

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 did happen 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



Department of Fine & Performing Arts

Dr. Marilyn A. Kielniarz – music – *Department Chair*
Alan Klem – theatre – *Associate Chair, Performing Arts*
Michael Flecky, S.J. – photography – *Associate Chair, Visual Arts*

Theatre

Bill Van Deest – *Theatre Coordinator/Technical Director*
Dr. Bill Hutson – theatre history / acting / directing

Adjunct Theatre

Mark Krejci – *Assistant Technical Director*
Michael Markey – *Managing Director, Nebraska Shakespeare Festival*
Michael J. McCandless – *Building Operations Director/Admissions Liaison*
Wendy Stark – *Costume Designer*

Music

Dr. Frederick Hanna – instrumental music /
music theory – *Music Coordinator*
Carole Seitz – music theory / music appreciation / class voice
Charles Jurgensmeier, S.J. – choral music / music history

Adjunct Music

Jeffrey L. Baron – percussion	Craig Bircher - trumpet
Mary Bircher – harp	James Compton - bassoon
Ron Cooley – guitar	Kenneth Drefke - saxophone / clarinet
Nestor Herszbaum - flute / piccolo	Ken Kielniarz - euphonium / tuba
Paul Koenig – voice	Jeremy Laukhuf - string bass
Elaine Majors - piano	David Moore - music education
William Ritchie - string bass	Glenn Smith – guitar
Louis Stout - horn	Claudette Valentine - Gospel choir / piano
Luigi Waites - percussion	Margaret Wilmeth – cello
Jay Wise - trombone	

Dance

Valerie Roche – *Dance Coordinator*

Adjunct Dance

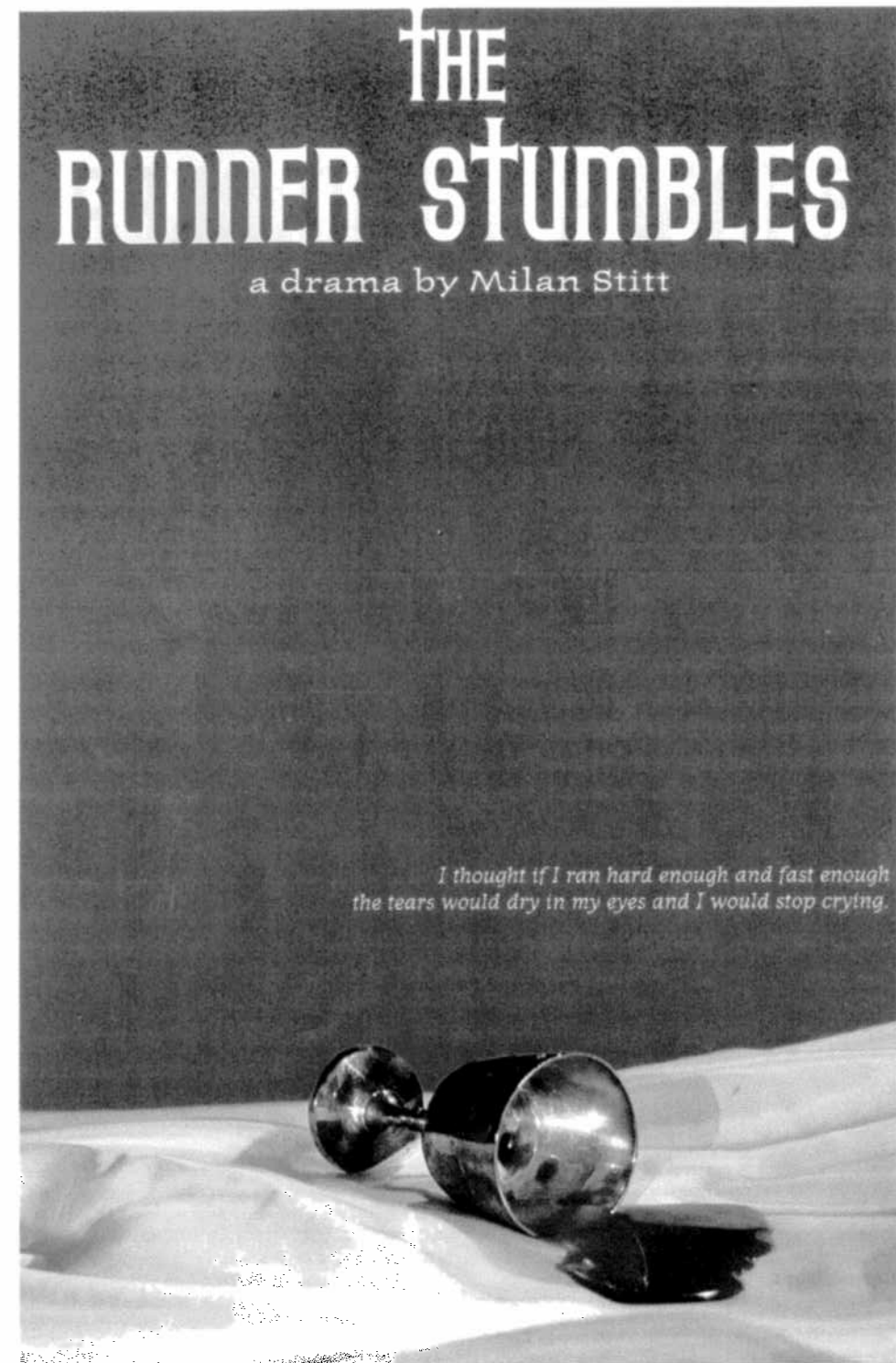
Patrick Roddy Kelly Holcombe Patti Zukaitis

