

A message from the director

Bus Stop is a very funny, very profound play by one of America's best playwrights, William Inge. Set in 1955, it deals with timeless issues. The more time we have spent with the play, the more we appreciated the depth and beauty of the writing. Eight people are trapped for the night by a blizzard in a small bus stop in Kansas; each one is changed in some way by the experience. The theme is LOVE; the different types of love that make life worth living. One of those, of course, is ROMANTIC LOVE. Listen to the words Inge places in the mouth of a drunken professor:

"Two people, really in love, must give up something of themselves . . . that is the gift that we are afraid to make. Sometimes we keep it in our bosoms forever, where it withers and dies. Then we never know love, only its facsimiles, which we seek over and over again in meaningless repetition.

It takes strong men and women to love . . . People strong enough inside themselves to love . . . without humiliation. People big enough to grow with their love and live inside a whole, wide new dimension. People brave enough to bear the responsibility of being loved and not fear it as a burden.

Or, the words spoken by Cherie, a young/old 19-year-old, who has been battered by life:

"Mebbe I don't know what love is. Mebbe I'm expectin' it t'be somethin' it ain't. I jest feel that, regardless how crazy ya are 'bout some guy, ya gotta feel . . . he respects ya . . . that . . . whoever I marry . . . has some real regard for me, apart from all the lovin' and sex."

We hope that you will thoroughly enjoy *Bus Stop* and that you will do some serious thinking about the meaning of love.

Bus Stop was first presented by Robert Whitehead and Roger L. Stevens at the Music Box, New York City, March 2, 1955.

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

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We regret if some names may not appear due to program deadlines.



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Community
Theatre
presents



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February 2-3 & 9-10, 2001
7:30 p.m.
February 4 & 11, 2001
2:00 p.m.

Decatur Civic Center Theatre



Decatur's Community Theatre
presents

Bill Keagle

Director

Cynthia Hinkle

Assistant Director

Jerry Johnson

Janet Patterson

Co-Producers

Delia Larkins

Costume Design

Bob Olson

Set Design

Bill Keagle

Lighting Design



Setting

The action of the play takes place in a street-corner restaurant in a small town about thirty miles west of Kansas City.

Act I

A night in early March. 1:00 a.m.

Act II

A few minutes later.

Act III

Early morning. About 5:00 a.m.

Cast

Shawn Becker *Bo Decker (a young rancher)*
Danny Cox *Virgil Blessing (a ranch hand)*
Ron Helm *Carl (a bus driver)*
Kevin Jon Kelley *Will Masters (a sheriff)*
Mitchaleen Lowe *Elma Duckworth (a waitress)*
Al Scheider..... *Dr. Lyman (a former college professor)*
Pati Sprague *Grace Hoylard (a restaurant owner)*
Britten Traughber *Cherie (a chanteuse)*

Technical Crew

Stage Manager Cynthia Hinkle
Hair **Catherine Rievers,**
Cindy Adams, Angie Moore
House Manager Lesa Andrick
Lobby Display Donna Borders
Make-up..... **Risé Davis,** Karen Wade
Photography Bob Strongman
Program..... Jerry Johnson
Props/Set Dressing **Milli Velek,** Julie Neuman,
Louise Mrotzek, Pam Stinson
Publicity **Tim Haworth,**
Carrie Jackson, Jerry Johnson
Set Construction & Painting**Jerry Johnson,**
Dick Borders
Doug Bishop, Jody Byers, Doug Fryman,
Adam Johnson, Rob Johnson, Lauren Morrow,
Janet Patterson, Steve Trout, Penny Williams
Sound Effects Jerry Johnson
Video Services Larry & Delia Larkins

Future Auditions



The third production of the season, a comedy

Directed by Joe Straka

Tuesday &

Wednesday,

February 20 & 21, 2001 - 7:00 p.m.

Cast requires four males and six females of ages ranging from 20 to 60+.

Performance dates: March 30-April 1 & April 6-8, 2001



Thanks and Acknowledgements

Tony Romano
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www.decaturnet.org/theatre7/