



HOPKINS CENTER

presents

Death and the Ploughman
SITI Company

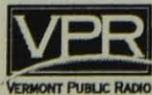
directed by Anne Bogart

translated by Michael West

original work by Johannes von Saaz

This performance is made possible in part by generous support from the David H. Hilton 1951 Fund #2, the Robert Grinnell Fund and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Cosponsored by



Tuesday, September 28 & Wednesday, September 29 • 7 pm
The Moore Theater • Dartmouth College

CAST

Ploughman.....Will Bond*
Woman.....Ellen Lauren*
Death.....Stephen Webber*

PRODUCTION STAFF

Set & Costume Design.....James Schuette**
Lighting Design.....Brian H. Scott
Sound Design.....Darron L West**
Company Stage Manager.....Elizabeth Moreau*
Development Director.....Maureen Towey
Managing Director.....Megan Wanlass Szalla

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

**Members of the United Scenic Artists Union (USA).

Anne Bogart is a member of SSDC, the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers Inc., an independent national labor union.

National Tour Representation through June 30, 2005:

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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I encountered Death and the Ploughman at the tiny Gate Theater in London two years ago and it stopped me in my tracks. The profundity and continued relevance of this text, written in 1401 in German, in Bohemia at a paradigm-shifting moment in human history, is a remarkable human achievement. It was written at a time when the theretofore accepted medieval sensibilities were suddenly called into question—faith, the meaning of life, religious hierarchy, authority—leading to the start of the Renaissance.

Today we are undergoing another paradigm shift where religion, values, and meaning must be examined from fresh new angles. This play by Johannes von Saaz can be a great help to us now. Listen closely and be transformed.

Anne Bogart

CONNECTING HOP ARTISTS TO THE COMMUNITY

At Dartmouth, SITI Company director Anne Bogart led an informal discussion with Department of Theater students and faculty.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

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, 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, 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.

SITI recently premiered *systems/layers* (a collaboration with music group Rachel's). Last season, SITI premiered *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at San Jose Repertory Theatre and *Death and the Ploughman* at the Wexner Center. 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*, *bobraschenbergamerica*, *Hayfever*, *La Dispute* and *Score*. Future productions include: *Macbeth*, *Intimations for Saxophone*, *Insult to the Brain*, *Hotel Cassiopeia* and *Reunion*.

SITI Company performed *War of the Worlds-The Radio Play* at the Hopkins Center on October 6, 2001.

For Information regarding SITI Company's New York City Fall Training Studio beginning in October in both the Suzuki Method of Actor Training and the Viewpoints, please call the SITI Office at 212.868.0860.

Anne Bogart director is the Artistic Director of SITI Company, which she founded with Japanese director Tadashi Suzuki in 1992. She is a recipient of two Obie Awards, a Bessie Award, a Guggenheim and a Rockefeller Fellowship and is an Associate Professor at Columbia University, where she runs the Graduate Directing Program. Recent Works with SITI include *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *La Dispute*, *Score*, *bobraschenbergamerica*, *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 *Hayfever* and *Private Lives*, August Strindberg's *Miss Julie*, and Charles Mee's *Orestes*. Other recent productions include *Nicholas and Alexandra* (Los Angeles Opera), *Marina: A Captive Spirit* (American Opera Projects), *Lilith* and *Seven Deadly Sins* (New York City Opera). She is the author of a book of essays entitled *A Director Prepares: Seven Essays on Art and Theater*.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS CONTINUED

Will Bond performer 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*, *Death and the Ploughman*, 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. Regional works include *Mystery of Irma Vep*, *Greater Tuna*, *Holiday Greetings*, *Night Must Fall*, *Tempest*, and *Hamlet*. Will is a recently appointed Artist-In-Residence at Skidmore College.

Ellen Lauren performer is Associate Artistic Director for SITI. National and international venues: *Room*; *bobrauschenbergamerica*; *Death and the Ploughman*; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; *War of the Worlds*; *Cabin Pressure*; *The Medium*; *Culture of Desire*; *Going, Going, Gone*; *Orestes*. ART in Cambridge: *La Dispute* (Egle). Actors Theatre of Louisville (ATL): *Hay Fever* (Judith); *Miss Julie* (Julie); *Private Lives* (Amanda). For the last 13 years, ongoing classes and residencies in the U.S. and abroad, including annual summer intensive in Saratoga Springs. Additional credits include *The Adding Machine* (ATL), *Picnic* (ATL), *The Women* (Hartford Stage) and *Seven Deadly Sins* (New York City Opera—Kosovar Award for Anna II), all with Anne Bogart. Resident company member: Stage West (Springfield, Mass.); The Milwaukee Repertory; The Alley Theatre (Houston). Ongoing guest Artist, 14 years, The Suzuki Company, under the direction of Tadashi Suzuki, touring North and South America, Europe, Russia and Japan. Ongoing faculty member 8 years: The Juilliard School of Drama, New York City, Associate Director Summer Training Program, Toga, Japan.

