KENTWOOD PLAYERS PRESENTS The West Coast Premiere of THE COVER OF



by R. T. Robinson Directed by Sheldon Metz

January 15 - February 20, 1999

Westchester Playhouse 8301 Hindry Avenue Westchester, California 90045 (310) 645-5156

September 18, 1944

Cents

\$4.50

Yearly Subscription

The West Coast Premiere of THE COVER OF LIFE

DIRECTOR: SHELDON METZ

PRODUCERS VAN & ALISON MATTIZA

LIGHT DESIGN RICHARD POTTHOFF & DAVE PARKE

SOUND DESIGN KATHI THOMPSON

COSTUME DESIGN SHERIDAN COLE SET DESIGN SHELDON METZ

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Kate Miller	Susan Gordon
Tood	Jenny Rainwater
Weetsie	
Aunt Ola	
Sybil	Elena Olanson
Addie Mae	Margie Bates
Tommy	

Setting: The action of the play takes place in various locations over several weeks in Sterlington, Louisiana, a very small town.

Time: September 1943

There will be one 15 minute intermission between Act I and Act II. Decaf will be served at intermission, courtesy of Kentwood Players

PRODUCED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Sheldon Metz - Sheldon has been involved in almost every aspect of the performing arts, having acted in 160 productions (22 lead roles). Active in community and professional theatre throughtout Los Angeles, he is a Past-President of the Kentwood Players. He has also served as Executive Director of A.C.C.T., too! - the Assocation of Commercial and Community Theatre, as Director of the West Coast Theatre Conference (Los Angeles), The Theatre Conference (New York) and was a Producer/Director for the Playwrights Kitchen Ensemble, under the Artistic Direction of Dan Lauria.

Sheldon's most recent Kentwood directing assignments have been the Los Angeles premiere of P.J. Barry's After the Dancing in Jericho and Wendy Wasserstein's The Sisters Rosensweig. He also directed A.R. Gurney's Love Letters for the Hermosa Civic Theatre, starring Bonnie Franklin and Tony Musante and Karen Valentine and Richard Kline. In 1992, he received one of many directing awards for another Gurney play, the highly acclaimed production of The Cocktail Hour. He directed the Los Angeles premiere of Barry's The Octette Bridge Club and Ron Harwood's The Dresser. Also included among his 63 directing credits and 33 set designs, is Kentwood's highly acclaimed A Few Good Men. Sheldon directs theatre for the love of it and with the permission of his wife, Linda.

ABOUT THE PRODUCERS

Van & Alison Mattiza - Van and Alison have been very active at Kentwood over the last year and are proud graduates of KP's Theatre Production Class. Alison has been doing theatre for over 10 years and is currently a KP board member. Last summer, Alison played Maureen in KP's *Time of My Life* and Van worked backstage. They also worked backstage on the musical, *Forum*, last fall. After that, Van stepped in as a police officer/stage crew in KP's last production, *Angel Street*. Despite keeping so busy, Van and Alison are still newlyweds - they have been married just over one year.

ABOUT THE ASST. DIRECTOR/STAGE MANAGER

Frank Roys - Frank's business card reads "SHOW BIZ". That's easier than listing his various accomplishments over the last thirty-four years. Last January, Barbara McMurray brought him to see KP's production of *Come Blow Your Hom.* He met Max Stormes and became the Production Stage Manager for *Mousetrap*. Now he's backstage again doing his thing.

ABOUT THE CAST

Margie Bates (Addie Mae) - Margie appeared on the Kentwood stage most recently as Kate in *Sylvia* last spring. Some of her other favorite roles were as Marie, a *Can Can* dancer in 1994, the tap dancing Dorothy in the 1990 production of *Stepping Out*, and as Nancy in *Play It Again, Sam*, with director Sheldon Metz in 1988. She is just "enthralled" with this new play about "The Wives Left Behind".

Susan Gordon (Kate) - Susan is pleased to make her Kentwood debut in the role of Kate. She was last seen as Julia in *Springtime for Henry* at Actors Circle Theatre. Favorite roles include Chris in *Rumors*, Rosemary in *Picnic*, Lady Grace in *Something's Afoot*, Lizzie in 110 in the Shade, Janie in *Quilters*, Annelle in *Steel Magnolias*, Lenny in *Crimes of the Heart*, and Helen, the psychotic screenwriter in *Hollywood and Wino*. She is proud to be a member of this cast.

Dawn Joyal (Aunt Ola) - Dawn is thrilled to be back with Kentwood Players. She was introduced to Kentwood last year as Kate in *After the Dancing in Jericho*. Other recent roles include Ouisa in *Six Degrees of Separation*, (Theatre Palisades), Misty in *Babes and Brides* (Sanford Meisner Center for the Arts), the Bear in *Duet for Bear and Dog* and Grandma Tzeitel in *Fiddler on the Roof* (Morgan-Wixson Theatre), Donna/Oolie in *City of Angels* and Lydian Emerson in *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail* (Santa Monica College). She also appears in the feature film *The Hiding Place*. Thanks to Ron and Stephanie for their unwavering patience and support.

