
UTAH STATE THEATRE AND
THE SARATOGA INTERNATIONAL THEATER INSTITUTE present

THE MEDIUM

Inspired by the life and predictions of Marshall McLuhan
Conceived and Directed by Anne Bogart • Created by the SITI Company

“Since Sputnik put the globe in a ‘proscenium arch,’ and the global village has been transformed into a global theater, the result, quite literally, is the use of public space for ‘doing one's thing.’” –Marshall McLuhan

ENSEMBLE

J. Ed Araiza

Will Bond

Ellen Lauren

Kelly Maurer

Tom Nelis

Director Anne Bogart	Lighting Designer Michitomo Shiohara	Assistant to Mr. Shiohara Andrew J. Kranis
Costume Designer Gabriel Berry	Soundscape Darron L. West	Set Design Associate Anita Stewart
Dramaturg Gregory Gunter	Production Manager Andrew J. Kranis	Stage Manager Megan Wanlass
Company Manager Karenjune Sanchez	Sound Engineer Kurt Kellenberger	Managing Director Ruth Ann Nightengale

DIRECTOR'S NOTE I began thinking about the nature of theater and how it will survive in a world where the very nature of entertainment is constantly being redefined. Long a fan of media philosopher Marshall McLuhan, I decided to use his insights to create a theater piece about who we are becoming vis-a-vis the radical developments in technology that surround us. McLuhan spent his entire life exploring and criticizing our methods of communication. Towards the end of his life, he suffered a series of strokes and, with cruel irony, lost his own ability to communicate through speech.

THE COMPANY

J. Ed Araiza (Ensemble) SITI company member. NYC off-Broadway - THE MEDIUM at New York Theatre Workshop; SMALL LIVES/BIG DREAMS at P.S. 122; ORESTES at the Penn Yards and OCCASIONAL GRACE - both at En Garde Arts; WORDS DIVINE at Intar. Off-off-Broadway - Duo Theater, Theatre for the New City. Regional Theatre - Actors Theatre of Louisville: PICNIC, KEELY AND DU (original cast/1993 Humana Festival), 1969 (1994 Humana Festival), THE MEDIUM and SMALL LIVES/BIG DREAMS (Modern Masters Series); Hartford Stage: KEELY AND DU; Mixed Blood Theatre: SANTOS AND SANTOS; Modus Ensemble: ESPERANCE; Arena Stage: YERMA; A Contemporary Theatre: PRINCIPIA SCRIPTORIAE; South Coast Rep: CHARLEY BACON; Los Angeles Theatre Center: KING LEAR, TUMBLEWEED, MACBETH, and LA VICTIMA Other Theatre - Toga International Arts Festival and two years with El Teatro de la Esperanza. Film: THE RAID directed by Jose Luis Valenzuela; DISTANT WATERS and ILLEGAL both award-winning films by Carlos Avila. TV: Various soaps and episodics.

Will Bond (Ensemble) as a founding member of SITI, performed in the company's inaugural season production of Charles Mee's ORESTES and has created roles for THE MEDIUM and SMALL LIVES/BIG DREAMS, both of which have been seen at the Toga International Arts Festival in Japan, the Classics in Context Festival at Actors Theatre of Louisville, and in New York at the New York Theatre Workshop and P.S. 122, and has played the McLuhan role in THE MEDIUM in San Francisco at Theatre Artaud. Will has trained for many years with Tadashi Suzuki and the Suzuki Company of Toga (SCOT), has toured with SCOT to Japan and South America in their production of DIONYSUS, and continues to teach the Suzuki Method of Actor Training for SITI. Will had the great honor of participating in the first year of the Theatre Olympics this summer in Delphi, Greece in Robert Wilson's PERSEPHONE.

Ellen Lauren (Ensemble) As a founding member of SITI, Ms. Lauren has performed Electra in ORESTES, Agave in DIONYSUS, THE MEDIUM, as well as conducting classes for SITI in New York over the last four years. As a member of the Suzuki Company of Toga (SCOT) under the direction of Tadashi Suzuki, she has toured throughout the world; most recently returning from the Teatro Olimpico in Italy and the Theatre Olympics held in Greece. As a master teacher of the Suzuki Actor Training Method, she continues to teach both in the US as well as abroad for Mr. Suzuki, and is currently on the faculties of The Juilliard School of Drama, Columbia University, and Fordham

University. Additional credits: Daisy, THE ADDING MACHINE, Madge, PICNIC - Actors Theatre of Louisville, THE WOMEN - Hartford Stage. Four years resident company - The Milwaukee Repertory Theater; two years resident company - The Alley Theatre; six years resident company - StageWest in Massachusetts.

