The North Fork Community Theatre

presents

LIGHT UP THE SKY





A Comedy

in Three Acts

by

MOSS HART

June 1990

This will be my final message as president of the N.F.C.T. I have been elected president of this organization three different times, and have enjoyed each occasion. Through the years some things change and some remain the same. That explains why I ran for president this year, and also why I am not running next year.

As theater functions only because of, and for people, I would again like to single out some people to thank. These people made my tenure

much easier than it otherwise would have been.

The first – Jana Young. As the saying goes, if you look up the word secretary in the dictionary you would find her picture. Organized, willing, helpful, and concerned are only a few of the words that describe her. She carried out my requests without hesitation; at times even before I made them. Her minutes of the meetings will leave no doubt as to what occurred. There were times when all I could think of was "why me," and the expression on her face helped me to know that things would be ok.

She cares about the N.F.C.T. Thank you, Jana.

The second – Caroline Hess. Although this is not a huge corporation, it can be even more confusing at times. Each production brings in a totally new group of people, and a totally new budget. No two directors or producers work the same. Caroline has been able, under those strained circumstances, to not only maintain our accounts, but has thought of ways to increase our income while keeping our ticket prices stable. She uses a gentle but firm manner to hold our expenditures within bounds. More than that, I have always been able to count on her for solid well thought out advice. Also, look at the program layout – her handiwork. Thank you, Caroline.

Third – our director George Tibbetts. George stepped in twice this year and agreed to direct at a time when we had our backs against the wall: the present production three weeks before tryouts. The difficult George does right now, the impossible takes a couple of weeks. Everyone

together now - THANK YOU, GEORGE.

Lastly—Thank you our audience. Yes, we do it for our own pleasure, but without you there would be no satisfaction, no feed-back, no applause. That's what we're hoping for—applause. Maybe next year, I'll have time to trod the boards myself, and possibly hear that applause which will LIGHT UP THE SKY. Sit back, enjoy. Thanks.

- Art Wilks

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Light Up the Sky

by

MOSS HART

DIRECTED BY: GEORGE TIBBETTS

PRODUCED BY: JILL CROSS

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: JEAN PLITT

DIRECTORS NOTE: Contrary to the disclaimer of most fictional works, characters in *Light up the Sky* do bear a resemblance to persons living or dead. Hart's friends and acquaintances were portrayed – not with malice, but with a deep affection for them as persons and as professionals.

Irene is supposed to be a portrait of Gertrude Lawrence, Carleton is Gutherie McClintock, director and husband of Katherine Cornell; Sidney is producer Billy Rose and Frances his second wife and Aquacade star Eleanor Holm. Owen is an amalgam of the acerbic George Kauffman and the mature Hart while Peter is Hart in his naive youth. Heady company!

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service Inc. 440 Park Avenue SouthNew York, New York

CAST (in order of appearance)

| Miss Lowell | Eileen Sheldon |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Carleton Fitzgerald | Dan McCarthy |
| Frances Black | Priscilla Sprague |
| Owen Turner | Bob Erland |
| Stella Livingston | |
| Peter Sloan | |
| Sidney Black | |
| Sven | |
| Irene Livingston | |
| Tyler Rayburn | |
| A Shriner | |
| Other Shriners | |
| | |
| William H. Gallegher | |
| A Plain-Clothes Man | |
| Parrot's Voice | _ |
| | |

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Act I

The living room of Irene Livingston's Ritz-Carlton Hotel suite at Boston, Mass. Time 5:30 P.M., 1948.

Act II
The same. Time about 11:45 that evening.

Act III
The same. Time 3:30 A.M.

SOUTH PACIFIC

Auditions for our next production, South Pacific, will be held on June 26 and 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the theatre.

Show dates will be August 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, and 25.

The following shows remain for the 1989-90 NFCT season.

Light Up the Sky June 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16

South Pacific August 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25

For information, call the box office at 298-4500. The answering machine will contain a message with information on the up-coming show, including the phone number for purchasing tickets. If you'd like to purchase tickets for several plays at once, please call Judy Utter at 298-4583 for subscription information.

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PRODUCTION STAFF

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|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
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| Publicity | . Janet Bidwell |
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| Costumes | |
| Make-Up | |
| Refreshments | |
| Props & Set Decoration | |
| | George Tibbetts |
| Stage Crew | . Steve Gocha |
| Music | |
| Set Construction | . Director - Jim McKay |
| | . Art Wilks, Dominick Perini |
| Set Painting | . Director - Paul Borsman |
| | Jill Cross, Sue Morse, |
| | Gary Morse, Laura Cameron, |
| | Carol Borsman, Heike Vogel, |
| | Dave Cross, Lisa Visser, |
| | Sharon Corridan |
| Tickets | . Judy Utter |
| Photography | . Dave Cross |

BIOGRAPHIES

Jed Claus (Plain Clothesman) - Jed has been involved with the NFCT for many years. As he says, "27 shows later, the fun is still there."

