

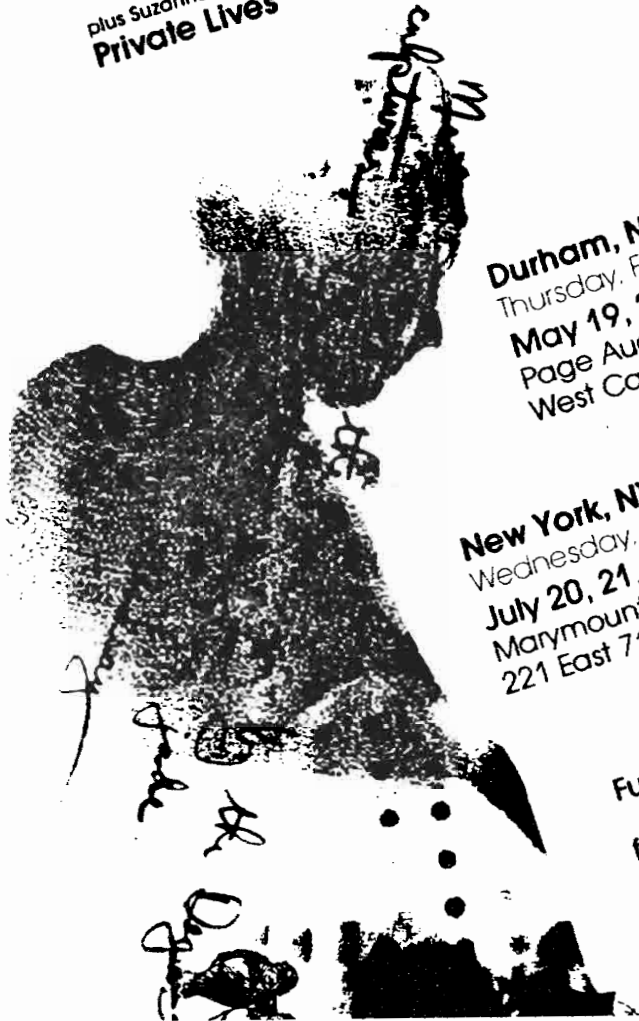
Synergic Theater

presents the premiere performances of

Birthday

created by Suzanne White Manning, Company Artistic Director
in collaboration with David Manning, Company Director
and Jack Arnold, Anne Deloria, Jay Gill, Anne Kelley,
Marjorie Scheer, Susan Settergren and Bryce Wagner

plus Suzanne White Manning's
Private Lives



Durham, NC:

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
May 19, 20, 21 - 8:15 pm

Page Auditorium
West Campus, Duke University

New York, NY:

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday
July 20, 21, 22, 23 - 8:15 pm

Marymount Manhattan Theatre
221 East 71st St.

Funded in part by a grant
from Samuel H. Scripps

The Program

PRIVATE LIVES

20 minutes

Choreography by Suzanne White Manning

Music by George Gershwin: "Piano Preludes", "Lullaby"

Costumes by Susan Settergren

The Preludes (1979)

One: Marjorie Scheer

Two: Anne Deloria, Bryce Wagner

Three: Anne Deloria, Bryce Wagner, Jack Arnold

Lullaby (1976)

Anne Deloria, Bryce Wagner, Jack Arnold, Marjorie Scheer

Premiere: April 1976, at Page Auditorium, Duke University;

October 1979, at the Synergic Theater, San Francisco

Intermission

BIRTHDAY (Premiere)

50 minute

(Portions of "Birthday" first performed in San Francisco, 1979)

Created by Suzanne White Manning
in collaboration with David Manning

Costumes and Set Decorations by Susan Settergren
Large Prop Construction by Jay Gill

Soundscore

Character monologue material written by David Manning
and featuring the voices of the performers.

"Happy Birthday" lyrics by David Manning, music by
Septimus Winner (1870).

"Auld Lang Syne", arranged by John Waldvogel.

Exerpts from Mae Wacker's birthday tape (for Anne Deloria).

Interviews of and by the performers.

Other featured artists from pre-recorded material:

William Bolcom, Eric Salzman, Van Dyke Parks

Handel, Bach, Mozart, P.D. Q. Bach.

Performers

Astra: Anne Deloria

Billy Ryan: Bryce Wagner

Fred Troy: Jack Arnold

Cousin Schenectedy: Marjorie Scheer

Mrs. Ryan: Suzanne White Manning

ANNE DELORIA is currently on the faculty at UNC-Greensboro as an assistant professor in the Dance Division. She is Artistic Director of the UNC-G Dance Company. A former performer/director with the Ann Arbor Dance Company in Michigan, she has studied and performed extensively throughout the country and has an MFA in Dance from the University of Michigan.

MARJORIE SCHEER began dancing at fifteen, received a BA from William Smith College and an MFA in Dance from UNC-Greensboro. In addition to her work with Synergic Theater, Marjorie is a teacher and choreographer. She presented a concert of her own work this spring & was selected for the 1983 NC Dance Showcase.

BRYCE WAGNER first worked with the Synergic Theater in 1976. He has studied with Donald Blumenfeld, Louis/Nikolais, at the American Dance Festival and currently with Suzanne Manning. He has choreographed for Duke Dance and in 1980 formed the Bryce Wagner Dance Project.

