

ONSTAGE

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SITI COMPANY IN

“WAR OF THE WORLDS” - “THE RADIO PLAY”

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2003 AT 8PM

John C. Evans Hall, Cummings Arts Center, Connecticut College



onStage at Connecticut College

presents

WAR OF THE WORLDS - THE RADIO PLAY

Radio Play by Howard Koch

Based on the novel by H. G. Wells

Directed by Anne Bogart & Darron L. West

Performed by SITI Company

- THE CAST -
alphabetical order

AKIKO AIZAWA*
J. ED ARAIZA*
WILL BOND*
JEFFREY FRACÉ*
SUSAN HIGHTOWER*
BARNEY O'HANLON*
STEPHEN WEBBER*

Directors	Anne Bogart and Darron L. West
Lighting Designer	Brian H. Scott
Costume Designer	James Schuette**
Sound Designer	Darron L. West**
Company Stage Manager	Elizabeth Moreau*
Development Director	Maureen Towey
Managing Director	MeganWanlass Szalla

*Members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers of the United States.

**Member of the United Scenic Artists Union (USA). Anne Bogart is a member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, Inc. (SSD&C) an independent national labor union.

War of the Worlds is performed with permission of Anne Koch.

It premiered October 30, 1999 at The West Bank Café in New York City.

Please join us for a discussion with the artists immediately following the performance.

Running time is approximately 1 hour with no intermission.

Please turn off cell phones, beepers and watches. Unwrap candy and cough drops now to avoid distracting noises during the performance. The taking of photographs and recording of this performance is strictly prohibited.

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- DIRECTOR'S NOTES -

On the foggy fall evening of October 30, 1938, America went to war with Mars!! Adapted for radio by Howard Koch and starring Orson Welles, *War of the Worlds* was presented as a Halloween thriller, or as Welles put it: "The Mercury Theatre's own radio version of dressing up in a sheet and jumping out of a bush and saying 'boo!!'" But, for those who tuned in late, "normal" programming appeared to be interrupted with the startling news that there were "explosions occurring on Planet Mars!" Reports followed stating that a "huge, flaming object" had fallen to earth on a farm near Grover's Mill, New Jersey. More landings were soon reported and an anxious radio audience came to the frightening conclusion the Earth was the target of a full-scale invasion by aliens!!

War of the Worlds is the program that terrified a nation. Thousands fled their homes in panic. In New York City, swarms of curious and frightened citizens crowded the streets to catch a glimpse of a "real space battle." In the town of Grover's Mill, the local water tower was pumped full of buckshot as frightened believers fired at what they thought was a "giant Martian war machine." The true power of broadcast made itself known on this Halloween Eve in 1938, and no one has forgotten the chilling fear and awesome force of this, radio's single most famous broadcast.

Now, 63 years after the original broadcast, this radio classic comes to life as performed by the SITI Company. This staged version of the H. G. Wells/Howard Koch/ Orson Welles/Mercury Theatre on the Air *War of the Worlds* is part of the SITI Company's investigation into the life and work of the genius Orson Welles for our production, also entitled *War of the Worlds*, about this extraordinary American artist. Written by Naomi Iizuka, *War of the Worlds* premiered at the Humana Festival of New American Plays at Actors Theatre of Louisville in March of 2000.

We hope you will enjoy this evening as much as we have enjoyed the preparation of it for you.

- THE SITI COMPANY -

SITI Company, in its second decade of activity, began as an agreement between Tadashi Suzuki and Anne Bogart to establish a new venture in the United States that would emphasize international cultural exchange and collaboration. SITI believes in a commitment to the power of the theater as a source of spiritual strength in the contemporary global environment. Originally envisioned as a summer institute in Saratoga Springs, NY, SITI grew quickly into a year-round theater company based in New York City with an office and studio. Saratoga Springs is now SITI's summer home.

An ensemble-based theater company, SITI exemplifies the disciplines it practices and the artistic values it develops in its work. The company's mission is to create new works for the theater, to perform and tour these productions nationally and internationally, to provide ongoing training for young theater professionals in an approach to acting that forges unique and highly disciplined artists for the theater, and to foster opportunities for cultural exchange with theater professionals and audiences from all over the world.