Visual Art

Dr. Roger Aikin – art history
Littleton Alston – sculpture
G. Ted Bohr, S.J. – art history – *Gallery Director/Community Liaison*
Bob Bosco – painting
Don Doll, S.J. – photography – *Charles & Mary Heider
Endowed Jesuit Faculty Chair*
Jerome K Horning – ceramics
John Thein – printmaking

Staff

Robert Caudillo – *Promotions Coordinator/Technology Liaison*
Elaine Witt – *Senior Specialist*



October 5 – 7, 2000 – 7:30pm
October 8, 2000 – 2:00pm
October 12 – 14, 2000 – 7:30pm

Main Stage
Lied Education Center for the Arts
24th & Cass Streets on
the Creighton University Campus

THE RUNNER STUMBLES

a drama by Milan Stitt

directed by
ALAN KLEM

costume design by
WENDY STARK

scenic & lighting design by
BILL VAN DEEST



Presented and Produced by the
John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

Supported in Part by
The Kennedy Center Corporate Fund
The US Department of Education
Delta Airlines

The National Committee for the Performing Arts

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KC/ACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KC/ACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in KC/ACTF programs involving awards, scholarships, and special grants for actors, playwrights, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KC/ACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KC/ACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC in the spring of 2001.

Last year more than 1000 productions and 19,000 students participated in the American College Theater Festival nationwide. By entering this production, our department is sharing in the KC/ACTF goals to help college theater grow and to focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

NOTICE

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

THE RUNNER STUMBLES is produced through a special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

CAST

CHRIS CLOYD AMOS
PAUL LICHTERIG FATHER RIUARD
MEGHAN MATTHEWS ERNA 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.

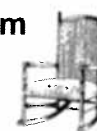
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PRODUCTION STAFF

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 Rasette,
Dena Ricklefs, Joe Smithberg,
Chris Wolfe, Renae 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,
Keahana 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 Wigton,
Autumn Yosten
Box Office/House Manager Ginny Lawless
Singing Children Joy Marshall, Emily Oberdorfer
* the students of THR 355
† the students of THR 214

SPECIAL THANKS

CU Assoc. Prof. Jerry Horning, ceramics

John Gibilisco

Omaha Community Playhouse