Kelly Maurer (Ensemble) is a founding member of SITI. She has performed with the company in ORESTES and created roles for THE MEDIUM and SMALL LIVES/BIG DREAMS both of which she performed at the Toga International Arts Festival in Japan, Saratoga Springs, New York. and at the New York Theatre Workshop and P.S. 122. Kelly has also performed with Tadashi Suzuki's Suzuki Company of Toga (SCOT) at the Toga International Arts Festival in Japan, Art Carnuntum, Vienna, and in the US at SITI. Regionally, Kelly was a company member at StageWest for five years where she portrayed, among others, the title role in HAMLET (also performed at the Toga International Arts Festival), and Hecuba in THE TROJAN WOMAN. At the Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Kelly originated the role of Rainbow in Maria Irene Fornes' AND WHAT OF THE NIGHT. Kelly recently performed in Robert Wilson's PERSEPHONE in New York and at the first annual Theatre Olympics in Delphi, Greece. She has also appeared at the Actors Theatre of Louisville and at the City Theater Company in Pittsburgh. Kelly continues to teach the Suzuki Method of Actor Training in NYC and has taught at such colleges at Mt. Holyoke, Williams, Smith, and the University of Pittsburgh.

Tom Nelis (Ensemble) a founding member of SITI, Mr. Nelis has appeared in GOING, GOING, GONE, ORESTES, DIONYSUS, and THE MEDIUM, for which he received an OBIE award. Other collaborations with director Anne Bogart include STRINDBERG SONATA, ANOTHER PERSON IS A FOREIGN COUNTRY, and MARATHON DANCING. Also in New York: THE MERCHANT OF VENICE, 'TIS PITY SHE'S A WHORE, THE TWO PARTS OF HENRY IV, at the Joseph Papp Public Theatre; and most recently THE CRYPTOGRAM, written and directed by David Mamet. MFA, UC San Diego.

Anne Bogart (Director) Co-Artistic Director of the Saratoga International Theater Institute (SITI), founded with Japanese director Tadashi Suzuki in 1992. She is a recipient of two Obie Awards, a Bessie Award and is an associate professor at Columbia University. Ms. Bogart has directed in theaters and universities throughout the United States and Europe. Recent Productions: GOING, GOING, GONE (SITI); SMALL LIVES/ BIG DREAMS (SITI); THE MEDIUM (SITI); THE ADDING MACHINE by Elmer Rice (Actors Theatre of Louisville); HOT 'N THROBBING by Paula Vogel (American Repertory Theater); MARATHON

DANCING by Laura Harrington (En Garde Arts); ESCAPE FROM PARADISE by Regina Taylor (Circle Rep.); THE WOMEN by Clare Booth Luce (Hartford Stage), PICNIC by William Inge (Actors Theatre of Louisville), and BALTIMORE WALTZ by Paula Vogel (Circle Rep.).

Gabriel Berry (Costumes) Regional Theatre: HENRY IV at American Repertory Theatre; Eric Bogosian's subURBIA at Lincoln Center Theater; and Gloria Naylor's BAILEY'S CAFE at Hartford Stage Company. Off-Broadway: Anne Bogart's MARATHON DANCING at En Garde Arts; New York Theatre Workshop design associate for UNFINISHED STORIES, OWNERS, TRAPS, LOVE AND ANGER THE INVESTIGATION OF THE MURDER IN EL SALVADOR. Other Theatre: HOW TO WALK AND ELEPHANT with Bill T. Jones and Arnie Zane Dance Company; L'ETOILE with Opera Auid in the Netherlands; YOSHIKO CHUMA'S 8 with Charleroi Dance in Belgium and a Molissa Fenley/Laurie Anderson/Kiki Smith collaboration for the Berlin Ballet.

Michitomo Shiohara (Lighting) has designed lights for the American and international premieres of the American and international premiers of THE MEDIUM and SMALL LIVES/BIG DREAM, internationally for several rock concerts and spent ten years as an actor and resident lighting designer with the Suzuki Compan of Toga. Credits there include: HOMAGE TO HOMOLUDENS, IVANOV, DIONYSUS, THE TALE OF LEAR, and WAITING FOR ROMEO. Toga International Arts Festival: resident designer working in collaboration with, among others, Garzdeniza, Lech Mackiewicz, Monica Vinao, Arden Fingerhut, and Anne Bogart.

Darron L. West (Soundscape) SITI Resident Sound Designer and company member. With the SITI company: THE MEDIUM, GOING, GOING, GONE, and SMALL LIVES/BIG DREAMS. With Anne Bogart: EYE OF THE HURRICANE, PICNIC, THE ADDING MACHINE (Actors Theatre of Louisville), and ESCAPE FROM PARADISE (Circle Rep.). His discs have rolled in New York for Circle Rep., PS 122, The Public and New York Theatre Workshop where he currently serves as Design Associate. Former Resident Designer positions for Actors Theatre of Louisville, the Williamstown Theatre Festival and the Alabama Shakespeare Festival.

Gregory Gunter (*Dramaturg*) dramaturged both THE MEDIUM and SMALL LIVES/BIG DREAMS. Regional Theatre: For Anne Bogart, he has worked as imagist on THE WOMEN at Hartford Stage Company; HOT 'N THROBBING at American Repertory Theatre and ORESTES at the Saratoga International Theater Institute. Formerly Literary Manager for the New York Theatre Workshop, he is now Literary Manager for the La Jolla Playhouse.

