

holland festival '70

programma

37

The New Troupe, New York

# Gurton's Apocalyptic Needle

Amsterdam  
Rotterdam

Stadsschouwburg  
Schouwburg

29 juni  
2 juli

20.15 uur  
20.15 uur



S

J

H

h

v

v

v

N

v

h

v

v

is

v

s

## Gurton's Apocalyptic Needle

---

### Gurton's Apocalyptic Needle

Devised and with music by Tom O'Horgan  
Amsterdam, Stadsschouwburg, 29 juni, 20.15 uur  
Rotterdam, Schouwburg, 2 juli, 20.15 uur

---

*Artistieke leiding* Tom O'Horgan

*Acteurs, dansers, musici* Edward Barton, Alan Roy  
Braunstein, Paul Brin, Peter Craig,  
Jerry Cunliffe, Theadore DeColo,  
John Dodd, Jeannette Ertelt, Deatra  
Lambert, Victor Lipari, Michael  
Meadows, Michael Warren Powell,  
Cleve Roller, Lea Scott, Hedy  
Sontag, Joyce Paula Stanton,  
Eugene Stiglitz, Ben Vereen.

*Belichting* John Dodd

*Toneelmeester* Galen McKinley

*Productieleiding* Dan Nordby

---

Omdat de uitvoerenden met opzet vrij vaak van rol wisselen, zal zo mogelijk de juiste rolbezetting voor elke voorstelling kort voor de aanvang worden bekendgemaakt.

*Because the members of the troupe exchange roles quite frequently, a card will be displayed prior to each performance announcing the role to be played by each performer for that evening.*

---

## The New Troupe, New York

---



### Gurtons Apocalyptic Needle

*Gurtons Apocalyptic Needle is a modern re-working of two early English theater pieces, The Apocalypse and Gammer Gurtons Needle. The Apocalypse is a trope on the Biblical subject and was first performed in medieval times at the Cathedral of Winchester. The trope is the earliest Christian theatrical form, an extension of the Mass, a dramatic elaboration of a sacred mystery. The mode of presentation of such a piece was always dignified and reverential in the extreme. Gammer Gurtons Needle, on the other hand, is one of the first English comedies and an exquisite example of the broad, vulgar aspect of the English farcical genius. The play has always found quick favor in Anglo-Saxon circles. Variousy ascribed, the authorship seems to belong to William Stevenson.*

*Tom O'Horgan's production is not a simple presentation of these two plays, but a complete contemporary transformation. According to the producer, Gurtons Apocalyptic Needle is a combination designed to give us a glimpse of the sacred and profane inhabiting the same English body. It plays with sound and language juxtaposing Latin with early English. It contrasts earthy folk dance and music with the splendor of ritual church drama.*

---



## The New Troupe, New York

Niet zozeer de wat vage naam van de toneelgroep als wel de naam van zijn leider heeft een vertrouwde klank in de internationale theaterwereld. Tom O'Horgan is een van de leidende figuren van de 'off off Broadway'-beweging in het Amerikaanse toneel die samen met de Amerikaanse moderne dans en beeldende kunst een van de belangrijkste creatieve stromen kan worden genoemd die de Verenigde Staten en Europa op het ogenblik met elkaar verbinden. In Nederland is Tom O'Horgan vooral bekend geworden door de voorstellingen, die hij voor Ellen Stewart's La Mama Experimental Theatre Company regisseerde van Paul Foster's 'Tom Paine' en Rochelle Owens' 'Futz'; voorstellingen die het eerst in Mickery in Loenersloot te zien zijn geweest en later via de Edinburgh 'Fringe' ook Londen en andere Europese theatercentra bereikten.

Met andere toneelleiders zoals Peter Brook en Jerzy Grotowski deelt Tom O'Horgan een voorliefde voor ritueel, alle tijdperken doorlopend en met elkaar verbindend, theater waarin zowel de culturele en geestelijke erfenis van het verleden kritisch wordt benaderd als de problemen van onze tijd worden gereflecteerd. Een nieuwe stap zette deze regisseur met zijn regie van het wereldsucces 'Hair', de musical die na Broadway en Londen ook Zweden, Duitsland, Frankrijk en tenslotte Nederland veroverde. Kortgeleden heeft hij 'Futz' verfilmd en voor de Amerikaanse educatieve televisie volgens de nieuwe 'video space'-techniek een speciale productie gemaakt getiteld 'Heimskringla, or the Stoned Angels'. Vervolgens zal hij script en regie op zich nemen van een speelfilm gebaseerd op het leven van de befaamde scherpe nachtclub-entertainer Lenny Bruce.

Dit voorjaar heeft Tom O'Horgan met 'The New Troupe' de producties voorbereid die onder auspiciën van de New York Review of Books een tournee langs de Amerikaanse universiteitstheaters en de Europese theatersteden maken. De sprong van het café-theater naar het kijkkast-toneel van de min of meer traditionele schouwburgen is een logische stap in de ontwikkeling van deze jonge en provocerende Amerikaan – niet een stap terug, maar een verovering. 'Wij willen een theatervorm maken', zegt hij, 'die vrij is van negentiende-eeuws stof; die de verbinding wil herstellen met vroegere vormen van ritueel theater'.

