

10-10-1968

Benito Cereno (1968)

Robert Lowell

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EVENTS OF THE ARTS

YET TO COME

at

LUTHER I. BONNEY HALL AUDITORIUM

Portland Campus
University of Maine

Friday, November 8, at 8:15 p.m.
THE NEW LOST CITY RAMBLERS
Folk Singers

Friday, December 6, at 8:15 p.m.
VIRGINIA ESKIN
Pianist

Friday, February 28, at 8:15 p.m.
THE BOSTON BALLET COMPANY

Thursday, April 17, at 8:15 p.m.
DOUBLE QUINTET
Philharmonia Woodwind Quintet
and
Herb Pomeroy Jazz Quintet
in joint concert

* * * * *

ART THEATRE PRODUCTIONS

November 14, 15, and 16 at 8:00 p.m.
WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOLF

March 20, 21, and 22 at 8:00 p.m.
MISS JULIE

University of Maine

PORTLAND CAMPUS

presents

THE THEATRE COMPANY OF BOSTON

in

BENITO CERENO

by

ROBERT LOWELL

Auspices

The Art Theatre of the Portland Campus

LUTHER I. BONNEY HALL AUDITORIUM

Thursday, October 10, 1968

8:15 p.m.

AN HISTORICAL INCIDENT, first reported in Delano's *Voyages and Travels*, published in Boston in 1817, caught the imagination of Herman Melville some 40 years later. Melville, whose now famous novel, *Moby Dick*, had been a critical failure when it was first published in 1851, had turned to the writing of short stories. He used Delano's account as the basis of a short story which was published by Putnam's Magazine under the title of *Benito Cereno*.

MELVILLE'S STORY stirred brief interest, but then it sank into obscurity for more than one hundred years, when the famous contemporary American poet, Robert Lowell, recognized its significance.

ROBERT LOWELL, born in Boston in 1917, had become interested in writing a dramatic trilogy under the title of *The Old Glory*. The play dealing with the oldest historical incident, *Endicott and the Red Cross*, was not produced until last spring. The second and third parts of the trilogy, *My Kinsman, Major Molineux* and *Benito Cereno*, were first produced at the American Place Theatre in 1964.

BENITO CERENO, through the magic of Lowell's pen and the inspired interpretation of the Theatre Company of Boston, has been acclaimed a cultural and poetic masterpiece by critic Robert Brunstein. Of particular significance is the portrayal of Babu, the black slave, a character central to the dramatic conflict of the play.

THIS PERFORMANCE of *Benito Cereno* marks the third annual appearance of the Theatre Company of Boston at Bonney Auditorium on the Portland campus.

LUTHER I. BONNEY HALL AUDITORIUM
Portland Campus
University of Maine
Thursday, October 10, at 8:15 p.m.

THE THEATRE COMPANY OF BOSTON

presents

A play based on a story by Herman Melville

Produced by Frank Cassidy

Directed by David Wheeler Designed by Robert Allen

BENITO CERENO

by Robert Lowell

Captain Amasa Delano . . . Larry Bryggman
John Perkins Arthur Mellow
Babu James Spruill
Don Benito Cereno William Young
Ataful Gilbert Lewis
Francisco Gustave Johnson

The action takes place first on board the *President Adams*, and later on the *San Domingo*, in a harbor on an island off the coast of Trinidad, July 4, 1800.

STAFF

Richard Lee, Stage Manager

Geoffrey Richon, Technical Director

The booking of the Theatre Company of Boston is arranged by Aaron Richmond Concerts, Inc.