Megan Wanlass (*Stage Manager*) stage managed THE MEDIUM at the Southern Theater in Minneapolis and GOING, GOING, GONE at Actors Theatre of Louisville and in Saratoga Springs. Megan began working with Anne Bogart during THE ADDING MACHINE at Actors Theatre of Louisville where she also served as a stage management intern for their 1994-95 season. Other New York credits include: MY DINNER WITH GOETHE (NADA) and METESKY (78th Street Theatre Lab).

Karenjune Sanchez (*Company Manager*) is a SITI company member and appears in SITI's SMALL LIVES/BIG DREAMS. Other productions with Ms. Bogart include THE WOMEN (San Diego Repertory and Hartford Stage) and PICNIC (Actors Theatre of Louisville).

Andrew J. Kranis (*Production Manager*) has worked with SITI several times in the past, as Assistant Director and Japanese-English Interpreter, and stage managed SITI's West Coast premiere of THE MEDIUM at Theatre Artaud in San Francisco. As a director, he has worked at New York Theatre Workshop, NYU, and Dixon Place.

Ruth Ann Nightengale (*Managing Director*) has served on the administrative staffs of theatre companies in New York and Chicago including Manhattan Theatre Club, The American Jewish Theatre, Actors' Rep, the Unrealistic Theatre Company, and others. While working towards her masters degree from Brooklyn College, Ms. Nightengale worked with the Goldman Memorial Band, Liz Dunn Production/Management, and the League of Resident Theatres.

The New York City premiere of THE MEDIUM was presented by New York Theatre Workshop. • The development of THE MEDIUM was made possible in part by the generous support of Arts International, the AT&T Foundation, and the Japan-U.S. Freindship Commission. SITI also receives funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and the New York State Council on the Arts. Tonight's production is made possible through the generous support of the

Marie Eccles Caine Foundation

MARSHALL MC LUHAN

Marshall McLuhan (1911-1980) gained his reputation as "oracle of the electronic age" by arguing that human societies are influenced more by forms of communication than by content. "All media work us over completely," McLuhan wrote, "They are so pervasive in their personal, political economic, aesthetic, psychological, moral, ethical, and social consequences that they leave no part of us untouched, unaffected, unaltered. The medium is the message. Any understanding of social and cultural change is impossible without a knowledge of the way media work as environments."

Born in Alberta, Canada, McLuhan moved from graduate studies in literature in the 1930s to a 1940s post-graduate fascination with American popular culture. In 1963, the University of Toronto acknowledged his ascendancy to "guru of communications" by naming him the first director for its Center for Culture and Technology. McLuhan's two major works were published in the 1960s: "The Gutenberg Galaxy: The Making of Typographic Man" and "Understanding Media: The Extension of Man." In these, McLuhan argued that electronic media of the modern era are reshaping civilization by "moving us out of the age of the visual (brought about by the rise of the printing press) into the age of the aural and tactile." This redistribution of sensory awareness signified, for McLuhan, a return to our tribal roots. Also, the immediacy of electronic media promised a return to our tribal village, but on a global scale.

Hailed as a prophet and dismissed as a charlatan, McLuhan provoked passionate response with his literary/graphic "probes." One scholar, James P. Carey thought of McLuhan as a poet whose work "represents a secular prayer to technology, a magical incarnation of the gods, designed to quell one's fears that, after all, the machines may be taking over. . . McLuhan himself is a medium and that is his message."

The **SARATOGA INTERNATIONAL THEATER INSTITUTE (SITI)** is an ensemble-based company whose three ongoing components are the creation of new work, the training of young theatre artists, and a commitment to forming partnerships with international collaborators. The SITI company is comprised of J. Ed Araiza, Will Bond, Leon Ingulsrud, Ellen Lauren, Kelly Maurer, Jefferson Mays, Tom Nelis, Barney O'Hanlon, Karenjune Sanchez, Megan Wanlass, Stephen Webber, and Darron L. West.

SITI was founded in 1992 by Anne Bogart and Tadashi Suzuki to redefine and revitalize contemporary theater in the United States through an emphasis on international cultural exchange and collaboration. Originally envisioned as a summer institute in Saratoga Springs, New York, SITI has expanded to encompass a year-round program based in New York City with a summer season in Saratoga. SITI believes that contemporary American theatre must necessarily incorporate artists from around the world and learn from the resulting cross-cultural exchange of dance, music, art, and performance experiences. **THE MEDIUM** was voted best visiting production at the 1995 Irish Life Dublin Theatre Festival. SITI's **SMALL LIVES/BIG DREAMS** will be featured in this summer's Olympic Arts Festival in Atlanta.

For more information on SITI performances, Viewpoint training, Suzuki training, the summer institute at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, or the recently published book *Anne Bogart: Viewpoints*, contact Managing Director Ruth Ann Nightengale at the SITI office (212) 873-2155 or write to SITI at 236 West 78th Street, New York, NY 10024, USA. E-mail: SITIco@aol.com