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Eugene O'Neill International Conference 1995: O'Neill's People, program

Eugene O'Neill Society

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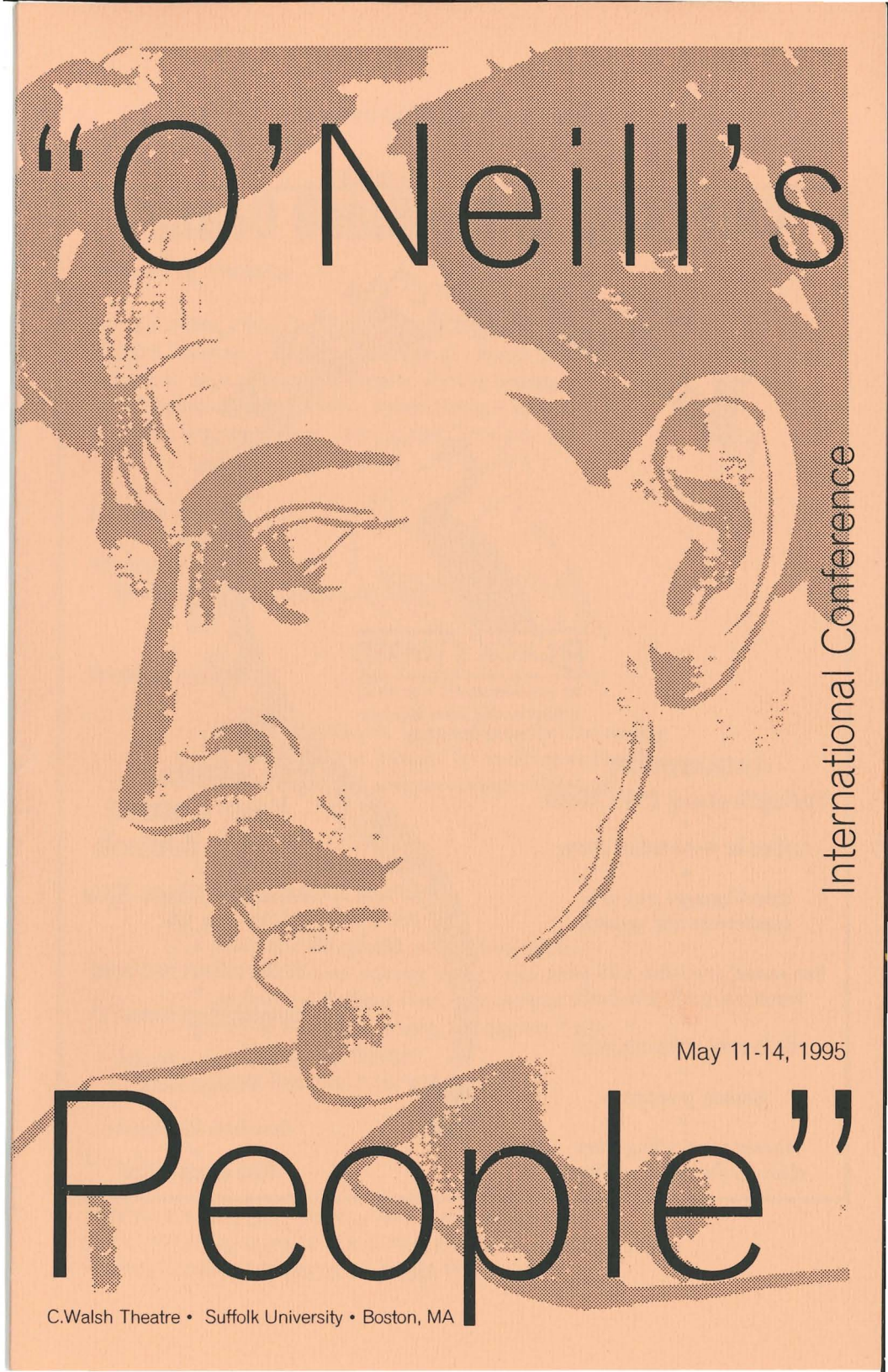


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"O'Neill's

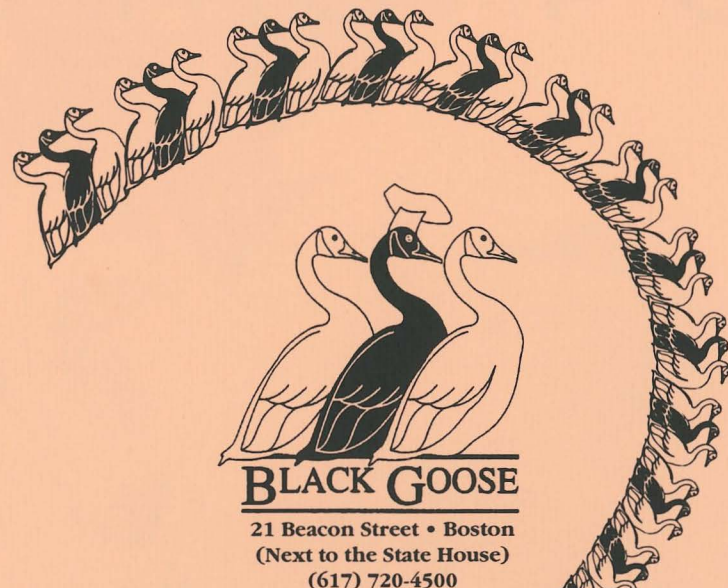
International Conference

May 11-14, 1995

People"

