DIRECTOR’S NOTES

It got to me!

When I’m looking for possible plays to direct, most of them end up on my reading table long before I reach the final page. They simply do not hold my interest. Rarely am I so absorbed in the pages of a play as to read it continually without any break at all. But Milan Stitt’s drama The Runner Stumbles got to me. I couldn’t put it down.

Stitt based his drama on a true event that occurred in Leelanau County in Upper Michigan at the turn of the twentieth century. In late autumn of 1918 in the basement of Holy Rosary Church, the skeletal remains of a young nun were discovered. She had been missing for four years and the remains showed her skull had been crushed from the blow of a large, blunt object. Much of what happened to the young Bride of Christ remains shrouded in mystery to this day. Stitt used this event to mold his story of repressed passion between a priest banished to an isolated wilderness and a nun who questions her need for loyalty to the Church as opposed to her own true feelings about love and her personal faith in God.

I think the play speaks volumes about human nature and about our relationship to God. We, the artists that are actors, designers, stage managers and technicians that make a play hope it will speak to you as well.

We would like for you to know that Melanie Wigton, who portrays Sister Rita in this production, is doing so as partial fulfillment of the degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre. Also, the musical score was composed and directed by Andrew Brooks, a Creighton Theatre co-major.

Finally, we would like to dedicate this production to Jason Dorwart and Stephanie Kidd. Both of these Creighton students were originally cast in the production. During the summer Jason suffered a severe back injury while vacationing with his parents in Mexico. Stephanie has decided to take the fall semester off to be with Jason at his home in Colorado and to help him recover from his accident. Although we all know the road to full recovery will be difficult, we also know that Jason, with the help of Stephanie, friends and family, will be up to the challenge. We ask you to join us in wishing them well. We look forward to both Jason and Stephanie returning to Creighton in the spring.

~ Alan Klem
The Runner Stumbles

A drama by Milan Stitt

directed by
ALAN KLEM

costume design by
WENDY STARK

scenic & lighting design by
BILL VAN DEEST

CAST

CHRIS CLOYD .............. AMOS
PAUL Lichteneg ............ FATHER AWARD
MEGHAN MATTHEWS .......... EMA PRINDLE
PAUL THELEN ............. TOBY FELKER
- MELANIE WIGTON ........ SISTER RITA
DENISE CHAPMAN .......... MRS. SHANDIQ
ANDREW CLEARY .......... THE PROSECUTOR
ADAM STAFFORD .......... MONSIGNOR NICHOLSON
NATALIE TIEHEN ........ LOUISE

MUSIC COMPOSED AND PERFORMED BY ANDREW BROOKS

TIME: APRIL 1911

PLACE: A CELL, COURTHOUSE, AND IN MEMORY
A RECTORY IN SOLON, MICHIGAN

* Performed as partial fulfillment of the degree
of Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre

there will be a
ten minute intermission
between acts.

The use of cameras or other
recording devices is strictly prohibited.

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PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director .................. Mark Krejci
Stage Manager ..................... Jennifer Falbo
Costume Shop Manager ........... Wendy Stark
Assistant Director .................. Andrew Brooks
Fight Choreography ............... Terry Doughman
First Hand ......................... Travis Halsey, Autumn Yosten
Assistant Stage Manager ......... Nick Zadina
Properties Master ................. Krista Phair
Costume Running Crew .......... Robert Valenta, Haley Piper

Set Construction .................... Angela Burton, Joe Buttry,
Peter Cales, Anne Cigleris,
Chris Cloyd, Drew Eden,
Steve Finley, Holly de Los Reyes,
Emily Oberdorfer, Abby Rassette,
Dena Ricklefs, Joe Smithberg,
Chris Wolfe, Renee Zaruba

Lightboard Operator ............... Steve Finley
Sound Operator ...................... Lisa Vining

Costume Construction ............. Autumn Yosten, Travis Halsey,
Krista Phair, Candi Tielebein,
Natalie Tiehen, Nick Zadina,
Robbert Valenta, Kyla Ammon,
Kehana Williams, Kate Malloy

Assistant Lighting Designers* .... Holly de Los Reyes,
Jenni Falbo, Krista Phair

Makeup Design ..................... Denise Chapman, Steve Finley,
Travis Halsey, Kirstin Kluver,
Haley Piper, Melanie Wighton,
Autumn Yosten

Box Office/House Manager ......... Ginny Lawless
Singing Children .................. Joy Marshall, Emily Oberdorfer

* the students of THR 215
† the students of THR 215

SPECIAL THANKS
CU Assoc. Prof. Jerry Horning, ceramics
John Gibilisco
Omaha Community Playhouse