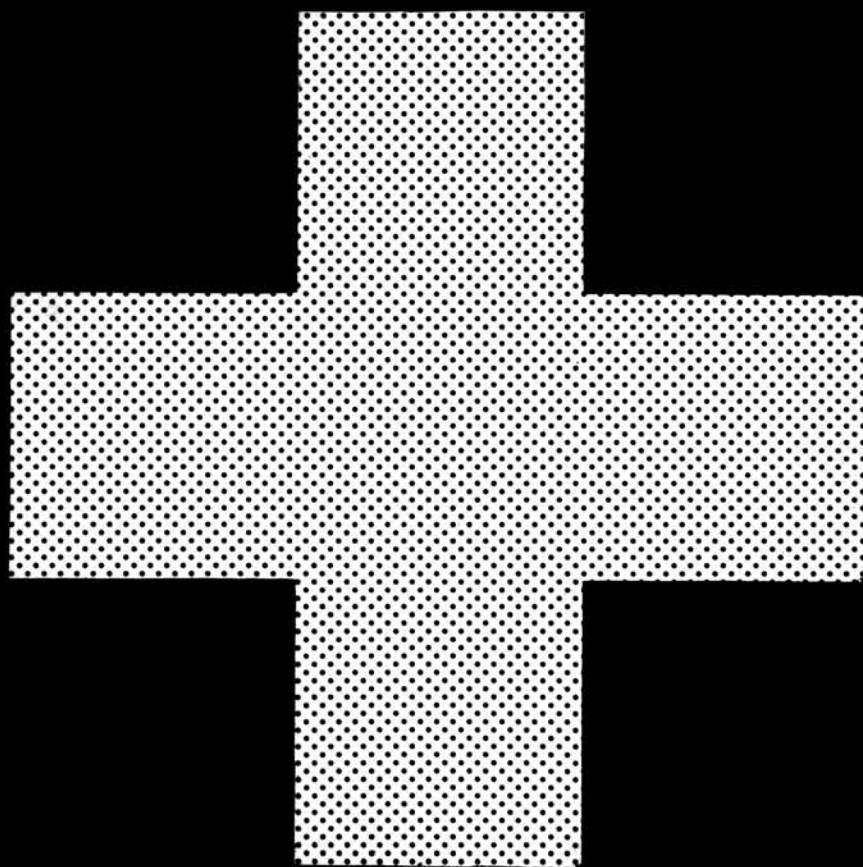


Actors Ensemble Presents  
THE BAY AREA PREMIERE of:

# EAR

Emergency Room



by  
Ronald L. Berman, M.D.,  
Zaid Farid, Richard Fire, Stuart Gordon, Gary Houston,  
Carolyn Purdy-Gordon, Tom Towles and Bruce A. Young

Directed by John Ribovich

January 22 - February 20, 1988

Live Oak Theatre

Berkeley

## CAST

in order of appearance

Jerry; Brother of John McKay	Wayne Hutton
Maria	Michelle Darby
Rosie (Day-Shift Nurse); Ambulance Attendant	Marion Novasic
Dr. Sherman	Chris Clark
Thor	Margaret Gudmundsson
Julie	Victoria Skerritt
Franklin Cunard (Headache); John McKay; Punk Boyfriend of Overdose Patient	Miguel Enguidanos
Mrs. Surath	Anne Perlin
Mr. Surath	Jack Tucker
Marilyn Freeman (Sheila's Mother); Mother of Unconscious Child; Overdose Patient	Debra Nicholson
Sheila; Float Nurse	Pauline Lorenz
Sheila's Younger Sister; Unconscious Child	Sophia Coleman
Roosevelt Jackson; William Reynolds; Stab Victim	Kevin Jones
Fred the Cop; Walter Boudreaux; Ambulance Driver	Jim Neely
James Lewis (Broken Jaw); Angry Boyfriend; Peter Woods (Jogger)	Kenneth Hayes
Helen; Irene	Virginia Romain
Dr. Sheinfeld	Tom Harrison
Pizza Delivery Man; Indian Doctor	Elan Frank

The action takes place in the Emergency Room of Lincoln Memorial Hospital on Chicago's North Side.

The events portrayed in *E/R* are based on fact. All characters portrayed are fictional. Any similarity to persons living or dead is purely coincidental.