C.Walsh Theatre • Suffolk University • Boston, MA

What's up at the Black Goose?



Announcing Spring/Summer 1995 Menu

- Grilled or Oven-baked Pizza
- Baked Lasagne with wild mushrooms and spinach
- Pan seared swordfish with plum tomatoes, garlic and herbs
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- Mussels pomodoro
- Caesar salad with grilled chicken, shrimp or scallops

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 - Omelette Florentine
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EUGENE O'NEILL CONFERENCE

OPENING CEREMONY

Welcoming Remarks

David Sargent, President, Suffolk University.
Michael Ronayne, Dean, S.U. College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.
Jackson R. Bryer, President, Eugene O'Neill Society.
Sally Thomas Pavetti, Curator, Monte Cristo Cottage.
Frederick Wilkins, Editor, *The Eugene O'Neill Review*.

Keynote Address

"O'Neill Revisited"
Barbara Gelb, co-author of *O'Neill*.

Medal Presentation

Bronze medals will be awarded to the elite among O'Neill's current "people" by co-directors Pavetti and Wilkins and sculptor Gilman Whitman.

Recipients:
Normand Berlin, scholar.
Travis Bogard, scholar.
Arvin Brown, director.
Geraldine Fitzgerald, actress and director.
Donald Gallup, scholar and curator.
Arthur and Barbara Gelb, biographers.
Jordan Y. Miller, scholar and Society "father."
José Quintero, director.
Jason Robards, actor and director.

Reception

Immediately following, on stage and in the theatre lobby.
Join us for a sing-along of The O'Neill Songbook, accompanied by Stephen Kennedy Murphy at the Might Wurlitzer!

*A very special note of thanks to our contributors,
whose generous donations made this conference possible.*

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The Shubert Foundation, Inc.
The Boston Globe Foundation
Helena Rubinstein Foundation
Jujamcyn Theatres
The Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation

MEDALISTS

Normand Berlin, Professor of English at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, is the author of *The Secret Cause: A Discussion of Tragedy, Eugene O'Neill*, and (most recently) *O'Neill's Shakespeare*, and the editor of a Macmillan-of-London casebook, *Eugene O'Neill: Three Plays*. Professor Berlin is an Advisory Editor of the *Eugene O'Neill Review* and a member of the editorial board for *English Literary Renaissance*.

Travis Bogard, Professor Emeritus of Dramatic Arts at the University of California, Berkeley, and Vice President and Program Director at Tao House, is the author of *Contour in Time: The Plays of Eugene O'Neill* and *From the Silence of Tao House*; compiler of *The Unknown O'Neill* and the three-volume Library of America edition of O'Neill's plays; and co-editor with Jackson R. Bryer of the *Selected Letters of Eugene O'Neill* and "*The Theatre We Worked For*": *The Letters of Eugene O'Neill to Kenneth Macgowan*.

Arvin Brown is Artistic Director of the Long Wharf Theatre in New Haven, Connecticut, where he has directed more than 75 plays, a number of which have won major awards and transferred to Broadway. Mr. Brown has had a long and memorable association with the plays of Eugene O'Neill, having directed landmark productions of *Long Day's Journey Into Night* (with Geraldine Fitzgerald and Robert Ryan), *Ah, Wilderness!* (also with Ms. Fitzgerald; and, in another production, with Jason Robards and Colleen Dewhurst), *Anna Christie* and *A Touch of the Poet*.

Geraldine Fitzgerald has been a superstar of both stage and screen since her Broadway debut 57 years ago in Orson Welles' Mercury Theatre production of Shaw's *Heartbreak House*. Her luminous O'Neill roles include Mary Tyrone in *Long Day's Journey Into*

Night, Essie Miller in *Ah, Wilderness!* and Nora Melody in *A Touch of the Poet*, and she both hosted and appeared in a PBS production of *Beyond the Horizon*. She directed an African-American production of *Long Day's Journey* whose cast included 1986 conference guest Ruby Dee. The last was subsequently seen on cable television. Ms. Fitzgerald has appeared in more than forty films, receiving an Oscar nomination for her work in *Wuthering Heights*. And her mastery of musical theatre was amply evident in her legendary one-woman show *Streetsongs*.

