



THE SEMINARIAN

PHILIP SCHAFER

APR 23 1976

LIBRARY

VOLUME XXVII

APRIL 22, 1976

NUMBER 20

AN INVITATION TO A CHALLENGE

What is the predicament of modern Western humanity? How can the Christian faith speak to the needs of our civilization? These are certainly questions which those of us who are or will be engaged in Christian ministry need to face. They are forcefully raised by the one act drama The Lesson by Eugene Ionesco, one of the major theatre of the absurd playwrights. The Lesson will be presented on the LTS campus on May 4 as a major part of a Readers Theatre production by Professor Duke's Religion and the Arts Class.

Theatre of the Absurd is an art form uniquely capable of expressing the dilemmas of Western civilization today. It sits before us in dramatic form the sense of meaninglessness experienced in a civilization cut loose from its moorings of common mythology and values. Modern humanity is in search of a new world view, and, in the meantime, things do tend to have an aura of absurdity, of being disjointed. Absurdity is both tragic and comic. We have to laugh at it to keep our sanity in the midst of flux. Ionesco is a master at facilitating this laughter. It is a black form of humor, but it serves to salvage perspective. Ionesco also hopes that it will destroy our illusions and defenses, thus push us along in the search for new meaning.

In this one play as in all the others, one of the major themes is the difficulty of human communication. If we all mean different things by the same words, how do we share meanings? Ionesco tries to go beyond the limitations of words by appealing to our gut reactions.

Ionesco cont. next column)

But his characters are perennially caught in the isolation and frustration of the inadequacy of words.

At the same time that he portrays the inadequacy of words for communication, in The Lesson he shows the power of those who determine the meanings of words for others. In fact, perhaps the major theme of this drama is power where it originates, how it works, and how overwhelming it is. All this is presented in a stark way with little plot but with compelling movement of rhythm and symbol.

Even for those who do not share Ionesco's view of life, The Lesson is an extremely important statement to consider. As an artist sensitive to the undercurrent of our world, he is confronting us in a prophetic way with a picture of what we are and are becoming as a civilization. He does not really offer any solution and he does not permit easy answers. But if you give him your attention, he will challenge you to consider how Christianity can and must respond to the needs he so strikingly presents.

Marilyn Martin

THANK YOU

Special thanks to Pam Moffat, Warren Beeman, Mindy McKonely, Dottie Book, Debbie Dandridge for transforming our HUB couches. That bright corner cheers up the whole HUB. Also a thank you to all who donated their time, art work, baked goods to the Art Auction-because of all your donations we have made \$162.96 toward the piano fund. Also thanks to the painters, cleaners, table movers, bulletin board organizers, etc.

Alice

THANK YOU, LTS

I would like to thank everybody for electing me as President of the SCC. I plan to give as much time as possible to serve you in the coming year. I do ask that all of you will pass on your concerns and ideas to the SCC. We will need your input.

As many of you know, it is the duty of the president to appoint chairpersons of the following: The Hub Spiritual Life Committee and the Seminarian. I am interested in hearing any feedback that you may wish to share with me about these positions.

Thank you again for your past and your future support.

Charlie Hull

LTS JACKETS

The SCC still has available, LTS windbreaker jackets in all sizes. The price of the jackets are \$12.50. Won't you consider purchasing a jacket and support the SCC. Please contact Charlie Hull if you are interested.

SCC

ASW ELECTION RESULTS

The ASW had its election for officers for next year. The results are as follows: President - Norma Hull, Vice President - Linda Turner, Secretary - Sandy Hamlin and Treasurer - Betty Dencler.

ASW would like to thank and express its appreciation to the officers this year and wish them the best in the years ahead.

RUN-OFF ELECTION

The SCC will hold a run-off election for the office of Vice-President on Tuesday - April 27. Please vote! Students in the election are Tom Webster - Elmer Scoffield.

BOY SCOUTS

Boy Scout Troop 22 has placed a wooden box in the garbage area for your news papers. Thank you

Ken Tracy

SCC ELECTION RESULTS

The Seminary Council would like to announce the results of the election of officers for the following year. President - Charlie Hull, Secretary-Treasurer - Claude Dencler, Representatives at large- Jeff Hamilton and Todd Snyder. The office of Vice-President will be decided on Tuesday with a run-off election between Elmer Scoffield and Tom Webster.

SCC

QUAD COOKOUT

The sun is shining and spring is here and it is time for a celebration. Everybody is invited to a spring picnic, Friday, April 23 at 6:30 PM. Bring your own hamburgers, hot dogs, drink, and other goodies and join in on the fun. SEE YOU THERE.

BAKE CONTEST WINNERS

The Bake contest winners were Mike Iski, 1st Prize, Debbie Dandridge, 2nd Prize and Charlotte Whiting, 3rd prize. Charlie Hull and Barb Ober received honorable mention. Congratulations!

EDITORIAL

Since learning from one's mistakes has not been apart of the American heritage, it seems that in this Bicentennial year now would be a good time to look seriously at our form of government. If one considers the democratic process to be a good way to live in freedom then each person must participate fully in exercising those responsibilities that are democratic. Both of us saw a film entitled All The President's Men and we came away convinced that America can never again take lightly the electoral process. The obsession and misuse of Presidential power turns one's stomach when the atrocities are so boldly displayed in a two hour film. Never again must we resign ourselves to thinking that our opinions and our vote is important. We can never be totally sure that those running for the Presidency are perfect, as they cannot be but we damn-well better be sure we know as much about them as we possibly can.

Nancy Lilly & Lee Jessup