SUSAN SETTERGREN is a costume and prop designer-scavenger, metalsmith and soft sculptress. A Student/Friend of the Penland School of Crafts, she was in residence there in Spring, 1981. She was Stage Manager for the New Performing Dance Company, studied dance in Seattle and has performed and studied locally since 1979. She works as a biostatistician.

JACK ARNOLD was a geology major at Washington & Lee before turning to drama and ending up at the North Carolina School of the Arts, where he received a BFA in Modern Dance. He was with the Atlanta Contemporary Dance Company for two years, has performed and choreographed for Carolina Dancers and Easy Moving Company, received a Kenan Grant for Choreography at Meredith College in 1980 and currently teaches at Durham Academy.

JAY GILL and **ANNE KELLEY**, now married, first met each other in community theater in Wilmington, Delaware, where they worked with the Lyceum Players and Brandywiners. Anne works with Duke's Technical Services and Jay is a neurobiology graduate student in the Duke Psychology Department. Locally, they have worked with Duke Players, People Productions, and now Synergic Theater.

SYNERGIC THEATER premiered in Durham at the 1974 US/USSR Summer Arts Festival. The name is taken from the word "synergy", a term popularized by Buckminster Fuller meaning a system where "the sum of the whole is greater than the sum of the parts." In creating and staging original dance/theater works and in their workshop explorations, the company incorporates a synergic approach to sound/light/movement media. In late 1978 they moved to San Francisco where they presented 6 seasons of 5 original works and workshops in their home studio. Returning to the East Coast in 1982, they plan to make North Carolina their permanent home base for teaching and creating new works, followed by seasonal tours of New York, Europe and other places.

SUZANNE WHITE MANNING is founding Artistic Director of the Synergic Theater. On the Duke University dance faculty from 1970-1977, she also founded the company's predecessor Chamber Dance Group in 1972. In addition to her work with the Synergic Theater, she has performed and choreographed extensively throughout the country, including the Cubiculo and Dance Uptown Series in New York with Mabou Mines at the American Dance Festival (in Connecticut). She has been an assistant instructor in Laban Movement Analysis (Effort/Shape) at the American Dance Festival (Durham) and Dance Chairman of the North Carolina Governor's School, and has studied with Meehan, Hawkins, Lewitsky, Limon, Jones and Bartenieff, among others. She holds dance degrees from the University of Michigan and UCLA, is a certified Laban Movement Analyst and teaches modern technique, LMA and synergic art for the Synergic Theater.

DAVID MANNING, company Director, is a writer, media designer and synergic artist. In addition to creating and producing original works for the Synergic Theater--both individually and in collaboration with Suzanne--his professional background includes work in film, broadcast, audio-visual and print media. He has written two published books--a novel and an arts festival planning guide--as well as numerous short stories, features and commentaries; has recently completed his second novel and started a third; and has developed a fictional style he calls "verbal animation." He is a former Media Director and Press Representative for the American Dance Festival and North Carolina Bicentennial Folklife Festival, Director of Asian Traditions, and has done freelance work for the NC Arts Council, Old First Concerts and the Consortium Antiquum. He is a graduate of Duke University.

PATRONS & SAINTS

First and foremost we would like to acknowledge

Saint Samuel H. Scripps

who has offered to match up to \$10,000 raised by the Synergic Theater from other sources. Sam and Luise Scripps have both been extremely generous in their moral as well as financial support of the company and the Synergic Theater is enormously grateful for their unusual sensitivity to the needs of arts and artists.

We would like to express our gratitude to the following people who have to date (program deadline) helped us meet Mr. Scripps' challenge:

Contributors (\$50)

Gail and Bill Adkins
Mary S. Bacon

Friends (\$25, \$35/couple)

Robert & Joan Bozeman	Nancy Fowler
Betsy Brennan	Irwin & Barbara Kremen
Dr. M. S. Breslin	Carlton Midyette Jr.
Betsy Buford	Vicky Patton & Bob Chapman
Mrs. Aylene E. Cooke	William Singer

Please help us take advantage of this very important, and generous, offer by sending a tax deductible contribution to: Synergic Theater, 205 Albermarle St., Durham, NC 27701.

To the additional friends and organizations who have aided our cause with time, money, services, advice and moral support, we would like to offer a simple, inadequate "thanks":

June Arey	Chuck Holton
Robert Chapman	Henry Walke
Bryan Babski	Mindy Solie
Ella Fountain Pratt	Janice Palmer
Joseph di Corcia	John Seelye & Lois Holt
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Michael Kenna	Page Box Office
Mr. & Mrs. George Beischer	Durham Academy
John Waldvogel	Learning Resources Network
Jim Applewhite	Tseng Information Systems
Julia Wray	American Dance Festival
Wes Newman	New Performing Dance Co.
Barbara Busse	Wellspring Grocery

PRODUCTION STAFF

Artistic Director	Suzanne White Manning
Director	David Manning
Technical Design & Production	David Manning
Production Design Coordinator	Susan Settergren
Stage Manager & Construction Foreman	Jay Gill
Lighting Operator	Anne Kelley
Technical Advisor	Wes Newman
House Manager	Bob Jackson
Box Office	Mary Williams

PERFORMERS

Jack Arnold
Anne Deloria
Suzanne White Manning
Marjorie Scheer
Bryce Wagner

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS

George Chrest
John Waldvogel

If it's your birthday this evening, please tell an usher.

The taking of pictures during the performance is prohibited.