

## Coming Productions

April 22.....Five O'Clock Theatre  
April 24.....Five O'Clock Theatre  
April 25-27...Eastern Illinois University Theatre  
                    The Birthday Party  
April 25-27.....Revival of the Tent Chautauqua  
                    Coles County Fairgrounds  
April 29.....Five O'Clock Theatre  
May 1-5.....Charleston Community Theatre  
                    The Glass Menagerie  
May 5.....Five O'Clock Theatre  
May 6.....Five O'Clock Theatre  
May 8.....Five O'Clock Theatre  
May 9.....Five O'Clock Theatre

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## Summer '75 musicals

# GODSPELL & CAROUSEL

Eastern Illinois University Theatre  
presents

# THE BIRTHDAY PARTY

by HAROLD PINTER



April 18, 19, 25, 26, 1975      8:00 p.m.  
April 27, 1975      2:00 p.m.  
Fine Arts Theatre  
Eastern Illinois University  
Charleston, Illinois

# THE BIRTHDAY PARTY

by  
Harold Pinter

Directed by E.G. Gabbard

Set and Lighting Designed by Clarence Blanchette

Costumes Designed by Phyllis Rogers

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

(in order of appearance)

Petey.....John Gavin Malkovich

Meg.....Karen Eubanks

Stanley.....Bob Bacon

Lulu.....Jayne A. Ball

Goldberg.....Robert Dodd

McCann.....Dan Dailey

## SCENES

The living room of a house in  
a seaside town in England

### ACT I

A morning in summer

ten minute intermission

### ACT II

Evening of the same day

ten minute intermission

### ACT III

The next morning

## Production Staff

Assistant to the Director.....Cindy Russell  
Wardrobe.....Larry Dillard, Kim Bridges  
Properties.....Cindy Russell  
Makeup.....John Gavin Malkovich  
Lighting Technicians.....Eddie Eldred, Dan Slack  
Assistants to the Designer..Joan Allen, Kerby Gore  
Teri McClure, Pat Zelinka, Barry Johnson  
House Manager.....Judith Wilson  
Promotion & Management.....J. Sain

## Production Crews

Set, Lighting, and Properties:

Members of the Technical Direction Class

Members of the Introduction to Theatre Class

Members of the Theatre Practicum Class

Costumes

Yvette Coney, Jayne A. Ball,  
B.E. Baggard, Larry Dillard, Kim Bridges

Publicity.....Tom Brown, Benson Rice

- THERE WILL BE NO CURTAIN CALLS. -

## *Acknowledgements*

Lik-Nu            David Kerby Gore  
Mrs. Marvin Fern        Herb Lasky  
Mrs. George Russell     Richard Crabb  
Donna M. Rice



#### ABOUT PINTER'S PLAYS

At first acquaintance Harold Pinter's plays seem vague and confusing. Perhaps this is because Pinter has abandoned the playwriting convention of stating explicitly the identity, the background, and the motivations of his characters. He argues that the truer life experience is an inability to verify who people really are, what they are actually doing, and essentially why they are doing it. He sees this experience as demonstrated and complicated by man's tendency to communicate through what is unsaid. Pinter mirrors this pattern of language which is in direct contrast to the articulate self-revelation of characters in traditionally "realistic" plays. Pinter explains, "I think that we communicate only too well, in our silence, in what is unsaid, and that what takes place is continual evasion, desperate rearguard attempts to keep ourselves to ourselves." In his rejection of the artificial presentation of character and language, Pinter focuses attention on man's inner self. He omits external identification but he reveals inner realities - man's fears, his confusion, his unconscious control. Pinter's own claim is that he is "dealing with these characters at the extreme edge of their living...."

In The Birthday Party all this adds up to the image of a fearful man hiding from the relentless necessity of facing his inhibiting world. Stanley's pursuers track him down and murder his free spirit. They force him to resume his old life, to accept the old standards, and to pay for his violations. Any person who ever ran away from home, played hooky from school, or wished to escape from his job or his marriage can recognize Stanley's mingled fear and guilt. Such a person can also ascribe to Goldberg and McCann the identity of his own private dreads. He can perceive the pursuers as the faceless and inescapable phantoms of nightmares who render the dreamer helpless - unable to scream, unable to run.