In addition to Artistic Director Anne Bogart, SITI Company is comprised of ten actors, five designers, a playwright, stage manager, development director and managing director. The company represents a change in thinking about the relationships between artists and institutions. One way SITI is accomplishing its mission is by integrating into other organizations of the existing American and international theater systems. Examples include our ongoing relationships with Wexner Center for the Arts; Actors Theatre of Louisville; the Walker Art Center; Performing Arts Chicago; On the Boards; Magic Theatre; Krannert Center; Miami Light Project; Theater Emory;

Classic Stage Company and the Brooklyn Academy of Music. SITI affiliations with universities include New York University; The Juilliard School; Columbia University; The Ohio State University; Miami University; University of Minnesota; University of Louisville; Ohio University; Utah State University; Emory University and St. Edward's University. Every June, the Company continues to gather for our annual Summer Intensive at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs. Internationally, SITI has performed and led training in Japan, Germany, France, the Czech Republic, Wales, the Georgian Republic, Ireland, Turkey, Italy, Australia, Canada, Colombia, Scotland, England, Israel, Denmark and Holland.

Recently SITI premiered Marivaux's *La Dispute* at the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge and *Nicholas & Alexandra* at Los Angeles Opera. Other SITI productions include: *Orestes*; *The Medium*; *Small Lives/Big Dreams*; *Going, Going, Gone*; *Miss Julie*; *Culture of Desire*; *Bob*; *Private Lives*; *Alice's Adventures*; *Cabin Pressure*; *War of the Worlds*; *Room*; *bobrauschenbergamerica*; *Hayfever* and *Score*. Future productions include: *systems/layers* (a collaboration with music group Rachel's); *Death and the Ploughman*; *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Reunion*.

SITI Company's Fall Training Studio in both the Suzuki Method of Actor Training and the Viewpoints will be held in the company's New York City studio, November 4th through December 19th. For information regarding this program and other programming, please call the SITI office at 212.868.0860.

SITI Company is: Akiko Aizawa, J. Ed Araiza, Anne Bogart, Will Bond, Susan Hightower, Leon Ingulsrud, Ellen Lauren, Kelly Maurer, Charles L. Mee, Jr., Elizabeth Moreau, Tom Nelis, Barney O'Hanlon, Neil Patel, James Schuette, Brian Scott, Mimi Jordan Sherin, Megan Wanlass Szalla, Stephen Webber and Darron L West

SITI Company Board of Directors: Matthew Bregman, Lynn Cohen, Ron Cohen, Barbara Olsen Cummings, Jim Cummings, Lauren Flanigan, Nicole Borrelli Hearn, Cherry Jones, Thomas Mallon, Mary O'Connor, Daniel C. Smith, John Wessel, and Jaan Whitehead (Board Chair)

SITI Company Associates: Shawn Fagan, Jeffrey Fracé, Christopher Healy, Mark Huang, Kurt Kellenberger, and Donnie Mather

SITI Company Staff & Interns: Megan Wanlass Szalla, Managing Director; Maureen Towey, Development Director; Elizabeth Moreau, Company Stage Manager; Joan Jubett, Barbara Lanciers, Lisa Mercer, Lucy Smith, interns

Consultants: Ellen Pearre Cason, Accountant; Brenda Dickey, Travel Agent; James Harley, Graphic Designer; Thomas Mallon, Attorney; Kay Mitchell, Development; David Herrick, Public Relations

Contact Information: For further details about any of SITI's productions or training programs, please feel free to contact us at:

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To become a contributor to the SITI Company, please call the SITI office for further information at 212.868.0860. All donations listed in this program include gifts and pledges received through September 25, 2003.

- BIOGRAPHIES -

ANNE BOGART is the artistic director the SITI Company, which she founded with Japanese director Tadashi Suzuki in 1992. She is a recipient of 2 Obie Awards, a Bessie Award, a Guggenheim Fellowship and is an associate professor at Columbia University where she runs the Graduate Directing Program. Recent works with SITI include *La Dispute; Score; bobrauschenbergamerica; Room; War of the Worlds; Cabin Pressure; The Radio Play; Alice's Adventures; Culture of Desire; Bob; Going, Going, Gone; Small Lives/Big Dreams; The Medium*; Noel Coward's *Hay Fever* and *Private Lives*; August Strindberg's *Miss Julie*; and Charles Mee's *Orestes*. Other recent productions: *Nicholas and Alexandra*, Los Angeles Opera, *Marina A Captive Spirit* (American Opera Projects), *Lilith* and *Seven Deadly Sins* (New York City Opera).

AKIKO AIZAWA, actor, has been a member of SITI Company since 1997, after 7 years as a member of the Suzuki Company of Toga. With SITI: *La Dispute, bobrauschenbergamerica, War of the Worlds, War of the Worlds - The Radio Play* and *Culture of Desire*. Roles with SCOT include: *The Trojan Women, Three Sisters, Dionysus, Macbeth* and *Ivanov*. Other Productions: *Beckett in Circles* (dir. by Lech Mackiewicz), *Death of a Salesman*, and *Moby Dick* (dir. by Leon Ingulsrud). Theatres/Festivals include: American Repertory Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, BAM's Next Wave Festival, Edinburgh International Festival, Colombia International Festival, New York Theatre Workshop, Swine Palace, Toga Festival-Japan, Melbourne Spoleto Festival, ITI International Theatre Festival-Helsinki.

