

JAMES KING (Virge) — He is a member of Actors Ensemble and is on the faculty of The East Bay Center for Performing Arts, where he directs and writes for the Children's Theatre. He also teaches dramatic arts and physical comedy. James is a singer/songwriter and is writing an original musical comedy about World War III. This is his second appearance with AE; he played Weston in *5th of July* last fall.

CURTIS IMRIE (Bo) — A member of AE, he is an actor/film maker/jock/bohemian/samurai looking to do good parts in good films and plays. He last appeared with AE as Julian in Lillian Hellman's *Toys in the Attic* and is currently reigning as king of unreleased low-budget movies. Call him if you want to participate (\$\$\$) in an artistic, commercial, and cinematic breakthrough by investing completion funds in the feature film *The Lost Frontier*.

MIKEL CLIFFORD (Director) — She has directed over 100 productions for video, TV, film, and stage. She trained with Lew Christensen (ballet), Karl Wallenda (movement), Del Close (improvisation), The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (acting), Mamako (mime), Sandra Archer (commedia), and Emily Mann (directing). In 1974-75, she was a Fulbright Scholar to

Belgium and was Artist in Residence with the S.E. Alaska Arts Council the next year. She toured *The Belle of Amherst* in the upper Midwest, appeared at De Melkweg in Amsterdam, and was awarded Best Supporting Actress at the 1982 Players' International Theatre Festival in Ireland. Mikel was in the original company of Berkeley Repertory Theatre, where she worked for five years. She founded the Berkeley Shakespeare Festival. An RN, she works at Herrick Hospital in Critical Care.

Auditions for the next Actors Ensemble production, *The 1940's Radio Hour*, will be held May 5, from 1-5 p.m., and May 6, from 7-10 p.m., here at Live Oak Theatre. All are welcome.

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley is the City's oldest stage company. This production continues our 27th consecutive season in Berkeley. In addition to our four productions each season, we manage Live Oak Theatre — which is available at low cost to other performers and groups — on behalf of the City of Berkeley. For information about the Theatre, phone 841-5580. Further information about our activities is in the lobby. Please add your name to our mailing list.

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley presents

BUS STOP

by William Inge

Directed by Mikel Clifford

"At sunset, we all became quiet . . . Nothing on earth seemed of the slightest consequence; but in the sky, something important was happening. Day was being destroyed by coming night, and the burst of orange in the sky was like a final flush of blood in the body's system before a being passes away. I have seen many prairie sunsets since that time, and they always moved me to believe that there is something going on in the sky much bigger than man himself; that man's presence upon the earth is an incidental gift that we must make the most of while it lasts, even though our strivings, our creations, our sins and our virtues are all lost in infinity." — Inge

Live Oak Theatre

1301 Shattuck, Berkeley

April 12 through May 11, 1985

Produced by special arrangement with

Dramatists Play Service

ACTORS ENSEMBLE OF BERKELEY

Post Office Box 663
Berkeley, California 94701

Reservations: 528-5620

BUS STOP

Time and Location

of the play: Early March 1956 at a bus stop between Kansas City, Missouri, and Topeka, Kansas. The action takes place between 1:00 a.m. and about 5:00 a.m.

There will be a 10-minute intermission between acts. The performance will take about two hours, ten minutes.

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Elma Duckworth — Kathryn Bikle
Grace Hoylard — Peggy Bradley
Will Masters — Jim Alva
Cherie — Maria Hardy-Benjamin
Dr. Gerald Lyman — Ralph Miller
Carl — Sean Laughlin
Virgil Blessing — James King
Bo Decker — Curtis Imrie

Production Staff

Stage Manager: Lyla May
Set Designed by Ron Pratt
Constructed by Lester Kuller, Thayer Jones, John Banks, Jim Alva, Sean Laughlin, Mikel Clifford
Technical Director: Ken Lyons
Lighting Designed by Steve Hill
Operated by Raymond Turney
Music and Sound assembled by Jim Alva and Ed Collins
Operated by Raymond Turney
Properties by Virginia Miller et al
House Managed by Dolores Richardson
Box Office Managed by William Martinelli, with Virginia Miller

Publicity by Ralph Miller
Photography by George Post
Opening Night Party Arranged by Tecia Ryan

Special Thanks To

First Congregational Church, Berkeley
Stan Rosenberg and Russ Zipkin, Empire Sales, San Francisco
For Amusement Only, Berkeley
Chris Anderson, Anderson Music & Cigarette Co., San Pablo
Ashby Lumber, Berkeley
Nexus Wood Shop, Berkeley
Urban Ore Building Materials, Berkeley
Rex Shook, Advanced Business Machines, San Ramon
Plywood & Lumber Sales, Emeryville
Bob Cook, manager of Bill's Drugs, Berkeley
Emma Burks, manager of First Enterprise Bank, Berkeley

About The Cast

KATHRYN BIKLE (Elma) — *Bus Stop* is her debut with Actors Ensemble. Having recently achieved the status of Mistress of the Arts from Cal, Kathryn has entered the world of Bay Area theatre in such diverse roles as Cassandra in San Francisco Repertory Company's *Trojan Women* and a little Welsh boy in Dylan Thomas' *Child's Christmas in Wales* with Oakland's Inner Stage Company. She trains with Dana Evans.

PEGGY BRADLEY (Grace) — She has been a member of Actors Ensemble for two years. She first appeared as the mother in *Getting Out* and then stage-managed *The Dining Room*. Peggy has acted in more than 20 plays since starting her theatrical career five years ago. Some notable performances have been as Aurelia in *Letters Home*, Jane Seymour in *Royal Gambit*, and the Player Queen in *Hamlet*. Her most cherished acting award was for performing at the Kennedy Center, Washington D.C., where she was part of the chorus in *Oedipus Rex*. She has also directed plays. Peggy is a Registered Nurse and lives with her husband, David, and two cats in the Oakland Hills.

JIM ALVA (Will) — This is his first production with Actors Ensemble. He appeared last year with the Mill Valley Center for Performing Arts in *Vieux Carre* by Tennessee Williams and with Marin Theatre Artists, San Rafael, in *Lady Chatterley's Lover*. A Bay Area resident for ten years, Jim currently lives in Berkeley and is an ongoing student of Jean Shelton.

MARIA HARDY-BENJAMIN (Cherie) — She has been performing with Actors Ensemble since 1981, when she appeared in *Working*. An active member of AE, Maria's most recent appearance with the company was in last season's production of *Getting Out*. A graduate of The American Academy of Dramatic Arts, she hosts a weekly rock show on cable TV. She's president of AE.

RALPH MILLER (Dr. Lyman) — This is his 19th play with Actors Ensemble, dating back to 1970, ranging from Shaw one acts to *Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?* and including most recently *The Dining Room* ('85), *Working* ('81), *The Rainmaker* ('80), and *Pygmalion* ('79). Ralph has worked with almost all of the other community theatres in the East Bay, among them The Masquers, Contra Costa Civic Theatre, Altarena, and The Dramateurs. He lives in Berkeley and works in San Francisco in advertising.

SEAN LAUGHLIN (Carl) — He's a Berkeley native making his debut with Actors Ensemble. His credits include work with the Berkeley High School Drama Dept. and Berkeley Shakespeare Festival. He has worked as an understudy at Berkeley Repertory Theatre and recently finished his second year at The College of Marin Drama Dept. Sean is currently doing a juggling comedy review in San Francisco.