

THE GLASS MENAGERIE

But for the persistent devotion of a handful of Chicago critics who continued daily in their columns to berate Chicagoans for their neglect of a distinguished work of art, it might have been yet a few more years before the world had become acquainted with the fragile and beautiful play called "The Glass Menagerie," and the major talent of its imaginative and then struggling author, Tennessee Williams.

"The Glass Menagerie" at once established Williams as a playwright of foremost rank, of course, and critics at the play's Chicago premiere on December 26, 1944, composed reviews that glowed with the reflected poetry of the script. But the public seemed slow to respond, nevertheless, and usually a play that does not catch on in its pre-Broadway try-out languishes and withers before it ever has a chance to reach New York, seldom to be resuscitated again. For ordinarily producers cannot continue to pour money into a production that does not immediately make the grade. But Eddie Dowling and Louis Singer, the producers of "The Glass Menagerie," believed so strongly in the merits of the play and in its potential audience that they were willing to continue running at a loss until the enchanting drama found that audience. Not only that, but the too often pilloried critics continued their verbal spankings of the city's citizens until Chicagoans started to investigate the wonderful new experience in make-believe at the Civic Theatre. It played to packed houses there for three months and could have run for many many more by the time the company packed up to come on to New York in time to try to capture that season's New York Critics' Circle Award for the best play of the year. "The Glass Menagerie" took the prize and it continued to run in New York at the Playhouse for a year and a half.

Almost 20 years to that day, "The Glass Menagerie" was given an anniversary revival on Broadway. The play again received outstanding critical acclaim and rang up a total of 176 performances, impressive for a revival on Broadway, before closing on October 2, that same year. The sudden re-popularity of the now "classic" play resulted in a special CBS television production on December 8, 1966, of the hit.

THEATRE

presents

The Glass Menagerie



By TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

February 22, 23, 24, 25, 1978

McNair Auditorium

8:00 p.m.

Tennessee Williams'

THE GLASS MENAGERIE

The Mother Tricia Ham*
Her Son Lonnie Connor*
Her Daughter Suzanne Smith
The Gentleman Caller Steve Hunt*

scene synopsis

The place is the Wingfield Tenement apartment in St. Louis.
The time is the now and the past.

Part I: Preparation for a Gentleman Caller

Scene 1: The Late Fall-Afternoon
Scene 2: Two Weeks Later-Afternoon
Scene 3: Mid-Winter-Evening
Scene 4: Early the Next Morning
Scene 5: Later That Morning
Scene 6: A Late Spring Evening

10 minute intermission

Part II: The Gentleman Calls

Scene 1: The Following Evening
Scene 2: A Half-Hour Later

The college theatre requests that no photographs be taken
during the performance.

*Member of Alpha Psi Omega-national dramatics honorary fraternity

Production Staff

Director D. C. Sanderson
Assistant Director Cheryl Hinson*
Technical Director & Scenic Designer S. L. Moore
Lighting Control Carnetha Stuckey
Sound Control Cynthia Warden*
Property Mistress Meg Norwood
Stage Carpenters Susan Early*, Michael Buckles*, Cynthia Warden*
Property Crew Judy Colby, Pam Church
Lighting Crew Steve Hunt*, Carnetha Stuckey
Set Construction Jim Rose, Pam Church, Judy Colby,
Lonnie Connor*, Greg Dennison*, Cheryl Hinson*,
Meg Norwood, David O'Neil*, John Poindexter,
Pat Sowell*, Carnetha Stuckey, Pat Tomason,
Terry Wilkins, Frank Butler, Troy Purvis,
Sharon Barrett, Gene Campbell

THE GLASS MENAGERIE
is produced by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc.
440 Park Avenue South
New York, N. Y. 10016

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Chris Logan's Beauty College

Alpha Psi Omega invites you to purchase a coke during intermission.
However, please do not bring your drink into the auditorium.

Future Florence Area Theatre Productions

March 7-11 Joseph Kesselring's *Arsenic and Old Lace*
Florence Little Theatre, 8:00
April 13-15 Jules Feiffer's *The White House Murder Case*
Francis Marion College Theatre, 8:00