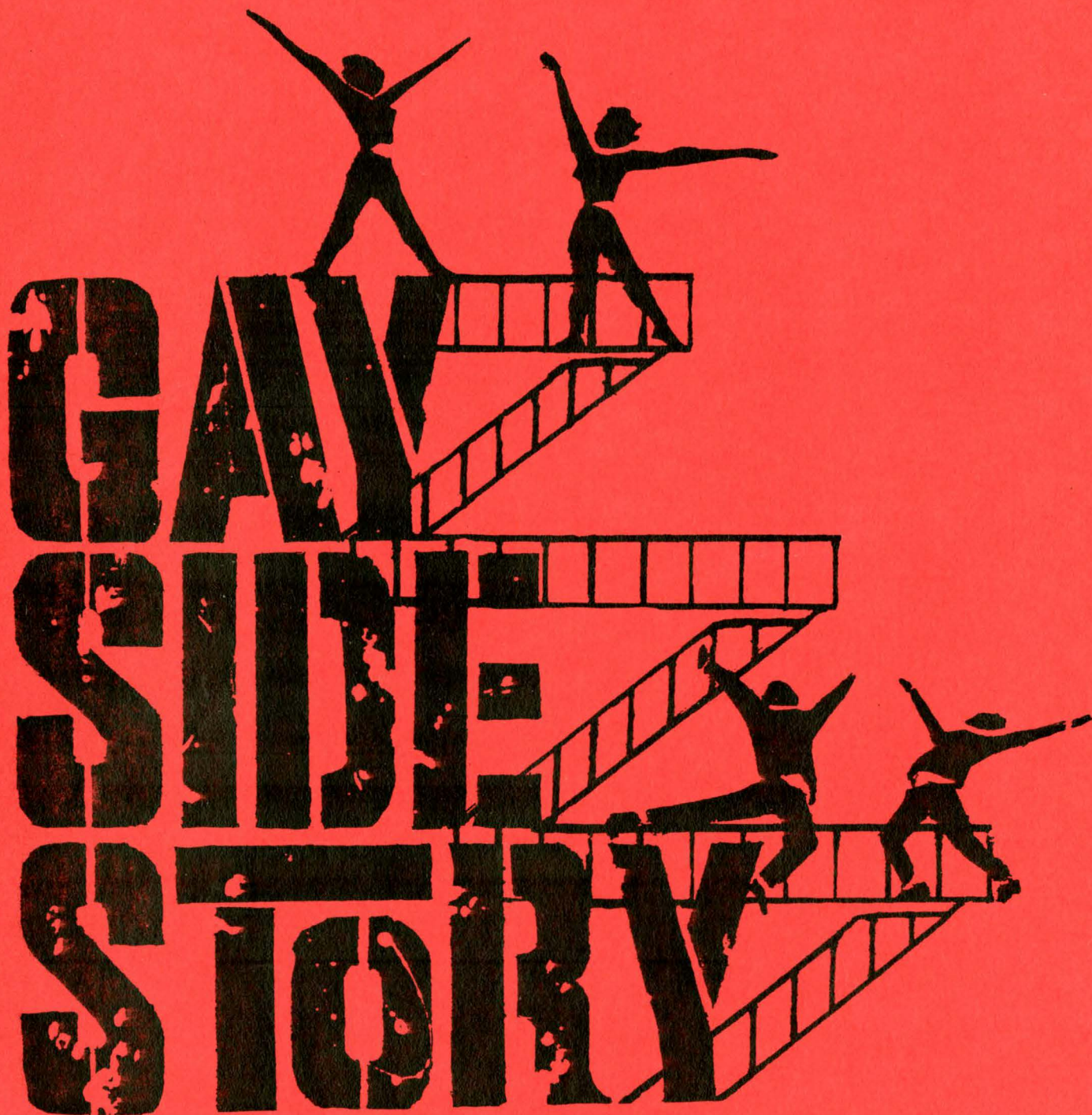


The AUDACITY THEATER
in conjunction with SYMPOSIUM X
PRESENTS



LUTHER BONNEY AUDITORIUM
University of Southern Maine — Portland

Sat. — May 14 — 7:00 Sun. — May 15 — 2:00

included in the price of SYMPOSIUM X ticket
or \$3.00 donation at the door

THE AUDACITY THEATER PRESENTS

GAY SIDE STORY

a play in three acts

WRITTEN BY

Avis
Diane Elze
Rico Estabrook
John Frank
Dale McCormick
Tony Norton
Cheryl Ring
Chris Thurston

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO

Leonard Bernstein
Arthur Lawrence
Stephen Sondheim
Phil Spector

MORE SPECIAL THANKS TO:
BUCKDANCERS' CHOICE
MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
PATTY O. PIAZZA

THE SPRING STREET GYM
THE UNDERGROUND



SPECIAL THANKS TO

SHOESTRING THEATER
BETSY AND ELLIE
ERIC
CORNERSTONES
LAURA
MIKE DANK
MARC OUELETTE
BATES COLLEGE

THE REHEARSAL AUDIENCE:
ANADA, ANNA, BETSY,
CHERYL, CHRIS, ERIC,
FRED, JACKIE, JILL,
JIM, JOANIE, JOHN,
JULIE, MARLENE,
MICHAEL, MIKE, RALPH,
SUSAN, ET AL.

