

Synergic Theater

DELTA CARNIVAL

Suzanne White Manning, Artistic Director
David Manning, Director



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Honesty seed
also known as Money Plant



Dear Friend/Contributor/Former Participant:

We'll tell you what the seed is for, but first some background. 1988 is the Synergic Theater's 15th year of exploring, developing and presenting innovative dance/theater, beginning with the premiere performance at the 1974 US/USSR Track and Field Meet's Summer Arts Festival in Durham, NC. To celebrate, we've planned an ambitious season. (Actually, it already began -- with the two-week intensive workshop held at the beginning of January.) First, the big news:

Pace University's Schimmel Center for the Arts, the only major proscenium theater in lower Manhattan, has been donated to us for five full weeks of rehearsal in August and two weeks of performance in September. Schimmel is a modern, 600-seat theater with a 60-foot wide stage and an upstage well that's almost made for our unique use of rear-projection lighting. The program will feature a new version of our shadowscreen production "Lost". Based on the story of Virginia Dare -- the first English child born in the "New World" -- "Lost" originally premiered in 1984 at the 400th Anniversary British American Festival in Durham then at the Schimmel Center here in New York.

Also: In late May/early June, the company will perform at Pace's Schaeberle Studio Theater. Richard Haisma (whom some of you will remember from a performance at Duke's Reynold's Theater in January, 1983) will be joining us as a guest artist. We will return to Schaeberle in June and July for our annual Synergic Theater Summer Workshop, with the possible addition of other workshops on the schedule. This year, prior participants will be invited to join a special two-week development/presentation session following the first three weeks of the workshop.

Meanwhile, progress continues on our plans to present a major full-length shadowscreen work in conjunction with the 1992 500th Anniversary of Columbus's discovery of America. The project has been heartily endorsed by Spain's Royal Quincentennial Commission and the Schimmel Center hopes, along with us, that the work will premiere there in 1990.

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At a time when many performing arts groups are being squeezed out of Manhattan for lack of working space, this extensive use of first class facilities represents a very significant opportunity for the Synergic Theater. However, we can not take advantage of this opportunity without the promotion, production and personnel to realize the space's potential. This will cost about \$50,000. At best, earned income can provide half of that, leaving us with a fund-raising goal of \$25,000. Don't worry -- we're not asking you for \$25,000.

This is where the seeds come in. Having the theater space to work in is like having a field ready for planting. But getting this far -- plowing the field -- has used all the company's resources. Approaching potential corporate and foundation grants is a process that, in itself, requires seed money -- postage, telephone, travel, copying and other overhead expenses represent about 10% of the goal. In other words, we have to plant about \$2500 in order to get started. In the past, small donations, ranging from \$25-\$500 have filled this kind of vital gap between possibility and reality. If everyone who receives this letter gave just \$25, we would reach our goal.

All donors will be invited to dress rehearsals of performances.

Donations are tax-deductible according to new IRS regulations. (Since our corporate status is somewhere between North Carolina and New York, it would be safest to say for now that deductions do not apply to state taxes.) If you can help, please write a check to the Synergic Foundation for the Arts (you can make it to Synergic Theater if you don't feel like writing all that). A pre-addressed envelope has been provided for your convenience. If you'd like further information, don't hesitate to call David/Suzanne Manning, company directors, at (212) 799-5562.

Sincerely,
The Synergic Theater Development Committee:

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Co-director,
Synergic Theater

Suzanne White Manning
Co-director,
Synergic Theater

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