

The College of New Jersey

*COLLEGE UNION BOARD
and
CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS*

Presents

**The SITI Company
in
The War of the Worlds-
The Radio Play**

Plus

The Oscar Award winning film
War of the Worlds

Friday, November 16, 2001
Kendall Performance Center
8 PM

Program 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 which 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 College of New Jersey
COLLEGE UNION BOARD
and
CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS

Presents

War of the Worlds - The Radio Play

Radio Play by Howard Koch

Based on the novel by HG Wells

Directed by Anne Bogart & Darron L West

THE CAST

(in alphabetical order)

J.Ed Araiza*

Shawn Fagan*

Jeffrey Fracé*

Susan Hightower*

Bray Poor*

Danusia Roberts*

Stephen Webber*

Running time is approximately 1 hour with no intermission.

You are invited to stay for an open discussion with the actors and a showing of the Oscar Award winning film, War of the Worlds.

War of the Worlds is performed under license from Anne Koch.

<i>Directors</i>	Anne Bogart***
	Darron L West
<i>Lighting Designer</i>	Brian H. Scott
<i>Costume Designer</i>	James Schuette**
<i>Sound Designer</i>	Darron L West
<i>Company Stage Manager</i>	Elizabeth Moreau*
<i>Development Associate</i>	Chris Wight
<i>Managing Director</i>	Megan Wanlass Szalla

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- Premiered October 30, 1999 at The West Bank Café in New York City.*
- The Kennedy Center, Washington DC February 2000.*
- Edinburgh International Festival August 2000.*
- Utah State University, Logan, Utah, January 2001.*
- Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York, June 2001*

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THE SITI COMPANY

The SITI Company, celebrating its tenth year 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. 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, the SITI Company is comprised of eleven actors, five designers, a production manager, stage manager, development coordinator 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, Ohio State University; Walker Art Center, PICA; Actors Theatre of Louisville; Perseverance Theater; City Theatre in Pittsburgh; the Toga International Arts Festivals; Theatre Archa in the Czech Republic; and the New York Theatre Workshop. SITI's affiliations with universities include: New York University; Juilliard; Columbia University; Fordham University; The Ohio State University; Miami University; Bard College; University of Minnesota; University of Louisville; Carnegie Mellon; Pittsburgh University; Emory University; and U.C. Berkeley. 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 and Holland.

Most recently, SITI has created two new productions:

bobrauschenbergamerica, which opened at Actors Theatre of Louisville's Humana Festival of New American Plays, which will tour during the 2002-2003 performance season and *Room*, which premiered at the Wexner Center for the Arts at The Ohio State University, ran at City Theatre in Pittsburgh, PA, and will tour during the 2001-2002 performance season. *War of the Worlds* opened the Brooklyn Academy of Music's Next Wave Festival. 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*, *War of the Worlds – the Radio Play* and *Cabin Pressure*. Other future productions include: *Score*, *The Rachel's Project* and *Reunion*.

The 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 H. Scott, Mimi Jordan Sherin, Megan Wanlass Szalla*, Stephen Webber* and Darron L West.

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

Accountant: Joseph A. Panasci

Travel agent: Brenda Dickey, Travel Time

For more information on the company and its training programs and performances; to purchase copies of Anne Bogart's Book, *A Director Prepares* or *Anne Bogart: Viewpoints* or a SITI Training T-shirt; or to make a tax-deductible contribution in support of SITI, please contact:

The SITI Office / PO Box 1922 / Old Chelsea Station / New York, NY 10011.

212.477-1469 (phone) / 212.477-0564 (fax) / e-mail:

TheSITICo@aol.com or visit SITI's web site at <http://www.siti.org>

Biographies

J. Ed Araiza (Ensemble)

SITI Company credits: *bobrauschenbergamerica*, *Culture of Desire*, *The Medium*, *Small Lives/Big Dreams*, *War of the Worlds* and *War of the Worlds - 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. Regional Theater: *The Cure at Troy*, Yale Rep.; *Santos and Santos*, Mixed Blood Theatre; *Keely and Du*, 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. J. Ed was a member of El Teatro de la Esperanza. Mr. Araiza teaches and studies with The SITI Company.

Anne Bogart (Co-Director)

Ms. Bogart is the artistic director of The SITI Company. Recent productions with SITI include *Room* (Wexner Center and City Theatre); *War of the Worlds* (ATL/Humana Festival of New American Plays, Edinburgh International Festival and BAM's Next Wave Festival); *BOB* (Wexner Center for the Arts/SITI); *Culture of Desire* (a co-production of SITI, City Theatre, and Portland Stage Company); *Private Lives* by Noel Coward and *Miss Julie* by August Strindberg (Actors Theatre of Louisville/SITI); and *Alice's Adventures* (Wexner, City Theatre, City Stages, SITI); as well as *Small Lives/Big Dreams*, *Going, Going, Gone*, and *The Medium* (SITI). She is the recipient of two Obie Awards, a Bessie Award, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Bogart is currently an associate professor at Columbia University.