J. ED ARAIZA, actor, SITI Company credits include: *bobrauschenbergamerica, Culture of Desire, The Medium, Small Lives/Big Dreams, War of the Worlds* and *War of the Worlds - The Radio Play* at Actors Theatre of Louisville, New York Theatre Workshop, Walker Arts Center, City Theatre in Pittsburgh, Wexner Center, Theatre Artaud in San Francisco, Dublin Theatre Festival, Toga Arts Festival, Olympic Arts festival, Joe's Pub at The Public Theatre, The Kennedy and Edinburgh International Festival and other venues. Regional Theater: *The Cure at Troy*, Yale Rep.; *Santos and Santos*, Mixed Blood Theatre; *Keely and Du* (original cast), Hartford Stage and ATL; 1969 and *Picnic*, ATL; *Yerma*, Arena stage; *Principia Scriptoria*, A Contemporary Theatre; *Charley Bacon*, South Coast Rep.; *King Lear, Macbeth, La Victima*,

Los Angeles Theatre Center. Off Broadway; *Orestes*, *Occasional Grace*, En Garde Arts; *Words Divine*, Intar; *Eastern Standards*, Duo Theatre; *Body Game*, Theatre for the New City; *Raft of the Medusa*, Minetta Lane Theatre. He has written the original plays *MEDEASTORIES* and *C/O THE GROVE*, both of which he directed in Austin, Texas. J. Ed was a member of El Teatro de la Esperanza and is a member of the Dramatist Guild.

WILL BOND, actor, has created roles for SITI and toured the U.S. and internationally in *The Medium* (an Obie winner), *Small Lives/Big Dreams*, *Culture of Desire*, *Bob* (Obies for light and sound and three Drama Desk Nominations), *War of the Worlds*, *War of the Worlds - The Radio Play*, *Cabin Pressure*, *bobrauschenbergamerica*, *La Dispute* and *Lilith* and *Seven Deadly Sins* at New York City Opera. He has toured with Tadashi Suzuki and SCOT in *Dionysus* and with Robert Wilson's *Persephone*. Recent roles outside SITI include *MacBeth*, *The Lover* and *Creditors* at Actors Theatre of Louisville where he is an associate artist. His regional works include: *Mystery of Irma Vep*, *Greater Tuna*, *Greetings*, *Holiday*, *Night Must Fall*, *Tempest*, *Hamlet*.

SUSAN HIGHTOWER is an actor with SITI and company member, her performances include, *Alice's Adventures*, *Hayfever*, *War of the Worlds - The Radio Play* (Nat'l Tour), *Culture of Desire* (UIS New York Theatre Workshop), *Cabin Pressure* (Jerusalem) and *Orestes*; Off Broadway: *The Bitter Tears of Petra von Kant* (Henry Miller's Theatre), *Mad Shadows* (HERE), *Martini Ceremony* (Mazer), and Chuck Mee's *Agamemnon 2.0* (Access Theatre); regional: *Hamlet*, *Holiday Memories* (Stage West); additional credits: *Hedda Gabler*, *Play, Come and Go* (Virginia Waterfront Festival), *Death of a Salesman* (LSU-Baton Rouge), *Saint Joan* (Guest Artist - Old Dominion University).

ELIZABETH MOREAU is the company stage manager with SITI Company, she has worked on the creation of *systems/layers*, *La Dispute*, *Score*, *Hayfever*, and *bobrauschenbergamerica*. Additionally she toured with *Room*, *Bob*, *War of the Worlds*, *War of the Worlds - The Radio Play*, and *Cabin Pressure* to theaters including: Actors Theater of Louisville, ATL's Humana Festival of New American Plays, the Wexner Center for the Arts, Performing Arts Chicago, Stamford Center for the Arts, UCLA, Krannert Performing Arts Center, On the Boards, the Edison Theater in St. Louis, the B.I.T.E Festival, London, and the Israel Festival, Jerusalem. In addition to work with SITI Company, Elizabeth spends her Julys working with the O'Neill Playwrights Conference as Production Stage Manager. In New York, she has worked on the Broadway productions of *Dirty Blonde*, *Bells are Ringing*, and *Getting and Spending*, as well as *Kit Marlowe* and *In the Blood* at The Public, *Avow* at the Century Center, *Lydie Breeze* and *What You Get and What You Expect* with New York Theatre Workshop, *Dream True* and *Mercy* at the Vineyard, and *Red* and *The Memory of Water* at Manhattan Theatre Company.