## Who's Who

Edward Barton *studied at the New Gaiety American Operetta Theater School and has acted in many off-off-Broadway shows at the Judson Poets Theater, Caffe Cino and the American Theater for Poets. As a dancer he has performed with the James Waring Dance Company, the Judson Dance Theater, Happening and Multi-Media/The Electric Circus and the Manhattan Festival Ballet.*

Peter Craig *can be seen in the controversial film Futz and recently completed the N.E.T. production of Heimskringla I or the Stoned Angels. This tour marks his fourth year with The New Troupe. He has appeared in plays by Sam Shepard, Rochelle Owens, Paul Foster and Leonard Melfi in New York*

## The New Troupe, New York

*London, Spoleto, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Munich and the Edinburgh Festival. All were directed by Tom O'Horgan.*

*Jerry Cunliffe has just completed a successful tour of some forty U.S. colleges in the title role of Tom Paine. He has appeared with Tom O'Horgan's Troupe off-Broadway and at European festivals in world premieres of plays by Paul Foster, Sam Shepard, Rochelle Owens and Megan Terry. A native Chicagoan, he worked with Chicago's famed Playwrights Theater and the Second City. Numerous off-Broadway appearances include the title roles in Schnitzler's Anatol and Goethe's Faust. He is currently featured in the motion picture Futz.*

*Theodore De Colo has appeared as solo clarinetist with the Municipal Concerto Orchestra at Town Hall and throughout New York City. Other solo appearances include recitals on Fordham University Radio and with the Metropolitan Woodwind Quintet. He toured with the Eric Hawkins Dance Company and the Youth Orchestra of America in Italy. This tour with The New Troupe marks the beginning of a new venture as an actor-musician.*

*Jeannette Ertelt began her theatrical career at the Cornish Theatre in Seattle as Nora in The Doll's House. She received her B.F.A. in Directing from the Goodman Theater in Chicago and was a member of the Acting Company there for three years where she was seen as Irene in Idiot's Delight, Goneril in King Lear and in the title role of Robinson Jeffers' Medea. In 1968, she joined the experimental off-Broadway movement as Mrs. Oscar Loop in Futz although she later appeared in the movie as Mrs. Satz. Her role as Freydis in the N.E.T. Playhouse special Heimskringla! or the Stoned Angels marked her television debut.*

*Deatra Lambert*

*Live, Love, Listen, Learn*

*or*

*Beauty is*

*only*

*skin deep.*

*If*

*your dark skin*

*makes you think*

*you're black*

*when*

*you're not*

*Be good to yourself*

*Take it off*

*Nothing beats a lie but the truth.*

*Victor Lipari is an original member of The Troupe created in 1965 by Elsa Gress in Denmark, Tom O'Horgan and Ellen Stewart (La Mama). With plays by new writers such as Leonard Melfi, Rochelle Owens, Paul Foster and Sam Shepard, The Troupe made three tours of Europe and the United States. Off-Broadway he appeared with The Troupe in Six From La Mama, Tom Paine and Futz. He also appeared in the N.E.T. Playhouse production of Heimskringla! Or The Stoned Angels. Mr. Lipari's film work includes*

## The New Troupe, New York

---

*Boxiganga* by Elsa Gress, *Woman Is Sweeter* by Martine Barat and the film version of *Futz*.

Michael Meadows, after spending most of his years in an Oklahoma town, decided to spend some in quiet other places. And he did, too. California, a fall and a winter in Chicago college and then back on the road, as it were. And it were, too. To the East, across the U.S. and back again, finally coming to a restless Chicago again, where he auditioned and got the part of Wolf in *Hair*. After playing with that for a few months, he was invited by Tom O'Horgan to join *The New Troupe*, which is what he did.

Michael Warren Powell is a founding member of *The New Troupe*. In addition to movies, tours and off-Broadway with Tom O'Horgan, he has been seen often at the *Cafe La Mama*, *Caffe Cino*, the *Judson Church Theater* and off-Broadway creating roles in over thirty plays by Wilson, Shepard, Foster, Van Itallie, Starkweather, Kennedy and others. Last year he was seen in London in *Home Free I* and *La Fastidiosa*, Mr. Powell recently performed in *Cafe La Mama's* Viennese bill, *Sprint Orgasmics*, directed by Goetz Fritsh, before beginning this tour with *The New Troupe*.