PRELUDE

"HEY KIDS, LET'S PUT ON A SHOW!"

The initial idea for a gay parody of *West Side Story* had been lurking around Diane Elze's mind for a couple years prior to any concrete attempt to bring it to fruition. *Gay Side Story's* script was a collaborative writing effort involving several people who met regularly during the fall of 1982. Characters were developed, a general plot outline was decided, and responsibility for the writing was taken. Generally, the men's roles were written by men and the women's roles were written by women, all subject to consensus approval. The meetings consisted primarily of reviewing, line by line, that which each person had written and of suggesting, compromising, arguing, back-patting, dreaming. We let our imaginations run wild in the writing, putting on hold any worries we might have had about the mechanics of making our fantasies real.

During the fall, word was spreading and interest was growing throughout the Greater Portland gay community, and in January, with scripts in hand, the writers held a meeting for those who thought they might like to take part in the project to talk about casting, crewing, and commitment. We have been meeting at least once a week—sometimes two, three, four times a week ever since.

The near-miracle of finding almost thirty people to rehearse six to twelve hours weekly (the bulk of those hours falling on weekends) fades in comparison with the remarkable forging of team spirit and loyalty felt among the cast and crew. By the fourth rehearsal we were already feeling and operating like a unit, and by performance time numerous new friendships had bloomed and a healthy mutual respect was evident.

Some of the cast have had experience on the stage prior to *Gay Side Story*; most have not. But working on this project, I think I'm safe in saying that the majority of us have discovered in ourselves new skills, new talents and new confidence which will carry over into our off-stage lives.

So, in the spirit of Andy Hardy and Betsy Booth, we audaciously present to you *Gay Side Story*. We hope you enjoy watching it as much as we enjoyed putting it together.

—John Frank

THE CAST

—THE LOVERS—

DAVID STEVE PINKHAM
MARIA CHERYL RING
SOPHIA SPARKY
TONY BOB CARR II

—THE GANGS—

THE HETS:

ACTION CHRIS THURSTON
BABY JOHN LISA ROSE WEINZIMER
BAZOOKA ANN HOUSER
KIMBERLEY JOLENE ANN MCGOWAN
LOVER BOY GREG BEMBRY
RIFF STEVEN SMITH
TIFFANY BETSY WEST
YVETTE KIM TARNOWER

THE QUEERS:

ANITA DALE MCCORMICK
BERNICE FRY WOLHANDLER
CLONE JOHN FRANK
DIESEL DIANE ELZE
HUSTLER RANDY L. MOSSER
ISIS PAMELA RYAN
QUEEN B BRIAN FAIRBROTHER
SISTER TURGIDA COX KMAX MELLENTIN

—THE REST—

EMMA ERICA RYAN
LIEUTENANT SCHRANK GLEN ESMAN
NEW MAN JOHN LAGASSE
OFFICER KRUPKE DOUG SOUCIE

THE CREW

DIRECTION TONY NORTON
MYLES J. RIGHTMIRE
CHOREOGRAPHY BRIAN FAIRBROTHER
MYLES J. RIGHTMIRE
VOCAL DIRECTION FRY WOLHANDLER
MUSIC DIRECTION RICO ESTABROOK
MUSIC RICO ESTABROOK
RICHARD THIBEAULT
PAGE TURNING ERIC HART
STAGE MANAGEMENT TONY NORTON
TECHNICAL DIRECTION HARRIET MOSHER
TECHNICAL DIRECTION ASSISTANCE ANN FLANNERY
LIGHTING CYN BOOTHBY
RECORDED SOUND GREG BEMBRY
JOHN HUSSEY
SOUND MIXING JEFF PLATZ
STAGE CREW DOREEN DIBIAGIO
ANN FLANNERY
TERRY GRANGER
HARRIET MOSHER
PROMPTING AVIS
PHOTOGRAPHY K. MAX MELLENTIN
CHARLIE RIDLON
UNIVERSITY LIAISON PENNY RICH
PLAYBILL JOHN FRANK
DALE MCCORMICK
TONY NORTON
LAURA HENDERSON

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Prologue The Hets & The Queers
"Gee, Officer Krupke" The Queers
"The Het Song" The Hets
"Something's Coming" Tony

