

Off-Off Broadway Comes to

THE OPEN SPACE

32, Tottenham Court Road,
London, W.1.

August 12 - 24 AND NOW THERE'S JUST THE THREE OF US
and
THE BODY BUILDERS
by Mike Weller
directed by Roland Rees

August 25 - 30 RATS
and
THE INDIAN WANTS THE BRONX
by Israel Horovitz
directed by Walter Donohue

September 2 - 7 BIRDBATH
and
HALLOWEEN
by Leonard Melfi
directed by Roland Rees

September 8 - 14 A PACKAGE OF VAN ITALLIE, MEGAN TERRY
& OTHERS
Directed by Roger Hendricks Simon

Broadway, it used to be said, is not a street but a state of mind. Whether or not this was ever true about Broadway, it is unquestionably true about Off-Off-Broadway, and the Off-Off-Broadway state-of-mind is as recognizable in Amsterdam, Paris, Oshkosk or Zagreb as it is in London. Its distinguishing characteristics are poverty, protest and general disaffiliation with establishment values.

Although one cannot generalize about the subjects of the plays performed in the off-broadways of Sweden, Berlin, Rome and most other European capitals, they frequently project the standpoint of the social outsider, misfit and rebel - and in so doing, deliver a criticism against the larger society.

Our intention in this season is two-fold:

- (1) to give a representative sampling of contemporary Off-Off-Broadway writing. Of course, to be properly representative, one would have to include work by Foster, Sheperd, Owens, Tavel, Ribman, and a host of other writers not represented - therefore, we say, quite guardedly, this is only a 'sample' of that work;
- (2) to introduce American work, of similar idiom, never staged before.

Jean-Claude van Itallie (author of AMERICA HURRAH) and Megan Terry (author of VIETROCK) have been associated with Joe Chaikin's Open Theatre and with La Mama (almost everyone has been associated with La Mama at one time or another). Melfi is very much a La Mama discovery. Israel Horovitz has come up in the past two or three years, and is one of the few Off-Broadway writers who has had work presented on Broadway as well.

In order to present the spirit as well as the content of the Off-Off-Broadway theatre, we are premiereing an American playwright, Mike Weller, whose work has never been seen in New York - although in our opinion it will

World Premiere of
AND NOW THERE'S JUST THE THREE OF US
and
THE BODYBUILDERS
by
MICHAEL WELLER

THE BODYBUILDERS

Keith	.	.	.	.	.	.	David Baron
Kate	.	.	.	.	.	.	Sheila Scott-Wilkinson
Flash	.	.	.	.	.	.	Lawrence Trimble
Powie	.	.	.	.	.	.	Robert Sherman

INTERVAL OF FIFTEEN MINUTES

AND NOW THERE'S JUST THE THREE OF US

Perry	.	.	.	.	.	.	John Higgins
Frank	.	.	.	.	.	.	Robert Sherman
Deke	.	.	.	.	.	.	Peter Marinker
Nancy	.	.	.	.	.	.	Pamela Roland
The Agent	.	.	.	.	.	.	David Baron

Directed by ROLAND REES

Designer	LEN DRINKWATER
Stage Manager	JUDY CAMPBELL-SMITH

Production Credits:

Typewriter by courtesy of Keates Typewriters Limited
Convertible sofa and office chair by courtesy of Wolfe
& Hollander

Cameras and tape recorders will not be allowed in the
auditorium

Roland Rees was educated at the Universities of Wales and Columbia, New York. He worked two years off-off Broadway and Repertory at Columbia doing Frisch, Saunders, Drexler and the American premiere of Brecht's DRUMS IN THE NIGHT. Since he returned from the States he has been working at the Ambiance directing the Ed Bullins plays and HOMO by Rochelle Owens and at Ipswich Rep. He will be directing the Melfi plays in the Open Space American Season.

Michael Weller was born in New York in 1942. He has lived in most places in the States. He studied music at Brandeis University and playwriting under Stephen Joseph at Manchester. He has had plays produced in Boston, Manchester, Rome and the last N.U.S. Festival. He has settled in England where he has taught and is now completing a play based on the first Kennedy Assassination already commissioned by the Royal Court. He has a play opening at the Edinburgh Festival.