Cleve Roller a graduate of *Dana Hall*, *Wheaton College* and the *American Academy of Dramatic Art*, has also studied at the *Herbert Berghof Studio* and with David Craig, Viveca Lindfors, Michael Shurtleff, Paula and Lee Strasberg, and Mitzie Welch. Most recently, Miss Roller has been seen in the TV special *The Skirts Of Happy Chance* and *The Doctors* and is featured in the 1969 *Atlanta Film Festival* winner *Recess*. Since 1968, she has performed off-off-Broadway in *My Brother*, *The Bride*, *Celia White Dove* and, at *Cafe La Mama*, *Recess*, *I Am Not The Eiffel Tower*, and *The Americans*.

Lea Scott a native New Yorker, has appeared off-Broadway and near-Broadway in the New York and Washington, D.C. productions of *The Blacks*; *Coffee Grounds Among The Tea Leaves* and *Shango De Ima* at *Cafe La Mama*; *The Gingham Dog* at the *New Dramatists*; *The Rogue's Trial* at the *Actors Studio*; *Southern Dust* at the *Sheridan Square Playhouse*; *Spring Play* at the *New Theatre* and *Black Electra* with the *Sheakespeare Mobile Unit*. Miss Scott, a vocalist and dancer, performed for three years with the *Marionette Theatre of New York*.

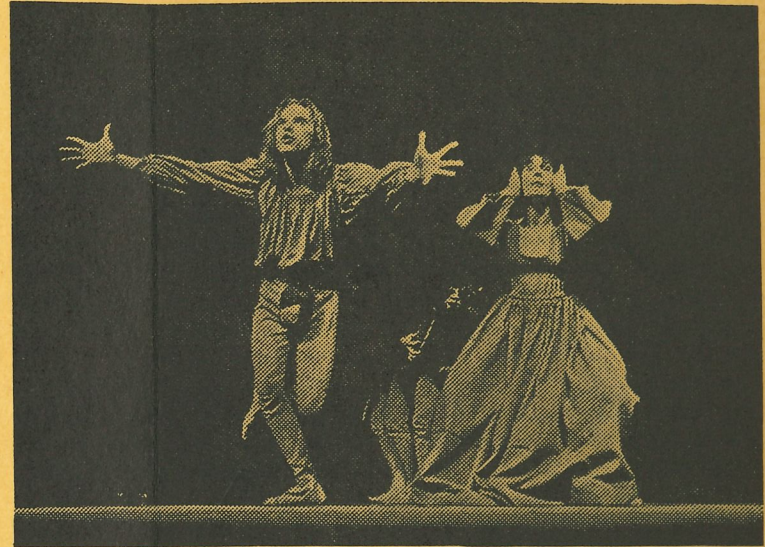
Hedy Sontag was born in Poland and has worked with *Cafe La Mama*, the *Loft Theater*, *Act Four in Provincetown*, and *Brecht Theater West*. She has also appeared with the *American Place Theater* in *Three By Ed Bullins* and on Broadway in *A Patriot For Me* by John Osborne. Miss Sontag has studied with Lee Strasberg, Frank Corsaro, Allan Miller and Paul Curtis.

Joyce Stanton is appearing with *The New Troupe* for the first time. She studied at the *Herbert Berghof Studio* and attended *New York University's School of the Arts' acting program*. She played the leading role in *Song For My Sister*, the prize-winning film in the 1969 *National Student Film Festival* at *Lincoln Center* and has appeared professionally as a folk singer for *Mercury Records*. Miss Stanton is an accomplished flutist.

Benjamin Vereen was a student at the *High School of Performing Arts* where he majored in dance. Afterwards, he went to work in the theater with an

## holland festival '70

---



off-Broadway show, *The Prodigal Son*. He has been seen in the Las Vegas road tour and movie versions of *Sweet Charity* and was asked to understudy Sammy Davis in *Golden Boy*. Mr. Vereen has just completed the soon to be released film *God Bless America*. And if you were ever around *Hair*, either in New York or Los Angeles, he was there too, playing the duo parts of Hud and Berger. 'I'm here because I love you and giving is living; thank you for being I Peace.'

John Dodd has studied light and color values at the *University of Alexandria* under the annual *Egyptian fellowship*. He lit *Futz*, *Tom Paine*, *Red Cross*, *Gorilla Queen* and *Moon-dreamers* off-Broadway and 500 plays and dances off-off-Broadway, receiving an *Obie* award in 1968 for work at *Caffe Cino* and the *Judson Church Theater*. Mr. Dodd studied philosophy and aesthetics at the *New Gaiety American Operetta Theater School*.

Galen McKinley started his five-year career in theater under Tom O'Horgan and has worked only on productions directed by the maestro. He rejoins Tom after working on three productions of *Hair* in various functions. He has also worked on and appeared in the film *Futz* and *Heimskringla! Or The Stoned Angels*.

Dan Nordby, the production stage manager was a television producer, director and floor manager for *Kqed* in San Francisco before joining Tom O'Horgan and *The New Troupe*. He worked on the San Francisco *Hair* and stage-managed the *Chicago* and New York productions, 'What it entails is that I am a human being with the good and the bad it creates and am also subject to it.'