ACT II

"Walking in the Rain" Clone & Queen B, Sister Turgida Cox
"I Feel Pretty" David & Clone, Queen B, Sister Turgida Cox
*Dance at the Community Center The Hets & The Queers
"Maria/Sophia" Maria, Sophia & Anita, Bernice, Isis

ACT III

"Tonight" Montage David, Maria, Sophia, Tony,
The Hets, The Queers
"America" The Hets & The Queers
"Cool" Lover Boy & The Hets
"A Girl Like That" & "I Have a Love" Anita, Sophia
"One Hand, One Heart" Maria, Sophia
"Somewhere" Cast

*Music: "Bullshit," Grace Jones
"Sleazy City," Soft Cell
"Waltz in C Minor," Rico Estabrook

THE SCENES

ACT I

Scene 1 City neighborhood, outside Gay-Straight Alliance Office; morning.
Scene 2 City street; morning.
Scene 3 Another part of the city; morning.
Scene 4 Outside Doc's store; early afternoon.

ACT II

Scene 1 Red Rose Old Clothes, a thrift store; later that same afternoon.
Scene 2 Community Center; late evening.

ACT III

Scene 1 Various parts of the city; morning after the dance.
Scene 2 City street; early afternoon.
Scene 3 City street; afternoon.
Scene 4 Red Rose Old Clothes; late afternoon.
Scene 5 Inside and outside Gay-Straight Alliance Office; early evening.



BIOGRAPHY

BOB CARR ("TONY")—After a full career in Maine as a campus radical at Bates College, Bob Carr has reached the peak of his performing career in *Gay Side Story*. He has done this by sleeping his way to the top with the Director, Stage Manager, most of the male cast members, and a great number of gay men in the greater Portland area.

DIANE ELZE ("DIESEL")—swaggers onto the Portland stage from the streets of Albany, New York, where her natural talent was noticed by a theater producer who happened to be paying a parking ticket at the Albany police station the day she and her "Hill Street Warriors" were being booked on charges that will remain unnamed. Her credits include starring roles in "Chain Gang Women," and "Romeo and Juliet." (She did not play Juliet). Elze had an inkling she was out of the norm when, as a young child receiving a bicycle for her birthday, she dumped the bike and kept the chain.

BRIAN FAIRBROTHER ("QUEEN B")—Her majesty played pro-football until seeing "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" and realized that chiffon is her true calling. Queen B also claimed to have had a vision of a past life in which she was Queen Elizabeth I. Thus far, the British Government has ignored her petition to dethrone *that* usurper and to place Queen B in her rightful place as Regent of England.

JOHN FRANK ("CLONE")—GWM, 32, sparse dk hr, moustch, vers, unmplyd, sks smlr 2 shr butch lssns & 2 quell the scrmg queen in me. Hlb get me out of these pumps & capris. 773-2536.

ANN HOUSER ("BAZOOKA")—was raised in the cornfields of Ohio and, as an infant, was fed Similac out of a camouflage squirt gun. Her acting career includes being shot out of a cannon at USO shows and having starred as the bride in "The Bridge Over the River Quetz." Offstage, Ann works in Portland's WWII bunkers, protecting the city from homosexual invasion. Ann is active in the community: she facilitates a support group for shell-shocked war heroes Mon. eves. 7:00 p.m., VFW Hall, BYOG (Bring Your Own Grenade).

DALE MCCORMICK ("ANITA")—began her theatrical career in Iowa where she played such patriarchal roles as a war resister in "The Vietnam War" and Margery Pinchwife in "The Country Wife." She came out in the 60s in the role of Radical Lesbian and moved up to the character that every dyke longs to play: Petrucchio in a Lesbian Feminist production of "The Taming of the Shrew" (a fresh new interpretation).

JOLENE ANN MCGOWAN ("KIMBERLEY")—Ghad! Like, she's the one with the totally naturally curly red awesome hair. You know, like, she's the cutest! Like, she's from Maine and she heard about all these bu-fu's putting on this zonky musical and, like, they needed a Val, so like, she came through, ya know . . .

K. MAX MELLENTIN ("SISTER TURGIDA COX")—Sister Turgida Cox's first performance was before a public hearing on the Obscenity Ordinance recently enacted by the opiated masses. Being an artist and Gay man, I felt outrage: it encroaches upon our fundamental rights and freedoms. Moreover, democracy doesn't work, especially regarding issues of morality and human rights. Will Gay people be next upon the public opinion chopping block? If so, bye-bye Portland, hello gas chambers.

TONY NORTON—The only fantasy I've had besides being Christ—which I had the chance to fulfill in March—is to be an organized person. From working on this play, I've had a chance to get a glimpse of what that might be like.

