

University Theatre presents

THE NIGHT 



THOREAU 

SPENT IN 

JAIL 

by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee

Directed by Laura Jones



THE NIGHT THOREAU SPENT IN JAIL

Scenery designed by Susan Crabtree
Costumes designed by Liam O'Brien
Lighting designed by Liza Williams
Sound designed by Jimmie Robinson

Video co-designed by
Liza Williams and Annaleigh Timmerman

Stage Manager - Faith Harbert
Assistant Stage Manager - Matt Block
Technical Director - Cory Seymour

The Cast

WALDO	Matthew Smith
LYDIAN	Soleil Lean
MOTHER	Megan Guidarelli
HENRY	Lucas Sweet
JOHN	Quentin Schroeder
BAILEY	Joey Lesiak
WIDOW BALL	Jean Schuman
ELLEN.	Erin Fried
SAM	Judd Farner
EDWARD	August Slaughter
WILLIAMS	Isaiah Kelley
JAKE.	Matt Block
POLLY.	Lindsey Beechwood
HERMAN	Bryan Nydegger
MAGGIE.	Caitlin Melby
HENRIETTA.	As herself
PERCUSSIONISTS	Shelby Christensen, Jaycee Gaspar, Sam Mitchell, Michael J. Okada, Trevor Schlosser

PLACE:

Inside the mind, memory, and dreams of Henry David Thoreau

TIME:

Mid-nineteenth Century America

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.

"The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail" is presented through special arrangements with Samuel French, Inc.

Technical Crews

Assistant Lighting Designer	Meghan Gray
Production Manager	Jimmie Robinson
Costume Shop Supervisor and Construction	Pamela Short
Technical Production Assistant	Jesse Cogswell
Assistant Stage Manager	Matt Block
Property Master	Stephanie Cluff
House Manager	Austin Hall
Videographer and Projectionist	Annaleigh Timmerman
Master Electrician	Donovan Mikrot
Electricians.	Matt Block, Jesse Cogswell, Karie Glatfeltler, Meghan Gray, Dan Minzer, Bryan Nydegger, Diedre Raph, Lucas Sweet, Summer Uyeno and Lighting Design I class
Light Board Operator	Summer Uyeno
Sound Technician	Quentin Schroeder
Sound Board Operator	Leihoku Pedersen
Carpenter	Matt Block, Michael Brooks, Meghan Gray, Gabe Manzanero, Benjamin Morse, Bryan Nydegger, Erin Reese, Quentin Schroeder, Lucas Sweet, Erik Wood-Holloway
Stage/Prop Crew	Michael Brooks, Anastasia Brown
Charge Painter	Erin Reese
Scenic Artist	Kim Ballinger, Matt Block, Maggie Fee, Meghan Gray, Austin Hall, Bryan Nydegger, Josh Savage, Lauren Schofield, Heather Solano, Lucas Sweet, Alicia Thuis, Annaleigh Timmerman
Costume Construction	Kaily Anderson, Meghan Gebhart, Kimberlee Singler, Janelle Sutton
Wardrobe Head	Robin Le Sech
Wardrobe	Karly Adams, Caleen Hale
Poster Design	Nathan Young
Publicity	Jeanna Nixon
Photography	Dustin Demonja, Summer Uyeno

Acknowledgements

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Lynn Bowling and Lincoln Center Theatre, NYC; TDFD and the Costume Collection; and Lee Hodgson, the University of Wyoming

Director's Notes

“If the law is of such a nature that it requires you to be an agent of injustice to another, then I say, break the law.”

In 1849, the young Henry David Thoreau, philosopher, poet, naturalist, penned these timeless words in his “Civil Disobedience.” Three years earlier Thoreau had refused to pay his taxes to the government, which was engaged in the Mexican War. He condemned the war as unjust – a war never formally declared, begun without Congressional authorization, a savage and bloody war fought to assuage the United States’ territorial ambitions. For his courageous and unprecedented act of protest, he was thrown in jail.

Thoreau was a man of the future. In the succeeding century, his action had worldwide repercussions. Tolstoy, author of “War and Peace,” was influenced by his stand, and Gandhi based his passive resistance campaign on the words of the philosopher of Walden Pond. Martin Luther King, Jr. noted in his autobiography that his first encounter with the idea of non-violent resistance was reading “Civil Disobedience”:

“Here, in this courageous New Englander’s refusal to pay his taxes and his choice of jail rather than support a war that would spread slavery’s territory into Mexico, I made my first contact with the theory of nonviolent resistance. I became convinced that non-cooperation with evil is as much a moral obligation as is cooperation with good.”

The purpose of the play is to go deeper than the words Thoreau wrote, to probe the turmoil out of which he wrote them. The play’s events take place in fluid time and amorphous space with no pretense at strict chronology. Thus, we are not trapped in happenings past. The explosive spirit of Thoreau leaps across the years, addressing with power and clarity the perils of his own time and, prophetically, of ours as well.

Laura Jones

A talkback with Professors Bruce Ronda and Pattie Cowell of the CSU Department of English will follow the Sunday matinee performance.



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This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KCACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KCACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC in the spring of 2008.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

University Theatre presents
Spring Semester 2008

Harold Pinter's

The Birthday Party

directed by Eric Prince
February 7 - 10, 14- 16

and

Anton Chekhov's

The Seagull

directed by Walt Jones
April 17 - 19, 24 - 27



Tonight's presentation is supported by the Rocky Mountain Chronicle, Northern Colorado's only independent, alternative newspaper. Available every Thursday throughout Larimer County.