Elizabeth Moreau company stage manager has worked with SITI on the creation of *Death and the Ploughman*,

A Midsummer Night's Dream, *systems/layers*, *La Dispute*, *Score*, *Hayfever*, *Marina: A Captive Spirit*, and *bobrauschenbergamerica*. She has toured with these pieces as well as *Room*, *Bob*, *War of the Worlds*, *War of the Worlds—The Radio Play*, and *Cabin Pressure* to theaters including Actors Theatre of Louisville, the American Repertory Theatre, San Jose Repertory Theater, Classic Stage Company, the Wexner Center for the Arts, Performing Arts Chicago, Stamford Center for the Arts, UCLA, Krannert Performing Arts Center, On the Boards, the B.I.T.E. Festival, London, the Israel Festival, Jerusalem, the Bonn Biennale, the Brooklyn Academy of Music and White Oak. In addition to work with SITI Company, Elizabeth spent two summers working with the O'Neill Playwrights Conference as Production Stage Manager. She has worked on the Broadway productions of *Dirty Blonde*, *Bells are Ringing*, and *Getting and Spending*, as well as productions of *Trust* with the Play Company, *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, *Red* and *The Memory of Water* at Manhattan Theatre Company, and *Romeo and Juliet* at the Stonington Opera House in Maine.

James Schuette costume designer has designed 14 productions as a member of SITI, 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. Work at the 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* and *bobrauschenbergamerica*. Upcoming projects include *Homebody/Kabul*, at the Mark Taper Forum, *Guilio Caesare* at Houston

ABOUT THE ARTISTS CONTINUED

Grand Opera, *Carmen* at Seattle Opera and *Nixon in China*.

Brian Scott lighting designer is a SITI Company member and has designed lighting for *systems/layers*, *Death and the Ploughman*, *bobrauschenbergamerica*, and *War of the Worlds—The Radio Play*. Additionally, he recreates designs originated by Mimi Jordan Sherin and Christopher Akerlind for company productions presented nationally and internationally. Most recently he designed lights for *The Importance of Being Earnest* at the Arena Stage, *Marina: A Captive Spirit* with American Opera Projects, *Twisted Olivia* with members of the Ridiculous Theatre Company, *Showpeople* with Anne Bogart at Exit ART, *MacBeth* (scenic and lighting design), *The Laramie Project* and *Death of A Salesman* in Baton Rouge, LA and *Cherrywood*, *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, and the design for *La Femme de Chambre* in Paris with Banal Molotov.

Megan Wanlass Szalla managing director has been a SITI Company member since 1995. Megan was the company stage manager for five 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.

Stephen Webber performer 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, The Wexner Center for the Arts, The Israel Theater Festival and the Toga International Arts Festival, Japan. SITI credits include *Death and the Ploughman*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *War of the Worlds*, *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*. He has also performed in two operas with Anne Bogart and SITI, *Nicholas and Alexandra* at Los Angeles Opera and *Marina: A Captive Spirit* at American Opera Projects. Off Broadway credits include *Trojan Women/A Love Story* at En Garde Arts and *Culture of Desire* at New York Theatre Workshop. Regional Theaters include American Repertory Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, San Jose Repertory Theater, Stage West, Portland Stage Company, Magic Theater, City Theatre in Pittsburgh, and Milwaukee Repertory Theater.

Darron L West soundscape has been a SITI Company member since 1993, and first collaborated with Anne Bogart in 1990 while resident sound designer at Actors Theatre of Louisville. In 1999, his soundscape for SITI's *Bob* garnered an 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, two time American Theatre Wing nominee for Sound Design, and a 2000 Entertainment Design EDDY award winner. Directing credits include *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* (Children's Theater Company Minneapolis), *Kid Simple* (2004 Humana Festival of New Plays at Actors Theater of Louisville), *Big Love* (Rude Mechanicals Austin, Texas), *Eurydice* (Children's Theatre Company) and SITI Company's *War of the Worlds—The Radio Play* (National Tour).

Michael West translator has written or translated for productions in the Netherlands, France, the UK, Canada and the US, as well as Ireland. He has worked extensively for The Corn Exchange—the acclaimed Irish theatre company—for whom he wrote *Foley*, which toured the

ABOUT THE ARTISTS CONTINUED

United States in Spring 2003. Other work for The Corn Exchange includes the stage adaptation of *Lolita, A Play on Two Chairs*, and a translation of *The Seagull*, as well as co-devising parts of the award-winning *Car Show*. In collaboration with Team, he has written two plays for children: *Forest Man* and *Jack Fell Down*. Other original plays include *Monkey, Snow*, and two pieces for radio, *The Death of Naturalism* and *Chaste Diana*. He has also written versions of *The Marriage of Figaro* (Abbey Theatre), *Tartuffe* (Gate Theatre, Dublin), and for Pigsback, Molière's *Don Juan* and *The Tender Trap* (an adaptation of *La Double Inconstance* by Marivaux). His most recent work includes *The Evidence of Things* and *The Gunpowder Plot*. He is published by Methuen.

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; Nick Konow, Shannon Riley, interns.

Consultants Ellen Pearre Cason, Accountant; Brenda Dickey, Travel Agent; James Harley, Graphic Designer; Thomas Mallon, Attorney; Kay Mitchell, Development.

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★ Spotlight discussion with the artists immediately following the performance

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