BARNEY O'HANLON, actor, has been collaborating with Anne Bogart since 1986. As a member of SITI he has performed nationally and internationally in productions of *La Dispute*, *Hay Fever*, *bobrauschenbergamerica*, *War of the Worlds*, *War of the Worlds - The Radio Play*, *Cabin Pressure*, *Culture of Desire* and *Small Lives/Big Dreams*. He recently choreographed and performed in the world premiere of *Lilith*, at New York City Opera and *Seven Deadly Sins* also at NYCO, all with SITI. Other Bogart collaborations include productions at the Alley Theatre, Trinity Rep., River Arts Rep., and Opera/Omaha. Other regional credits include Tina Landau's *1969* at ATL, *Stonewall: Night Variations* for EnGarde Arts, *Deadly Virtues* and *Hamlet* at ATL, and Jon Robins Baitz' *A Fair Country* for Steppenwolf. His choreography has appeared at BAM's Harvey Theater, New York Theatre Workshop, and at the Prince Music Theatre. He has worked with choreographers Doug Varone, Doug Elkins, Spencer/Colton, Creach/Koester, and directors Robert Wilson, Richard Foreman, Molly Smith, and Brian Jucha.

JAMES SCHUETTE is the designer, his previous work at BAM/Next Wave Festival includes Laurie Anderson's *Songs and Stories from Moby Dick*, Chuck Mee's *Big Love*, and SITI Company's *War of the Worlds*. As a member of SITI Company he has designed 14 productions including *Bob*, *Culture of Desire*, *Room* and *Score*. His work has been seen at the Goodman Theatre, Old Globe, Berkeley Rep, Mark Taper Forum, Long Wharf, Yale Rep, Prince Music Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, EnGarde Arts, New York Theatre Workshop, The Public Theater, Manhattan Theatre Club, Playwrights Horizons, American Repertory Theatre, Glimmerglass Opera, Houston Grand Opera, New York City Opera, Opera

Colorado and Santa Fe Opera. Upcoming projects include *Homebody/Kabul*, at the Mark Taper Forum, *Guilio Caesare* at Houston Grand Opera, *Carmen* at Seattle Opera and *Nixon in China*.

BRIAN SCOTT, designer, is a SITI Company member and has designed lighting for *bobrauschenbergamerica*, and *War of the Worlds - The Radio Play*. Additionally, he recreates designs originated by Mimi Jordan Sherin, Christopher Akerlind for company productions presented nationally and internationally. Most recently he designed light for, *Marina: A Captive Spirit* w/American Opera Projects; *Twisted Olivia* w/members of the Ridiculous Theatre Company; *Showpeople* w/Anne Bogart @ Exit ART; *Death of A Salesman* in Baton Rouge, L.A. As a Company Member/Collaborator he has designed, *How Late It Was How Late* (Production Design); *Requiem for Tesla*; *El Parasio*; *Big Love* and *Lipstick Traces* with Austin Theatre Company, the Rude Mechs. Other recent projects include the design for *Gertrude and Alice* in London for the Foundry Theatre directed by Anne Bogart, the design for *La Femme de Chambre* in Paris with Banal Molotov and the design for *Trojan Women* at Williamsburgh College directed by Will Bond.

MEGAN WANLASS SZALLA, managing director, has been a SITI Company member since 1995. Megan was the company stage manager for 5 years prior to becoming SITI's Managing Director. She began working with Anne Bogart during *The Adding Machine* at Actors Theatre of Louisville. She has an Arts Administration Certificate from New York University, attended the Executive Program for Non-Profit Leaders at Stanford University Business School and was a member of the Arts Leadership Institute Charter Class at Teachers College, Columbia University. Megan is currently on the board of an arts and entertainment alumni organization for her alma mater, Occidental College.

STEPHEN WEBBER, actor, has performed with SITI in theaters all over the U.S. and at festivals around the world including The Kennedy Center, The Edinburgh International Theatre Festival, The BAM Next Wave Festival, The Humana Festival of New American Plays, Teatro Iberoamericano-Bogota and the Toga International Arts Festival. SITI credits: *War of the Worlds* (Orson Welles), *Cabin Pressure*, *Private Lives*, *La Dispute*, *The Medium*, *War of the Worlds - The Radio Play*, *Culture of Desire*, *Going, Going, Gone*, *Hayfever* and *Short Stories*; Off Broadway: *Trojan Women/A Love Story* at En Garde Arts and *Culture of Desire* at New York Theatre Workshop; regional theater: American Repertory Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Stage West, Portland Stage Company, City Theatre in Pittsburgh, and Milwaukee Repertory Theater.