Bob Erland (Owen Turner) – Bob has been involved in small ways in all this season's shows. Bob last appeared as Carter in Witness for the Prosecution. He lives in Mattituck.

Sarah Hunnewell (Irene Livingston) - With Light Up the Shy, Sarah makes her debut with the NFCT. A resident of Water Mill, she was seen most recently on the East End in the Hampton Theatre Company production of A.R. Gurney's The Dining Room. She performs frequently with Snarks, Ltd. in New York, where she appeared last month in an Alan Ayckbourn's Bedroom Farce.

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Rose Kobus (Stella) – Rose has been an active member of NFCT for eight years. She has always enjoyed working and playing at one time or another with various members of NFCT. Rose has performed in seven productions at NFCT. She has been known to "light up" the stage on occasion. She would like to thank the cast and crew of this show for all their help. Rose would like to give special thanks to her husband Mike for his time, patience and understanding. Enjoy the show and thank you all.

Dan McCarthy (Carleton Fitzgerald) – Dan last appeared as Fagin in Oliver! This is his fifth NFCT production - first as Harry Shapiro in Stalag 17, then Dr. Dreyfus in Promises, Promises, and Dr. Wyatt in Witness for the Prosecution. He is a graduate of Iona College and holds a BA in Speech and Dramatic Arts. He attended the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. A resident of Southold, Dan is an office assistant at the Traveler Watchman.

Marjory Moffat (Voice of the Parrot) – This is Marge's 20th season with the NFCT. She has acted on stage and crewed backstage in many productions. This is the first time she's acted backstage!

Scott Ryder (Sydney Black) – Scott recently appeared in Pursued, part of a trilogy of one-acts that was well received critically and publicly – produced by the Orient Point Players. Mr. Ryder originally trained at the Neighborhood Playhouse and HB Studios in Manhattan – before settling in Washington, D.C. for several years where he was co-director of Actors' Stage Studio – a Performing Arts School and Repertory Co., where he taught acting, directed, produced and managed a theater. He then moved back to his native California, where he continued to gain experience in the commercial worlds of film, stage and T.V. includig such projects as General Hospital, T.J. Hooker, Code Red, etc. He is currently staying in East Marion writing scripts he has put off for years with excuses . . . but that's another story.

Eileen Sheldon (Miss Lowell) – Eileen was recently on the Board of Directors and a member of the Play Reading Committee at NFCT. She has appeared in nearly every musical at NFCT since 1975; most recently as the Mother Superior in Sound of Music, several dramas including Da and Our Town and last Fall, A Streetcar Named Desire. As a member of the Shoreham/Wading River Community Theatre, she portrayed Mrs. Peacham in Three Penny Opera. Riverhead Faculty & Community Players, Northeast Stage Players and the Sound Shore's "Words and Music" have all seen and heard Eileen. She feels a bit type-cast for the part of Miss Lowell as she is the

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Secretarial Assistant to the Airport Manager at Suffolk County Airport as far as the typing goes, however, a literary ghost writer she is not. The cast and production staff have all been just one big happy family . . . it's been a pleasure working with each.

Priscilla Sprague (Frances Black) – Priscilla has not appeared in a comedy since NFCT's Last of the Red Hot Lovers. Her last performance was in NFCT's Witness for the Prosecution and she coproduced Oliver!

Larry Tuthill (Peter Sloan) - This is Larry's third production with the NFCT. He played Herb in Stalag 17 and the clerk in Witness for the Prosecution.

Josh Van Dyne (Sven) – This is Josh's third show at the NFCT. Other credits include Joseph and His Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Annie, The Boyfriend, and Barnum. Josh has also appeared in a Cabaret act at the Aladdin Hotel and Is an active participant in SCMEA and NYSSMA.

Ed Zaborowski (Tyler Rayburn) – Four best actor awards, two best supporting actor nominations, five best director awards! These are just a few of the honors that Ed has yet to garner! He has, however, been in numerous NFCT shows including, Barefoot in the Park, Company, Gypsy, and Our Town. There have also been involvements with the Riverhead Faculty & Community Theater (most recently Annie Get Your Gun) and Northeast Stage in Southold. Back in the real world, Ed is the manager of a video/music store in Riverhead (that's the Entertainment Emporium – there's a free plug!) He also toils away (for a little while longer) on the NFCT newsletter for those lucky (or unlucky!) enough to be paid members.

George Tibbetts (Director) - George has appeared in three NFCT productions and directed last January's Witness for the Prosecution.

Jill Cross (Producer) – This is Jill's first attempt at producing. She has found it both challenging and rewarding. She is grateful to the cast and crew for their loyal support. She would also like to thank her husband, Dave, for putting up with her preoccupation and absence in preparation for this show.

Jean Plitt (Assistant Director/Stage Manager) – Jean is a veteran stage manager with the Hampton Theatre Company including the recent production of *The Dining Room*. Her NFCT experience was as lighting technician for *Promises*, *Promises*. Having learned about Light Up the Sky two years ago, she wouldn't pass up this assignment on a bet.

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