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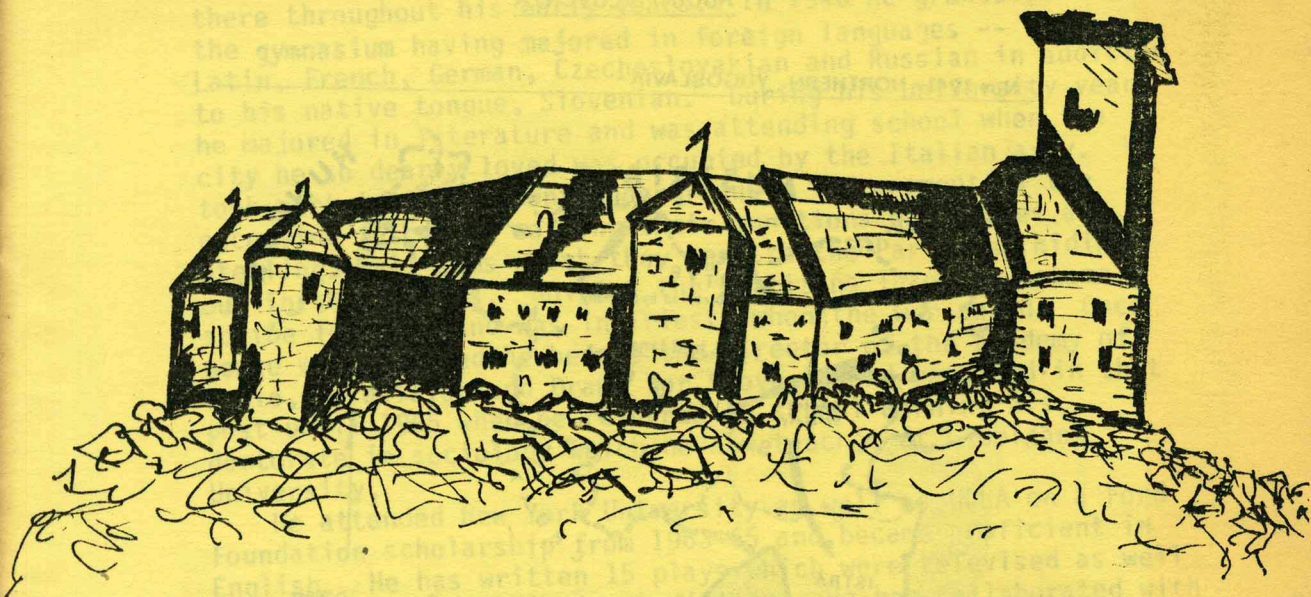
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BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

ROBERT W. GOBETZ, DIRECTOR

MARCH 3, 4, 5, 6, 1986

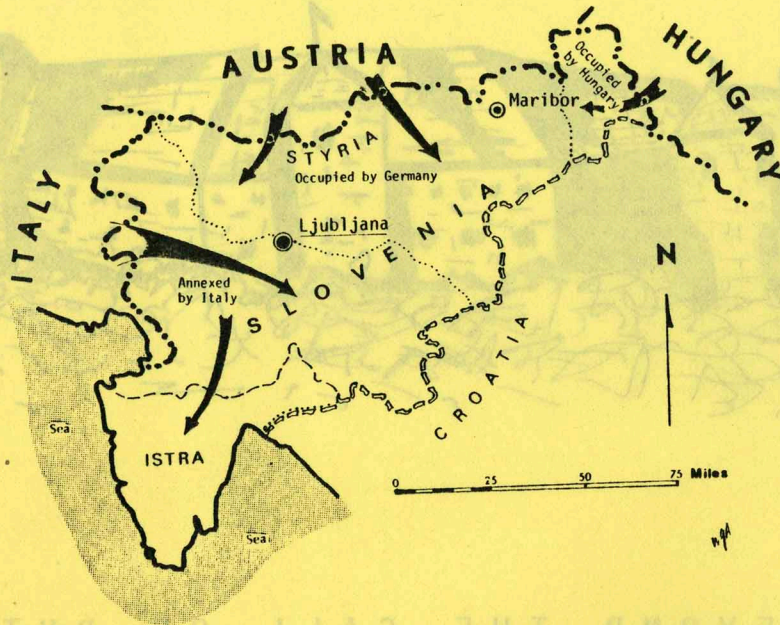
8:00 P. M.

