's longest-running talk show, broadcasting over Ann Arbor's WAAMWhitehall, AM station 1600. Ted was recently honored for 40 years of broadcast history by President Bush, Congressman Pursell (who entered the event in the United States Congressional Record), then-Governor Blanchard, and Mayor Jernigan. In 1988, he received the Washtenaw Council for the Arts Special Annie Award for Service to the Arts. As the artistic director of AACT throughout the 1950's. Ted introduced musicals to the performance season, which season gradually increased under his leadership from three to five productions each year. Ted also directs extensively with the St. Andrews Players, and more recently with Comic Opera Guild.

THOM JOHNSON (Lighting Designer) has designed the lights for a number of Ted Heusel's AACT shows, including PLAZA SUITE, THE LION IN WINTER, and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE. He most recently designed lights for AACT MainStreet's THE RIMERS OF ELDRITCH, and won the Best Special Effects Award for his lighting magic in the 1988-89 AACT MainStage production of PLAY TI AGAIN SAM.

JULIE MILLER (Assistant Director) is serving her seventh stint on the "Heusel Team." Previously, she filled the Assistant Director's chair for BULLSHOT CRUMMOND, ARSENIC AND OLD LACE (AACT); DIE FLEDERMAUS, BATACLAMIRVING BERLIN SONGBOOK (Comic Opera Guild); OUR TOWN (St. Andrew's Players); and she produced Ted's 1989-90 AACT show, A LION IN WINTER. Working with other directors, Julie produced AACT's THE MUSIC MAN, MAME and THE MOUSETRAP; and was assistant director for AACT MainStreet's JACQUES BREL IS ALIVE AND WELL AND LIVING IN PARIS.

JOHN MOGA (Set Designer/Set Dresser) Mr. Moga's stage art has helped entertain Ann Arbor-area audiences in several contexts, including BULLSHOT CRUMMOND, BRIGADOON, and PLAY IT AGAIN SAM (AACT); DIE FLEDERMAUS and DESERT SONG for the Comic Opera Guild; and various scenes painted for The University of Michigan Professional Theatre Program. John teaches drawing and painting classes at Washtenaw Community College, and in the community education programs in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. He also freelances as an illustrator, His work is shown through the Ann Arbor Art Association and the Ann Arbor Artists' Copp. When not involved in all of the above, John is that rarest of rare and precious commodities: a house husband to two children.

BETTY L. WAMBACK (Props Designer) has been active behind the scenes for many AACT productions, including MAME, TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD, I'M NOT RAPPAPORT, and BRIGADOON. She is always looking for new experiences in theatre, and lends a helping and capable hand whenever and wherever she is needed.

BARBARA WELLS (Costume Designer) is captain of the costume ship for her first time on ... THE RHINE. Barbara's theatre experience includes costume assistant for TWELFTH NIGHT, STEEL MAGNOLIAS, and SHE LOVES ME; set construction assistant for TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD, BRIGADOON, THE MUSICAL COMEDY MURDERS OF 1940, AH,

WILDERNESSI, and STEEL MAGNOLIAS. In her spare volunteer time, she is AACT's costume rental agent. Monday through Friday (one would imagine in total exhaustion), Barbara is an administrative assistant at The University of Michigan.

SPECIAL NOTES ON SOUND DESIGN

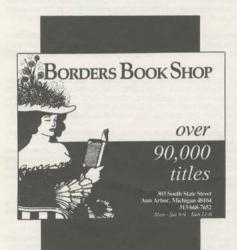
WATCH ON THE RHINE is a demanding sound-properties show. We are eternally indebted to the following generous, highly talented individuals without whom our special effects would not have been possible.

DR. ARWULF ARWULF (Closing) brought together his incredible collection of World War II-era recordings to create the early war sounds that will escort you out of the theatre. The effect is precisely as eerie as our Director directed it be. Arwulf is widely recognized as jazz archeologist and announcer on WEMU and WCBN, as a frequent cast member and sound designer at The Performance Network, and featured performer in the recent successes, WHAT FRESH HELL IS THIS and CHERRIES.

JON KRUEGER (Music Composition and Piano) is a highly regarded, Ann Arbor-based conductor and composer. Well known to AACT audiences for his orchestral work with such musicals as BRIGADOON and MAME, Jon is rarely recognized as the composer of many of the swatches of original music required for several of our non-musical shows. In this instance, Jon has allowed extraordinary actor (but not planist) Bill Cross to play Mozart, Haydn, et al.. He also composed the martial music to which playwright Lillian Hellman's "German soldiers' song" lyrics are sung. Jon has worked extensively with other local groups, including The University of Milchigan Gilbert and Sullivan Society and Comic Opera Guild, in addition to guest conductorships on the east coast.

BARRY LaRUE (Sound Designer), chief house technician for the Mendelssohn and Power Center stages, assembled the contributions of Arwulf, Jon Kreuger, and Hazen Schumacher Into a cohesive soundtracts. Barry has performed his wondrous wizardry for AACT in two other recent instances: TO KILL A MOCKING-BIRD and AINT MISBEHAVIN.

HAZEN SCHUMACHER (Opening Tape Music) Hazen's awesome vinyl collection formed the core of the bittersweet nostalgic music cuts which ushered you into the auditorium tonight. Hazen is the well-known and highly regarded University of Michigan Professor of Broadcasting and WUOM broadcaster who pioneered contemporary jazz programming in this area.



AACT NEEDS YOU!

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre is always looking for energetic volunteers to help in any aspect of the organization. Our office staff is searching for people to do general office work any day Monday-Friday mornings, 9-1, and Monday and Friday afternoons, 1-4. If you have been looking for a way to help AACT, please call Joni Muskovitz at 662-3318 or Robin Mays at 662-9405. We really appreciate our volunteers!

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