Shawn Fagan (Ensemble)

With the SITI Company: *War of The Worlds/Radio Play*, *Alice's Adventures*.

Regional theatre credits include: *A Moon for the Misbegotten* (Delaware Theatre Company); *The Wizard of Oz* and *A Christmas Carol* (Actors Theatre of Louisville). Recent New York credits include *Hamlet*, *Gull*, and *Fanatics* (Ellen Beckerman & company); *The High Priest of Bad Math* (Ontological Theatre); *Antigone* (Horace Mann Theatre); *Freakshow* (Clubbed Thumb). Shawn was a member of the 1997-98 Apprentice Company at Actors Theatre of Louisville and is a graduate of the University of Delaware, a member of Ellen Beckerman & Company, and a SITI Associate.

Jeffrey Fracé (Ensemble)

SITI: *War of the Worlds - Radio Play*, *Culture of Desire* (in Portland and Bogota). Also with Anne Bogart: *American Silents*. He recently played Kochkaryov in Gogo's *Marriage* in Switzerland and Agamemnon in Chuck Mee's *Agamemnon 2.0* in New York. Other activities include ongoing collaborations with the dance company Laika and various directing projects in opera and theater. He is an Associate Member of SITI. MFA, Columbia University.

Susan Hightower (Ensemble)

Has trained and performed with the SITI Company on many occasions since its inception. SITI shows include the role of Alice in *Alice's Adventures*, understudy for Ellen Lauren in *Culture of Desire*, and SITI's inaugural production of *Orestes*. Susan was most recently seen Off-Broadway in Fassbinder's *The Bitter Tears of Petra von Kant* and as Clytemnestra in Chuck Mee's *Agamemnon 2.0*.

Bray Poor

STAGE: New York: *Richard II*, *Merry Wives of Windsor* at The Public, *Demonology* at Playwrights Horizons, *Fastest Clock in the Universe* with The New Group. Regionally: *Abstract Expression* at the Long Wharf, *Changes of Heart* at Berkeley, *Mirandolina* and *Abingdon Square* at San Diego Rep., several productions at the Old Globe and a few at Williamstown Theatre Festival. Television: *Work With Me*, *Homicide*, *Cosby*, *Law and Order*, *New York Undercover*, *Spin City*. Film: *Entropy*, *The Two Ninas*, 1999, *Mighty Aphrodite*, *Clockers*, *Anima*, *Girl 6.*, *Scarred City*.

Elizabeth Moreau (Company Stage Manager)

With the SITI Company: *bobrauschenbergamerica* (ATL/Humana Festival), *Bob* (BITE Festival, London), *Cabin Pressure* (Israel Festival), *War of the Worlds* (Edison Theatre, St. Louis). Other credits include: *Dirty Blonde*, *Bells are Ringing*, *Getting and Spending* on Broadway. Off-Broadway: *Kit Marlowe*, *In the Blood* (The Public), *Avow* (Century Center), *Lydie Breeze*, *What You Get and What You Expect* (New York Theatre Workshop), *Dream True*. *Mercy* (Vineyard), *Red*, *The Memory of Water* (Manhattan Theatre Company), *Chemistry of Change* (Women's Project/Playwright Horizons).

Danusia Roberts (Ensemble)

Was last seen at the Horace Mann Theatre in Howard Barker's *Scenes from an Execution*. She also starred in *The Birth of Anne Frank* and *Miracle Now* with The Black Lips Theatre Company at P.S. 122. Danusia is a member of the acting company for Columbia University's Director's Program run by Anne Bogart & Robert Woodruff. In film, she appears in *Acts of Worship* directed by Rosemary Rodriguez and shown recently at Sundance Film Festival. Originally from Poland, she has a background in classical music with degrees from Lodz University and a BFA in photography from NYU. As a musician she has toured Europe and the USA with FUR, a punk rock band that she co-founded. The band's music is on the Blackout Records label.

James Schuette (Costume Design)

Recent work includes: *Lady in the Dark* (Prince Music Theatre), *Mother Courage and her Children* (Steppenwolf), *Big Love* (Long Wharf, Berkeley Rep., Goodman) and *Lillith* (New York City Opera). His work with The SITI Company includes: *bobrauschenbergamerica* (sets and costumes), *War of the Worlds*, *Cabin Pressure*, *Room*, *BOB*, *Alice's Adventures*, *Private Lives*, and *The Adding Machine*. Other work includes *Floyd Collins* (Old Globe, Goodman, Prince); *Berlin Circle*, *Time to Burn*, *Space* (Steppenwolf); *Saturn Returns*, *The Treatment*, *The Chang Fragments*, *Insurrection: Holding History*, *Book of the Dead* (Public); *The Seven Deadly Sins* (NYCO); *Transatlantic* (Minnesota Opera); *La Boheme* (Glimmerglass Opera and NYCO); *Carmen* (Sante Fe Opera); Laurie Anderson's *Songs and Stories from Moby Dick* (BAM Next Wave Festival) and work at Mark Taper Forum, New York Theatre Workshop, and En Garde Arts. He is a graduate of Yale School of Drama.