PLAYHOUSE ON BROADWAY

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION
PITTSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

ABOUT SLOVENIA

- Nov. 1941 - NORTHERN YUGOSLAVIA -



Slovenia is third smallest of six republics in Yugoslavia. Its land area is no larger than six to seven counties in Kansas yet it holds a population of about 1,800,000. (More people of Slovenian descent live in the USA. Others are scattered throughout the world.) Bordered on the north by Austria and to the west by Italy the basic tongue is Slovenian, a slavic language which includes some German as well as Italian phrases and idioms depending upon which country lies nearest. Ljubljana is the capitol city of Slovenia and is roughly the size of Tulsa, Oklahoma.

During the war years Ljubljana's population was approximately 100,000. Some experts believe that over 10,000 Ljubljanians were murdered by the Italian army of occupation from 1941 to 1942.

Despite the fact that it is ruled by a communist government today, at the time of this drama the subdued people in their underground fight for freedom were yet to decide which form of government to follow.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Boris Grabnar was born in Ljubljana in 1921 and lived there throughout his early years. In 1940 he graduated from the gymnasium having majored in foreign languages -- Greek, Latin, French, German, Czechoslovakian and Russian in addition to his native tongue, Slovenian. During his university years he majored in literature and was attending school when the city he so dearly loved was occupied by the Italian army. He took part in the student underground's harassment of the occupying forces by raiding their munitions warehouses and stealing small arms which they sent to the Partizans hiding out in the forests. Joining the Partizans later he became a scribe for them and was in Trieste when the war ended. Once peace was restored he became the director of the Academy of Radio, Television and Drama for Slovenia and remained in that post until 1965 when he returned to school earning his doctorate in sociology which he now teaches at Ljubljana University.

He attended New York University as well as UCLA on a Ford Foundation scholarship from 1963-65 and became proficient in English. He has written 15 plays which were televised as well as 10 books - mostly science fiction. He has collaborated with Ray Bradbury as well as the late Rod Serling. His latest book is entitled The Year 2000, a science fiction novel published in 1982.

ABOUT THE PLAY

Five Ljubljana University students become underground terrorists during the Axis occupation of their city in the fall of 1941. The action of this play begins in November, a month before the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor. The mission of this pentumvirate of students is to assassinate Wurm, a German sympathizing citizen of Ljubljana who identified local resisting people to be arrested for ultimate liquidation.

The Italian army occupied most of Ljubljana, the capitol of Slovenia, a city of about 400,000 population. To add to the conflict, a Partizan who escaped the Germans after they annihilated his company save him, tries to attach himself to the student cell. The leader of the students fear the Partizan might have been planted there by the Germans as a spy. The conflict is further complicated by the ethics of killing a human being despite Judeo-Christian teachings even though the intended victims are enemies.

ABOUT THE PLAYERS

BRANDON PURTLE (Peter) is a sophomore and a theatre major from Ft. Scott, Kansas. Beyond the Call of Duty marks Brandon's first production after a nine month hiatus from the stage while he worked at two area radio stations as an announcer. Prior to that he was involved in theatre in high school as well as his freshman year in college. Major productions include Deathtrap, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat and Taming of the Shrew.

BRYAN PLUMLEE (Joseph) is a newcomer to PSU theatre. A Pittsburg High School graduate, he appeared in A 1940's Radio Show and A Midsummer Night's Dream.

ELIZABETH WESTMORELAND (Irene) is a junior majoring in vocal music and has appeared in Beggar on Horseback, Pirates of Penzance and The Women. She claims Lamar, Missouri, as her home town.

BILL LACKEY (Stephen) is a senior majoring in theatre arts. He was first seen in Pittsburg during the summer season of 1985 when he appeared in Annie Get Your Gun and Guys and Dolls. Having attended universities in Oklahoma and Missouri before coming to PSU, his list of appearances in other productions is a long and enviable one. His home town is Tulsa, Oklahoma.

JAMES ASHMORE (John) majoring in theatre at the University of Kansas, is at PSU for the semester to pick up some needed credits before returning to KU. He was a member of the Resident Company for Playhouse on Broadway in 1984. Jimmy is from Pittsburg.