STEVE PINKHAM ("DAVID")—Steve, an avid backpacker and mountain lover, graduated from USM in Communication. No plans for the future, but hitting the trail. His credits are Matt in *The Fantasticks*, Gollum in *The Hobbit*, and parts in *Witness for the Prosecution*, *Dark of the Moon*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *I Remember Mama*.

MYLES J. RIGHTMIRE—former goat herder, go-go boy, and grade school teacher, has studied dance and drama extensively, performed professionally, and strutted his stuff on three continents. Presently he is general manager of Good Day Market.





CHERYL RING ("MARIA")—has grown up and come out in the great state of Maine. The last person she kissed on stage was a boy in her high school production. Since then, she has been in a number of Little Theater and college productions, but has never enjoyed a part more than this one (especially the private rehearsals!).

ERICA RYAN ("EMMA")—Roller skating in the park and bike riding—and being without school.

PAMELA RYAN ("ISIS")—can be seen in various disguises around Portland, Maine. Besides witchy rituals, she indulges in civil disobedience, bicycle riding in the dark, and mothering "Anita's" daughter, "Emma." As an anarchist, she infiltrates the school system and a local rug factory. We are everywhere!

STEVEN SMITH ("RIFF")—was born in Westbrook, USA, and doesn't remember much of his life before his move to Portland at 17. Over the past years as a vagrant, he wandered

through 11 countries and 22 states, and lived as an illegal alien in London. He presently resides in Portland as a closet-heterosexual punk. This fall, Steven plans on being the first anarchist to defect to Moscow, just so he can be a national hero and get special privileges from the Politburo. Steven hopes to undergo a sex change in Denmark so he can attain his aspiration as an S+M dyke and have a bondage relationship with Diesel.

DOUG SOUCIE ("OFFICER KRUPKE")—Last of the Flora Dora's. Sally Rand School of Dance—'37. Dale Carnegie School of Charm—'48.

ELLEN "SPARKY" SPARKS ("SOPHIA")—bottle-digger, cartoonist, and resident of Maine since the sun-ripe age of 14, is making her debut as the aspiring country dyke, "Sophia." Some people say it becomes me to play the love-struck, but *I* say, "Meet you all at 'the Land!'"

KIM TARNOWER ("YVETTE")—OK, like Kim is this mondo outrageous chick from Dallas. And, like, if you can't be from the Valley, Dallas is a totally trippy place to be from, fer shur. Like, at least you can get a way-bitchen tan there, and tans are totally important.

CHRIS THURSTON ("ACTION")—was captured as an infant and raised by a family of heterosexuals. Most remembered for her performance in Goldilocks in 3rd grade. Attended the University where she majored in coming out and minored in Psych.

BETSY WEST ("TIFFANY")—Wo, well, Betsy's not really from the Valley, but, like, grew up totally bored in Nor-fuck, VA. Majored in sororities and buf-awesome dudes (gag me to the stone age) in college. Someone told her it was cool to be a social worker, so she did it and, like finally came up to (out in) Maine—Oooo, mega-state!

FRY WOLHANDLER ("BERNICE")—studied the expert handling of a diverse assortment of pool cues in Boston, San Francisco, and London, and looks forward to applying her expertise on a table someday. Past roles include bisexual, baby butch, and even widely acclaimed femme performances during her college days. Fry eagerly looks forward to feminist androgyny in a lesbian ghetto in Berkeley, California.



John great to get to know through the mirror where? 2:21

John, Enjoy your New Venture in SF. Steve.

Autographs

Like, I can't handle it totally awesome Love ya! evette

Johnny you're just miss all miss Cheryl
wonderful Love you!

Fuck you! XOXO Action!

To John with the hot bat
Like, wa, I lov you. Tiff

up yours! Anyh, i, ke were depraved... Service
at a clone

Love Walkin in the Rain w/ you. and all the rest. To Duke
Thank you so much. W/ love from
microfun. Rilo

John
What a rascal
his play has been. Life will
+ rock go well

To my love
Dr. Turgid
Knot Melleullin

What fun - love
Meredith
w/ all the
fun
you are mega cute!

Erica
Ryan

Could be a
to be! What have
I had? What have
wisdom search for freedom and
Dr. John

To a Real Man who could only pretend to be a clone. Lots of love. Eric

John you're killer prep
but you're trouble
love
Oh Jim so happy
to have spent such
a nice time w/ you
goodbye
I'll miss seeing you
so much
while
you're
you're very special
Come back soon
Love, Dale
Clint

I love
bumping pussy
with you
Tommy

Sperm to
Worm!
Love to 'Cloned' John
Dr. John
Give me a call
Dave
Dr. John
Panda
"Impress"
"Fmother"
Ally
Mum
Beaf