Brian Scott (Lighting Designer)

SITI Company Lighting Designer for *bobrauschenbergamerica* and *The Radio Play*. Past lighting designs include: *Gertrude and Alice* with Mimi Sherin for the Foundry Theatre; *Big Love* for The Rude Mechanicals in Austin, Texas; *The Epiphany Project* with composer John Hodian and songwriter Bet Williams; *Le Femme de Chambre* for Banal Molotov in Paris; *The Trojan Women* for Williams College and Will Bond; and numerous projects while at Actors Theatre of Louisville. Additionally, Brian has adapted numerous designs by Mimi Jordan Sherin and Christopher Akerlind in National and International tours for the SITI Company including: *Bob*, *Room*, *Cabin Pressure*, *War of the Worlds*, and *Alice's Adventures*. Future projects include: a tour of *Lipstick Traces* for the Rude Mechanicals, *The Rachel's Project* for the SITI Company, and work with Christopher Akerlind on *Score* also for SITI.

Stephen Webber (Ensemble)

Has performed with SITI: *War of the Worlds* (Orson Welles), *Cabin Pressure*, *Private Lives*, *The Medium*, *War of the Worlds - Radio Play*, *Culture of Desire*, and *Going, Going, Gone*. Off Broadway: *Trojan Women/A Love Story* at En Garde Arts and *Culture of Desire* at New York Theatre Workshop. Regional Theater: Actors Theatre of Louisville, Stage West, Portland Stage Company, City Theatre in Pittsburgh, and Milwaukee Repertory Theater. He also performed *Hamlet* at the Toga International Arts Festival in Toga-Mura, Japan.

Darron L West (Co-Director, Sound Designer)

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. Since joining The 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 two-time American Theatre Wing and three time Drama Desk nominee for sound design, as well as 1997 Princess Grace and 2000 EDDY award winner for his work with The SITI Company. Directing credits include the SITI Company's *War of the Worlds - The Radio Play*, Sarah Ruhl's *Euridice* at CTC Minneapolis and Charles Mee's *Big Love* with The Rude Mechanicals in Austin, Texas. Broadway: Philip Glass at Avery Fisher Hall and Quentin Tarrantino's *Wait Until Dark*.

Contributors to The SITI Company

The SITI Company is deeply grateful to the generous donors who are listed below.

New York State Council of the Arts, Anonymous, Jaan Whitehead, Shubert Foundation, JKW Foundation, Martha Boschen Porter Fund, Inc., Marianne McDonald, Bob McElya, George Wanlass & Karen Carson, Nancy Becker, Catherine & Matt Mandel

To become a contributor to the SITI Company, please call the SITI office for further information at 212.477.1469.

All donations listed in this program include gifts and pledges received through October 19, 2001

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**Special Thanks to Ms. Janice Corigliano, Mr. Tim Asher and
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The College Union Board is a programming organization at The College of New Jersey that provides a variety of educational, social, recreational, and cultural programs. Its members are dedicated to the college and work hard to present diverse activities for the whole campus community to enjoy.

The College Union Board consists of fifteen elected members. There is one Director, two Rat Co-chairs, a Graphic Artist, a Finance Coordinator, and ten Event Coordinators. In addition, there are many general members who contribute to the club.

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The College of New Jersey
CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS
2001-2002 Season

Messiah

Friday, November 30, 2001

The Mendelssohn Club of Philadelphia and The College of New Jersey Department of Music come together to perform Handel's *Messiah*. Welcome in the holiday season with this classic musical event that will lift your spirits with song and celebration.

John Amos' *Halley's Comet*

Friday, February 1, 2002

An old man climbs to the top of a mountain to see Halley's Comet for the second time in his life. As he awaits the passing of the comet overhead, he relives the important events of his life. **Halley's Comet** is a touching and often funny play written and performed by John Amos.

Copenhagen

Tuesday, March 5, 2002

It is 1941 in enemy occupied Denmark. Two old friends brave great peril to hold a secret meeting. The outcome of the war and the fate of mankind are at stake. Don't miss this Tony award winning play described by critics as, "miraculously intelligent. **Copenhagen** will leave you feeling extraordinarily stimulated and moved."

The Washington Ballet

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Septime Webre has put together a program of breath-taking choreography and exciting music for the Washington Ballet's 2002 season. Be among the first to see Webre's newest work-**Sweet Honey Project**-with music by **Sweet Honey in the Rock** and sets by American painter, Sam Gilliam.

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