MERCEDES M'LOU GLOVER (Aunt) is a theatre major in her sophomore year and comes to PSU from Webb City, Missouri. She appeared in PSU's summer production of On Golden Pond and later in Anne Sexton - Death Within Life.

STEPHEN DAVIS (Branko) is a newcomer to theatre. In fact, this is his first play ever. He is a junior majoring in Recreation. He has been seen many times by area people only in a different role - as defensive end and linebacker for the Gorilla football team. His credits are impressive: first team all conference, first team all district 10, honorable mention, All-American.

ROBERT GOBETZ (Director) is well-suited for translating Slovenian plays inasmuch as his parents Johan and Anna Wunsek Gobetz immigrated to America from Styria, Slovenia via Essen, Germany, where they met while being employed there. Johan, a master craftsman in leaded crystal, cut and blown glass, gave up his trade to become a coal miner in West Mineral, Kansas, in 1906. Johan and Anna spoke German as well as Slovenian and Anna was self taught in reading and writing in English. It was convenient for the parents of Robert to speak in their native tongue in the home, thus, the director of tonight's play grew up bilingual.

In 1964 Robert received a Fulbright scholarship to study drama, language and grammar at the Academy of Radio, Television and Drama in Ljubljana for a year. It was here Robert met the director of the academy, Boris Grabnar where plays were discussed. The rest is history. In 1985 he was granted another Fulbright scholarship to attend a seminar in language, literature and folklore at the University of Ljubljana for two weeks. "I have no problem speaking the common language" he says, "but, the formal language is another matter. I'm still learning."

THE CAST

(in order of appearance)

Stephen Bill Lackey
Irene Elizabeth Westmoreland
Peter Brandon Purtle
John James Ashmore
Joseph Bryan Plumlee
Branko Steven David
Aunt M'Lou Glover

Time: Early November 1941

Place: City of Ljubljana, the capitol of Slovenia

ACT I

SCENE 1: Somewhere on the bank of the Ljubljana River
which runs through the city. Early afternoon.

SCENE 2: Irene's room. A little later.

15 minute intermission

ACT II

SCENE 1: As in Act 1, Scene 1. Late afternoon.

SCENE 2: As in Act 1, Scene 2. Toward dusk.

SCENE 3: As in Scene 2. A short while later.

THERE WILL BE NO CURTAIN CALL

PRODUCTION STAFF

Translator and Director Robert W. Gobetz

Scene Designer John Green

Light Designer Dr. Cary Clasz

Assistant to the Director
and Stage Manager Le Ann Danielson

Running Sound (music) Harley Logan

Running Sound (warfare) Bill Emerson

Lights Scott Billingsley
. Randy Tarrant

Set Construction Paul Decker
. Tracy Ivy
. Ty Reed
. Jeff Simpson
. Dorothy Cosand
. Kelly Losher

Hair Stylist Polly Taylor Bruce

Makeup Tess Green

Programs Kayla Acebo
. Monta Coffman
. Cheri Docherty

Department Secretary Shirley Purdy

Department Chairman Dr. Harold W. Loy

Concessions Theta Alpha Phi-Dramatic Fraternity

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Director would like to thank the following individuals and organizations who have helped make this production possible:

Dr. Bill Allen Dr. Martin Campion Emma Boccia
Dr. Henri Freyburger Dr. Thimios Zaharopoulos
Wendy Woods Roger McKinney
Radio Stations KNZS and KKOW The Town House
University Ticket Office
Office of Public Affairs and Information

Thank you to all other individuals and organizations who have loaned properties or in any other way assisted with the preparation of this production.

The Department of Communication is an organizational member of the Association of Kansas Theatre, Mid-America Theatre Conference and American Theatre Association.

* * * * C O M I N G A T T R A C T I O N S * * * *

MIRACLE WORKER, Cliff Rippetoe, Director - March 6-7-8-9 (PCT)

LYSISTRATA, Dr. Cary Clasz, Director - April 16-17-18-19 (PSU)

MAME, Bob Tindel, Director - June 26-27-28-29 (PCT)

Pittsburg State University Summer Theatre
John Green, Artistic Director

AUDITIONS, 108 Grubbs Hall, 1:30 P.M. - April 26 and 27

HIAWATHA, Memorial Auditorium - July 9-10-11-12-13

SWEENEY TODD, Memorial Auditorium - July 16-17-18-19-20