David Baron has played many leading roles on stage and television both here and in Canada, including parts in "The Trouble-Shooters" and "The Avengers". His films include "Nobody Runs Forever" and "We are the Best" (for Circle Films). His last appearance on stage was for Prospect Productions in "No Man's Land", in which he played the Padre.

John Higgins is an Australian who for the past eight years has worked in the United States. He spent five years playing Shakespeare at the Old Globe Theatre in San Diego, has appeared on television in "Ben Casey", "My Three Sons" and "Mr. Novack." He was in the award winning Broadway production of "Six Characters in Search of an Author" which transferred to London; has appeared in the West End in "Fortune and Men's Eyes" and on television in "Frontier" and "Freewheelers". He is currently filming in "The Revolutionary".

Peter Marinker, a Russian Irish Canadian, came to England in 1960. After a season at the Bristol Old Vic, he joined the B.B.C. Drama Repertory and can still be

heard on steam. His television work includes "Z Cars" and "Sword of Honour". In the West End he has appeared in "Fiorello" and "Fortune and Men's Eyes", recently played Gaveston in Clifford Williams production of Marlowe's "Edward II" and a Macbeth in the Marowitz "Macbeth". A film, "Last of the Longhaired Boys" is to be released this year.

Pamela Roland was born in Chicago, Illinois, and came to England at the age of fourteen. She finished training at the Central School of Speech and Drama in June 1968 and since then has spent two months with the York Repertory Company. She has appeared in "Judge Dee" for Granada Television and has made a pilot recording for International Television of a series based on an adult concept of Robin Hood. A documentary, "First Night of Pygmalion" will be seen on B.B.C. this autumn.

Robert Sherman was a resident member of the company in Stratford (U.S.A.) where he played major roles including Romeo in "Romeo and Juliet". In England he has appeared in "Fortune and Men's Eyes" in the West End and has just completed filming "Patton" in Spain. He can be seen on B.B.C.2 on August 19th as Bateman Hunter in "The Fall of Edward Barnard".

Sheila Scott-Wilkinson is an American who was born in Aurora, Illinois. She studied Opera at the Frankfurt Conservatory and then came to London to train at the London Drama Centre for three years. Since she left, she has appeared in "Hair", at the Royal Court Theatre Club, the Mermaid and at the lunch-time Ambiance Theatre.

Lawrence Trimble trained for the stage at the Central School of Speech and Drama and then spent two seasons at the Liverpool Playhouse playing leading roles. He appeared as the Gentleman Caller in a national tour of "The Glass Menagerie" and was in "Callan" and "My Country 'Tis of Thee" for Thames Television. He is currently filming in "The Revolutionary".

be. Our rationalization for including his work is that, in any genuine Off-Off-Broadway situation, the work of such a playwright would be exhibited. Therefore, we are leading off this season with two of his short plays.

A word too, about the directors of this season. Apart from Roland Rees, who is a Welshman, they are all American, and have been previously associated with the Open Space. Roger Simon directed our second production, Megan Terry's KEEP TIGHTLY CLOSED IN A COOL DRY PLACE, and earlier this year Walter Donohue staged a fascinating version of TOM PAINE. Rees has worked in New York, and has been instrumental in introducing the work of Ed Bullins to London.

A footnote to this season: Rosalyn Drexler's two plays, THE INVESTIGATION and HOT BUTTERED ROLL, will be seen later this year. Although this production is quite separate, it would certainly fit into this season for she, along with Megan Terry, Marie Irene Fornes and Rochelle Owens, is one of the leading female playwrights on the New York scene.

Charles Marowitz

C O M I N G E V E N T S

Two new plays by Peter Barnes

author of THE RULING CLASS

A double bill by Rosalyn Drexler

A new play by Barry Reckord

World premiere of THE FOUR LITTLE GIRLS, a play by Pablo Picasso adapted by Sir Roland Penrose, and directed by Charles Marowitz in conjunction with Ralph Koltai and the Theatre Department of the Central School of Arts and Design

F O R T H E O P E N S P A C E

Artistic Director	CHARLES MAROWITZ
Executive Director	THELMA HOLT
General Manager	CINDY CHEESEMAN
Resident Designer	LEN DRINKWATER
Stage Director	JEREMY LACH
Secretary	GEORGINA WATKINS
Box Office	NICOLA ASHLEY
	PHILIP BISHOP
Bar	JEREMY NICHOLS
Publicity	CAROLYN PFEIFFER LIMITED