



the  
**seagull**

presents

# THE SEA GULL

by

Anton Chekov

Translated by Stark Young

Last spring on our campus there was a great deal of discussion--often heated, frequently anguished--about the need for relevance in art. The deaths at Kent State and Jackson State and the incursion into Cambodia seemed to many to make trivial any art that was not aimed at righting these horrendous wrongs.

Relevance, defined so narrowly, poses problems that have been addressed by Marxist critic Ernst Fischer in a fascinating book, Art Against Ideology (London: Allen Lane, The Penguin Press, 1969). Fischer contends that arts are not ideology but triumphs of reality over ideology. He believes that propaganda is an inappropriate activity for something as complex as art and is best served by simpler means.

The Sea Gull, subjected to czarist censorship, first presented seventy-four years ago, was selected for its relevance. The young artist seeking to find himself in new forms, the conflict between human and aesthetic values, the anguish of alienated labor, are all meaningful today. It may very well be that one of this production's values is that it permits us to see some of our concerns addressed in a foreign context.

But Chekov's plays are experiential, not ideological. Perhaps the best relevance art can offer is to the human experience, not to the latest formulations about that experience. Shakespeare's narrow, forked beast tormented on the heath is still terrifyingly relevant.

Robert Sugarman

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The Sea Gull is set in Sorin's country estate. Two years elapse between Acts Three and Four. There will be one ten minute intermission between the Second and Third Acts.

- Irina Nicolayevna Arcadina, Madame Trepleff . . . . . Lisbeth Shore
- Constantine Gavrilovitch Trepleff . . . Brian Johnston
- Pyoter Nicolayevitch Sorin . . . . . Steve Herrick
- Nina Mikhailovna Zarechnia . . . . . Nancy Mauro
- Ilya Afanyevitch Shamreyeff . . . . . William E. Kelley
- Paulina Andreyevna . . . . . Katy Dierlam
- Masha Ilyinishna . . . . . Joan Poor
- Boris Alexeyevitch Trigorin . . . . . Paul R. Cooper
- Fvgeny Sergeyeitch Dorn . . . . . Peter Jon DeVries
- Semyon Semyonovitch Myedvyedenko . . . Ashley Hollister
- Yacov . . . . . Robert Eldridge
- Cook . . . . . Rock Townsend
- Housemaid . . . . . Peggy Ann Vroman

Directed by Robert Sugarman  
Setting, Costumes and Lighting by Richard Kerry  
Technical Director, William E. Kelley  
Stage Managers, Rommy Brown, Candace F. Byers  
Assistant Designer, Susan Sheckler

Language Consultant - Nora Montesinos  
Music Consultant - Jacob Glick  
Pianist - Marya Finckel

Property Master - Allen Kennedy

Carpenters - Paul Cooper, Peter Jon DeVries,  
Brian Johnston

Construction and Running Crews - Idea and Image  
Stagecraft Class

The Sea Gull company thanks those members of the  
Drama Division and of other divisions whose time  
and help contributed so much to this production.

Special thanks to the Daniels Store of Hoosick Falls.

The Sea Gull is presented by special arrangement  
with Samuel French, Inc.