DARRON L. WEST, co-director/designer, SITI Company member since 1993 and first collaborated with Anne Bogart in 1990 while resident sound designer at Actors Theatre of Louisville. Since joining SITI Company, he has designed every show in the company's repertoire with *Bob* garnering a 1999 Obie Award and Drama Desk nomination for its Soundscape. He is a design associate and "Usual Suspect" at New York Theatre Workshop, a three time Drama Desk, a two time American Theatre Wing Nominee for Sound Design, and a 2000 Entertainment Design EDDY award winner. Directing credits include Charles L. Mee's production *Big Love* with Rude Mechanicals (Austin, Texas), *Euridice* by Sarah Ruhl at Children's Theatre Company and The SITI Company's *War of the Worlds - The Radio Play* (National Tour).

JEFFREY FRACÉ, actor with SITI: *Hayfever*, *War of the Worlds - the Radio Play*, *Culture of Desire*; with Anne Bogart: *American Silents*; others: *Cymbeline* (New York Shakespeare Festival), Gogol's *Marriage* (Caux, Switzerland), Chuck Mee's *Agamemnon 2.0*, Mac Wellman's *Dracula*; dance theatre: *The Thinnest Woman...* (Joyce Soho), *Our Blood* (Wax), *Teaspoon Sun* (HERE); directing: *The Story of Little Horse*, *In My Bedroom*, *Don Giovanni*, *The Stranger*. MFA, Columbia University.



UPCOMING PERFORMANCES



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Saturday, November 8, 8:00pm
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HABIB KOITE AND BAMADA WORLD MUSIC
Friday, February 13, 8:00pm
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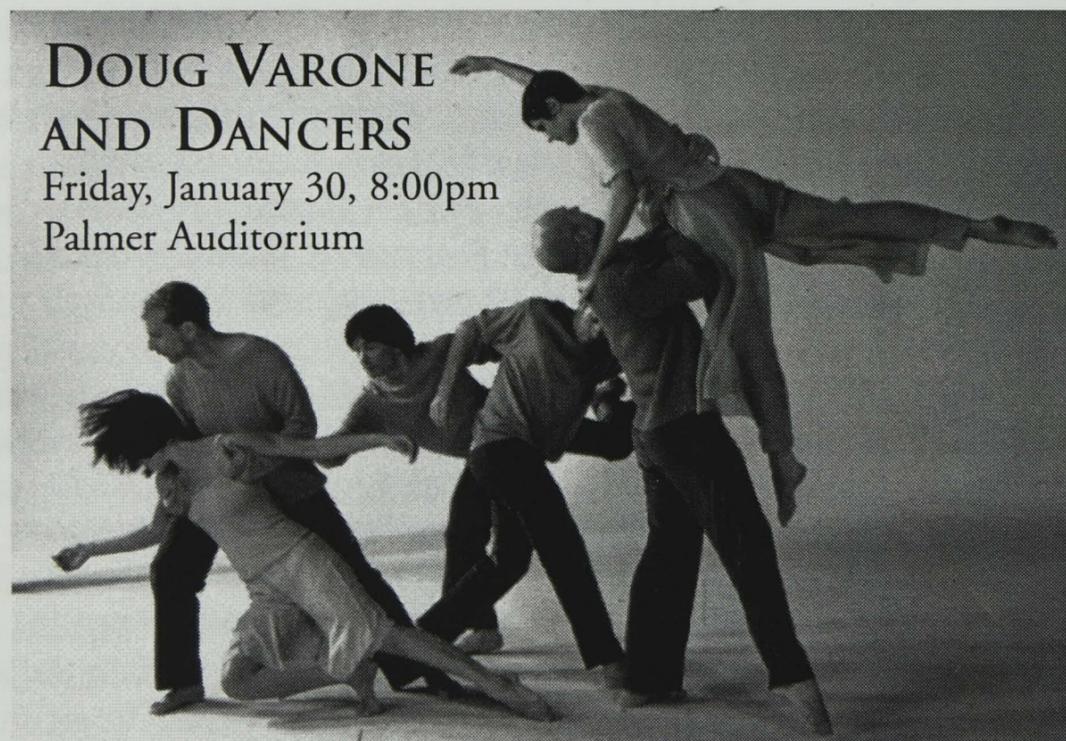
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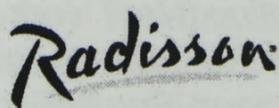
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