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John Brown's Body

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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Painting by John Steuart Curry

AND JOHN BROWN PRAYED TO HIS GOD

Otterbein College Theatre

presents

JOHN BROWN'S BODY

starring

HANS CONRIED

Director Prof. Charles W. Dodrill

Choral Director Prof. Richard Chamberlain

Technical Director Prof. Fred Thayer

The play is produced by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

MARCH 1, 2, 3, 1962

Cowan Hall

8:30 p.m.

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Hans Conried

The Otterbein College Festival of Arts and the Otterbein College Theatre are extremely proud to present Hans Conried in "John Brown's Body" as one of the feature events of this 1962 festival which centers around the Civil War. Our grateful thanks go to the American National Theatre Academy and the Actors' Equity Association for making his appearance possible.

A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Hans Conried has enjoyed a career spanning several theatrical media. It was in a succession of uncut Shakespearean plays that he entered Hollywood radio in 1936. The following year he played second leads in support of the late John Barrymore in a broadcast series of "Streamlined Shakespeare."

The Conried ear for the sound and rhythms of languages facilitated his later em-

ployment in dialect parts. He regularly appeared on the radio programs of Irving Reis, Arch Oboler, Norman Corwin, and he worked with Orson Wells for five consecutive years. He is probably best known for his radio work as Schultz in "Life With Luigi," and as Professor Kropotkin in "My Friend Irma."

He has appeared in over 100 motion pictures including "3 for Bedroom C," "Big Jim McLain," "Bus Stop" and "Meet Me In Las Vegas." Recently he was the voice of both Captain Hook and Mr. Darling in Walt Disney's "Peter Pan" and will likewise be heard as the voice of the Grand Wazier in "Magoo's Arabian Nights."

When television entered the American scene, he was immediately signed as a regular panel member of the famed "Pantomime Quiz" show, this association lasted five years. He also appeared in every top network show emanating from New York and Hollywood. Such shows as: Playhouse 90, Alcoa Hour, Bob Hope Show, Jerry Lewis Show, George Gobel Show, and the Hallmark Hall of Fame. He has appeared many times during recent seasons as Uncle Toonoose on "The Danny Thomas Show" and "The Jack Parr Show."

Twice the name of Hans Conried has appeared on Broadway. First in Cole Porter's "Can-Can" as the Bulgarian sculptor, Boris Adzinidzinadze. He claims it was not so much for the critical accolades he received for his characterization but for his unerring ability to pronounce the name that gained him the opportunity to portray the role, which he created on Broadway. Early in 1959 he was starred in the Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse comedy, "Tall Story."

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Gary Olin

Jim Gilts

Janice Perry

Loyde Hartley

Pat Riddel

Gary Hatten

Carol Sheaffer

Tina Hoffman

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Carole Kouse

Carole Wigle

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND PLAY

Stephen Vincent Benet, one of America's outstanding poets of this century, was born in 1898 and died in 1943. A direct descendent of military men (his grandfather had fought in the Civil War), Benet published his most important work, "John Brown's Body," in 1928. This long narrative poem captured the Pulitzer Prize and has sold over 600,000 copies. Other important works include: **The Devil and Daniel Webster** (1937), **The Sobbin Women** (which served as the basis for the successful film, "Seven Brides For Seven Brothers"), and **The Western Star**, a long epic poem published posthumously in unfinished form.

In 1952 Charles Laughton conceived the idea of staging "John Brown's Body." In late 1952 and throughout 1953 the production was a smash hit on Broadway and on-tour across the country. The production starred Tyrone Power, Judith Anderson and Raymond Massey. Laughton cut the long poem from its original 334-page length, to conventional play length (80 pages), and planned its reading at the hands of three actors and a chorus. Six years later Curtis Canfield (Director of Theatre at Yale University) staged the play in its present version, first at the Yale Drama School and then at an Off-Broadway Theatre in New York in June, 1960. The music was composed by Fenno Heath of the Yale University Music School.

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PRODUCTION CREWS

Assistant Director: Ron Ruble**

Costumes: JoAnn Hoffman*-Chmn., Judy Jones**, Sherry Jordan, Jean Mattox, Helen Staats*

Lights: Tedy Hagerty-Chmn., Carol Alban, Judy Minshall, Lee Phillips*

Programs: Sandy Williams-Chmn., Dick Berry**, Kay Blackledge, Dini Fisher, Karla Hambel, JoAnn Hoffman*

Publicity: Kaye Koontz***-Chmn., Kay Plowman, Jack Wright

Sound: Dick Bennet*, Don Martin*

Stage: Sondra Spangler-Manager, Carol Alban*, Susie Morain*, Sandy Williams

Tickets: Lois Augenstein*-Chmn., Kay Blackledge, JoAnn Hoffman*, Jean Mattox, Judy Solmes, Becky Stiverson

* Members of Cap and Dagger Dramatics Club

** Members of Theta Alpha Phi, National Honorary Dramatics Fraternity

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FESTIVAL OF ARTS

The Second Annual Otterbein College Festival of Arts, 1962, is centered around the theme — The Civil War — Crisis and Expression. "John Brown's Body" is only one of the events during the February 25 to March 11 period encompassing the Festival. You are cordially invited to attend the remaining events, all are free of charge. On next Monday, March 5, one of America's most noted Civil War authorities, Bruce Catton will deliver two lectures in Cowan Hall, one at 9:30 a.m. and the other at 8:30 p.m. On Wednesday, March 7, at 8:30 pm. in Cowan Hall, Grace Cresswell, one of America's favorite folk singers, will sing the melodies that flourished during the Civil War period. The final event, on Sunday evening, March 11, will be "An Evening with Stephen Foster and Ben Hanby," at 8:00 p.m. in Cowan Hall.

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FUTURE EVENTS

Theatre: One-Act plays, March 27
"Death of a Salesman," May 11, 12

Artists Series: Columbus Boychoir, March 13

Films: "The Naked Night," Swedish film directed by
Ingmar Bergman, March 21
"The Devil's General," German film starring
Curt Jurgens, April 18

Other events: A Cappella Choir Concert, April 12
Danish Gymnastic Team, April 9

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