### Act I

4:00 p.m. on Wednesday

Intermission

15 minutes

### Act II

11:00 p.m. the same day

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant Director	Maggie Speer
Stage Manager	Paula Stacey
Set Design	David C. Bradley
Set Construction	David C. Bradley Don Russell Chris Clark Kenneth Hayes Jack Tucker
Lighting Design	Miguel Enguidanos John Ribovich
Lighting Technicians	Tom Wyner Tom Enguidanos
Sound Design	John Ribovich
Sound Technicians	Tom Wyner Tom Enguidanos
Costume Design	Peggy Bradley
Program Cover Design	Matthew Ruona
Properties	Paula Stacey
Medical Consultant	Ronald L. Berman, M.D.
Publicity	Ralph Miller Deborah Ribovich
Photography	Ray Young
Box Office	William Martinelli Virginia Miller
House Manager	Mikel Clifford

## SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Paul Hallock and the E.S.P. Service Center  
Patient Care Ambulance Company of Hayward  
Children's Hospital of Oakland  
Johnston Orthopedic and Medical Supplies, Inc.  
Eden Hospital Medical Center  
First Congregational Church of Berkeley  
Ronald L. Berman, M.D.  
Don Russell  
Deborah Ribovich  
Joseph Rieger, Alta Bates Hospital  
Sara Staysa, San Jose Civic Light Opera

And LoCoco's at 1400 Shattuck Avenue in Berkeley for providing us with one of their delicious pizzas for every performance of *E/R*.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Ron Berman says that "you have to see the humor, the absurdity of it all, to last in the emergency room. If you let the tragedies get to you, you couldn't function." *E/R* is a comedy about people who deal with life-and-death situations as part of their ordinary work day. An emergency room staff has an unusual opportunity to watch the human parade in full costume dress. In a single shift the E/R staff in this play treats an extraordinary assortment of patients for everything from hypochondria to heart disease. This show distills, in its two hours, all the warmth and cynicism, the absurdity and heroics, of the emergency room itself.

### RONALD BERMAN, M.D., PLAYWRIGHT

When it comes to emergency room drama, Dr. Ronald Berman is a veteran. At the age of 42, Berman has 15 years experience in emergency rooms in inner-city and suburban hospitals, working as both an emergency physician and as director of emergency services.

A native of Chicago, Berman received his M.D. from the University of Illinois College of Medicine in 1971. During his residency in internal medicine at Illinois Masonic Hospital, he moonlighted as an emergency room physician and collected stories about emergency room life, which he shared with his old high school friend, Stuart Gordon. Gordon had become the artistic director of Chicago's Organic Theater, and he encouraged Berman to write a play based on his emergency room experiences.

Berman began collaborating on this project with Gordon and several actors from the Organic Theater. He then moved to northern California to take a position as director of emergency services at the Kaiser Foundation Hospital in Richmond. He would, however, fly back to Chicago on weekends and days off to work on the script and production of *E/R Emergency Room*, and in January 1982, the play opened to packed houses.

Then in 1983, *E/R* caught the attention of television producer Norman Lear and yet another collaboration began, this time on a new TV series. Berman worked as the medical adviser to the series, flying down to Los Angeles 2 days a week to work with the cast and crew, including the star Elliott Gould.

After 5 years of directing Kaiser Richmond's emergency room, Dr. Berman has moved on to an equally stressful position there. He is currently the chief of the department of internal medicine and lives in Berkeley with his wife, Susan, and daughter, Courtney.

### JOHN RIBOVICH, DIRECTOR

John Ribovich is active in the Bay Area as a director, teacher and poet. He has worked with young actors for many years, building a successful drama program at a South Bay high school. He has studied directing with Albert Takazaukas at ACT and directed training videos for Hewlett-Packard.

### NEXT PRODUCTION

Sandy Wilson's

## THE BOY FRIEND

Directed by George Johnson

Choreographed by Kris Bell

April 8 - May 7  
8:00 pm

Auditions for THE BOY FRIEND will be held Sunday, January 24, 1:00 to 5:00 pm and Monday, January 25, 7:00 to 10:00 pm at Live Oak Theatre.

All are welcome.

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley is the City's oldest stage company. 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.