Donald Gallup was for thirty-three years Curator of American Literature at the Sterling Memorial Library and later the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University, where he also served from 1973 to 1980 as Administrator for O'Neill properties. The editor of O'Neill's *Inscriptions*, *More Stately Mansions*, *Poems*, *Work Diary* and *The Calms of Capricorn*, Dr. Gallup was the 1994 recipient of the Tao House Award "for what he has given to the American theater." His memoirs, *Pigeons on the Granite*, offers memorable coverage of his curatorial affiliation with such artistic luminaries as Marsden Hartley, Thornton Wilder, and Eugene Gladstone and Carlotta Monterey O'Neill.

Arthur and Barbara Gelb are co-authors of the monumental 1962 biography *O'Neill*, which was a prime contributor to the resurrection of the playwright as a major figure in the literary and theatrical worlds, and which they are currently revising and amplifying for a new edition to be published by Applause Books. Mr. Gelb, a former editor of the *New York Times*, is the President of the New York Times Company Foundation. Mrs. Gelb, a frequent lecturer, panelist and writer on O'Neill and co-chair with George C. White of the Theater Committee for Eugene O'Neill (which celebrated each O'Neill birthday for the decade leading up to the 1988 centenary), is the author of *So Short a Time*, a biography of John Reed and Louise Bryant, and *My Gene*, a one-character play which starred Colleen Dewhurst as Carlotta Monterey O'Neill.

Jordan Y. Miller, Professor Emeritus of English at the University of Rhode Island and the first Secretary-Treasurer of the Eugene O'Neill Society, wrote one of the very first doctoral dissertations on O'Neill. He is the author of *Eugene O'Neill and the American Critic*, co-author with Winifred Frazer of *American Drama Between the Wars: A Critical History*, and editor of *Playwright's Progress: O'Neill and the Critics*. It was Professor Miller who, along with the late Horst Frenz, provided the inspiration and drive that helped the nascent Eugene O'Neill Society to soar.

José Quintero has directed more than 50 Broadway and off-Broadway productions, including legendary mountings of O'Neill's *The Iceman Cometh* (1956, initiating a world-wide revival of interest in O'Neill), *Long Day's Journey Into Night* (also 1956, the first production in America, and the first in English), *Desire Under the Elms*, *Strange Interlude*, *Marco Millions*, *Hughie*, *Welded*, *More Stately Mansions*, *A Touch of the Poet*, *Anna Christie* and *A Moon for the Misbegotten*. Mr. Quintero was a memorable participant in the 1986 O'Neill conference, and it is a joy to welcome him back nine years later!

Jason Robards, an American giant on stage, screen and television, is unanimously acclaimed as the quintessential interpreter of a number of O'Neill's greatest roles: Theodore Hickman in *The Iceman Cometh*, Cornelius Melody in *A Touch of the Poet*, Jim Tyrone in *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, Erie Smith in *Hughie*, and both Jamie and James Tyrone (in separate productions, the second of which he also directed) in *Long Day's Journey Into Night*. His distinguished screen career has included Oscar-winning performances in *All the President's Men* and *Julia*. And he won Tony awards for his work in *The Disenchanted* and *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, the latter proving yet again that the combination of Robards, Quintero and O'Neill makes for the most exciting and exhilarating theatre in the world.

About the Sculptor...

Gil Whitman, the sculptor who created the bronze medal that will be presented to tonight's honorees, is currently celebrating the thirtieth anniversary of the opening of his Gil Whitman Gallery and sculpture garden on Route One just north of Wiscasset in North Edgecomb, Maine; and the fiftieth reunion of his graduating class at Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute ("Essex Aggie"), where a major exhibition of his large outdoor and smaller indoor sculptures is currently on display. (Take Route One or 95 north to Route 62; then take 62 west for about a mile to Hathorne.) Mr. Whitman's work extends from the delicate and miniature (like his kinetic bronzes of wild flowers, designed especially for the visually challenged) to the epic and grand (like the massive sculpture of hockey players outside the Spectrum in Philadelphia, the Flyers' bicentennial gift to the city). Signed prints of the drawing that preceded the O'Neill medal are available for purchase.



Special Thanks

Suffolk University College of Liberal Arts And
Sciences

Arthur and Barbara Gelb

Bernadette Smyth

The C. Walsh Theatre:

Marilyn Plotkins

Celeste Wilson

Tom Behrens

Chris DeStefano

Technicians: Richard Ireton, Dana Cook,

Aleksandar Lekic, Ivy Wong

Jack Fitzgerald, Office of Development

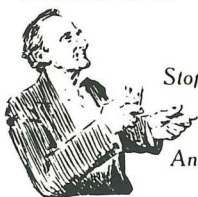
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Alexiz Cruz

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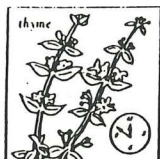
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