Elena Olanson (Sybil) - This is Elena's first play with the Kentwood Players. She was performing in *The Mousetrap* when she got cast and began rehearsals for this play. So, 3 days a week she spoke with a British accent, 3 days a week with a Southern accent, and her day off American. Juggling all three dialects has been a delightful challenge! When not on the stage, Elena has appeared in commercials and independent films.

Mary Elizabeth Raffety (Weetsie) - Mary Elizabeth has performed roles such as Meg in *Crimes of the Heart*, Natasha in *The Three Sisters*, and Thelma in *Trip to Bountiful*. She is currently pursuing a career in film/television and is represented by MGA. She has appeared on *Wings* as well as in a FOX Promo with Terry Bradshaw. Mary Elizabeth presently studies with Peter Looney.

Jenny Rainwater (Tood) - Jenny is thrilled to be a part of the West Coast Premiere of *The Cover of Life*. Originally from Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Jenny is a newcomer to Los Angeles, here to pursue her dreams. Her degree in theatre lead to some of her favorite roles such as Anne Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Sandy in *Grease*, and Sybil in Noel Coward's *Private Lives*. She would like to thank her family and Jonathan for their love and support for following her exciting, and at times frightening, goals.

Eric Wrye (Tommy) - This show marks Eric's West Coast stage debut. He hails from Macon, Georgia where he was heavily involved in community theatre. In the last year Eric could be seen on the NBC show Saved By The Bell and the Fox Family Channel's Outrageous. Eric wishes to thank Nikolai Guzov for being the best acting coach and friend an actor could dream of having.

PRODUCTION STAFF

	Frank Roys
	Barbara McMurray
Booth Crew	Philip Brickey, Dave Parke, David, Parke, Jr.
Set Design & Supervision	Sheldon Metz
	Frank Olivadoti, Max Stormes
Construction Crew	Bill Harred, Dave Parke, Frank Roys
Set Decoration	Sheldon Metz, Scot Renfro
	Dave Parke, Richard Potthoff
	Bruce Mathews
	Kathi Thompson
Props	Calia Mintzer
Costume Design	Sheridan Cole
Costume Assistants	Natalie Bizic, Maria Cohen,
E	arbara Brophey, Treva Merritt, Loretta Weaver
Publicity Photos	
	Alison & Van Mattiza, Calia Mintzer
	Potthoff, Charlotte Lee Schildkret, Jeanne Spain
	Arlene Cohen
	Joseph Franzone II

STRIKE CREW & WORK SUNDAY

David & Estelle Abrams, Kim Ash, Mel Barmazel, Hope Boole, Tom & Barbara Brophey, Michael Cohen, Sheldon & Arlene Cohen, Jim Crawford, Joe Fagan, Bill Goldyn, Lauren Jarvis, Sally Pierce, Tara Potthoff, George L. Rametta, Scot Renfro, Charlotte Lee Schildkret, Bob Sherman, Adina Silo, Conny Sless, Delbert & Jeanne Spain, Max Stormes, and the cast and crew of *The Cover of Life*

SPECIAL THANKS

Arlene Cohen for costumes, Michelle Rosen and Conny Sless for suitcases, Michael Cohen for lobby artwork, Linda Parke for quilts, Jeff Wallach for assistance with hair styles, Ron Wisansky for slide projector, and the many members of Kentwood Players who allowed us to borrow their World War II photos.

You are invited to meet and greet cast members after the performance in the Green Room. Please use the outside stairway at the rear of the theater.

KENTWOOD DI AYEDS COMING ATTDACTIONS

CHEATERS

by Michael Jacobs March 12 - April 17, 1999 Director: Lynne Ingram

LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS

by Neil Simon July 9 - August 14, 1999 Director: Toni La Monica

ARSENIC AND OLD LACE

by Joseph Kesserling November 12 - December 18, 1999 Director: Sheridan Cole

THE HEIRESS

by Ruth & Augustus Goetz May 7 - June 12, 1999 Director: Gail Bernardi

NUNSENSE

Book, Music & Lyrics by Dan Goggins September, 10 - October 23, 1999 Director: Jeff Wallach

I'M NOT RAPPAPORT

by Herb Gardner January 14 - February 19, 2000 Director: Sheldon Metz

SPECIAL THEATRE PARTIES

A special Theatre Party planned for your organization or group can be a financial success as well as an entertaining evening (or matinee) at the theatre. For further information call: Calia Mintzer (310) 837-3609

RESERVATIONS ARE NECESSARY

Please call (310) 645-5156 between 4:00pm - 7:00pm TUESDAY through SATURDAY

Reservations MUST be paid for by cash, check, member coupon, or season subscriber coupon one week after they are made.

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