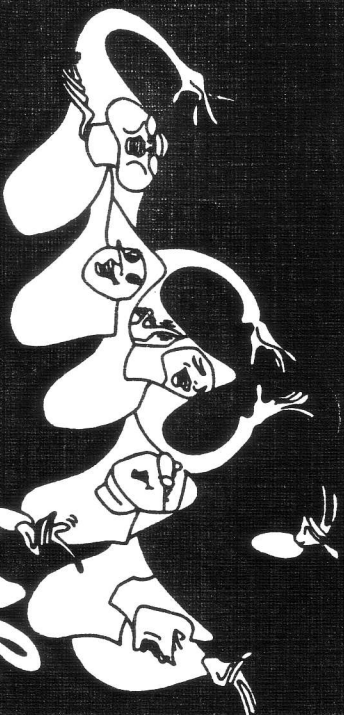
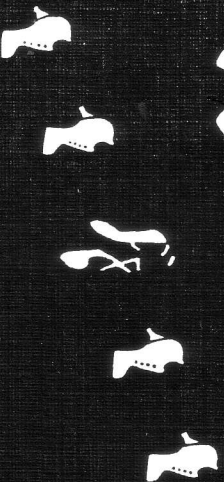


• ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE •

Presents



Murder



*a musical comedy
by Dan Goggin*

February 9 - 24, 1996

DIRECTOR'S NOTES:

It's been several years since I first saw *Nunsense*. What I remember most was that it was the funniest musical I'd ever seen. It wasn't until we had gotten the scripts that I realized it was funnier than I remembered. Then when we started working on the music I realized how good it was, and how demanding.

To bring *Nunsense* to our stage has taken the efforts of many people. I can safely say that twice as many people have worked behind the scenes as have appeared on the stage. Dale Hunter has worked many, many hours with our new keyboard and the music. Others have devoted many hours to choreography, publicity, props, and all the administrative things that go into a musical.

Nunsense has been a team effort and I would like to thank everyone who has worked so hard to make it a success. Most of all, I need to thank my wife and family for their patience, understanding, and contribution to the show. Last, and certainly not least, I want to thank you, our audience. With your support our theater continues to prosper. In this show we're using a new keyboard and this is our first show with our new chairs. Again, thank you for supporting the Ankeny community Theatre.

A BIT OF BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Order of the Little sisters of Hoboken was founded in the seventh century by Saint Wilfred, a bishop of England. He established the first convent and school known as the Wilfred Academy. His motto was "We don't teach beauty - we radiate it!" Many years later a small group of pioneering sisters set out for America to establish a motherhouse in Cleveland. But they got off the plane in Newark by mistake. The order was "found" by the Newark Airport Police and the new motherhouse was established in Hoboken, New Jersey. It was at that time that the Order of St. Wilfred elected to change the name to the Little Sisters of Hoboken and they have been affectionately known as the "Little Hobos" ever since. It was from this convent that Sister Mary Regina, Sister Mary Hubert and Sister Robert Anne, set sail for the Mediterranean to establish their leper colony. Today the order has both nuns and brothers as members - all doing various good works in the Diocese of Newark. They also operate Mount Saint Helen's School in Hoboken.

TIME: The Present

PLACE: Mt. Saint Helen's School Auditorium

MUSICAL NUMBERS AND SCENES

ACT ONE

Welcome	Sr. Mary Regina
"Nunsense Is Habit-Forming"	Cast
Opening remarks	Sr. Regina and Hubert
"A Difficult Transition"	Cast
The Quiz	Sr. Mary Amnesia
"Benedicite"	Sr. Mary Leo
"The Biggest Ain't the Best"	Srs. Hubert and Leo
"Playing Second Fiddle"	Sr. Robert Anne
Taking Responsibility	Sr. Mary Regina
"So You Want to Be a Nun"	Sr. Mary Amnesia
A Word from the Reverend Mother	Sr. Mary Regina
"Turn Up the Spotlight"	Sr. Mary Regina
"Lilacs Bring Back Memories"	Srs. Regina, Hubert, Leo & Amnesia
An Unexpected Discovery	Sr. Mary Regina
"Tackle That Temptation with Time Step"	Sr. Mary Hubert & Cast

ACT TWO

Robert to the Rescue	Sr. Robert Anne
"Growing Up Catholic"	Srs. Robert Anne, Leo, Hubert & Amnesia
"We've Got to Clean out the Freezer"	Cast
A Minor Catastrophe	Cast
"Just a Couple Sisters"	Srs. Regina and Hubert
"Soup's On" (The Dying Nun Ballet)	Sr. Mary Leo
Baking with the BVM	Sr. Julia, Child of God
"Playing Second Fiddle" (Reprise)	Sr. Robert Anne
"I Just Want to Be a Star"	Sr. Robert Anne
"The Drive In"	Srs. Robert Anne, Amnesia & Leo
A Home Movie	Cast
"I Could've Gone to Nashville"	Sr. Mary Amnesia
"Gloria in Excelsis Dio"	Cast
Closing Remarks	Sr. Mary Regina & Cast
"Holier Than Thou"	Sr. Mary Hubert & Cast
"Nunsense Is Habit-Forming" (Reprise)	Cast

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Sister Mary Regina	Bonita Lemon
Sister Mary Hubert	Pat Faulkner
Sister Mary Robert Anne	Karen Swift
Sister Mary Amnesia	Kathryn Bisbey
Sister Mary Leo	Gaye Pierson

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director	Al Price
Musical Director	Dale Hunter
Producer	Susan Rhoades
Production Assistant	Jan Price
Lights	Frank Rhoades, Jim Bisbey, Wendy McLaughlin
Choreography	Kathryn Bisbey, Andrea Price, Lisa Rhoades
Set Construction	Bill Shay
Make up & Props	Theresa Fleener
Tickets	Lisa Rhoades, Susan Rhoades
Photography	Monica Green
Playbill	Steve Stone
House Manager	Jerry Reid

*Be sure to support your local Ankeny Merchants
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and tell them you saw their ad.*

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COMING ATTRACTIONS:

Plaza Suite by Neil Simon

Hilarious comedy of the characters and happenings
of successive guests in one particular hotel suite. Typical Simon!
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SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Carey Shapiro, Ankeny High School Drama Instructor,
for the use of the *Girvasc* sign.

Community State Bank, Hawkeye Bank of Ankeny
Al's Superfair Foods, and Walnut Street Gallery
for being ticket distribution sites.

Ankeny First United Methodist Church
for the use of their slide projector, screen, and easel.

Joyful Noise of Ankeny First United Methodist Church
for the use of their microphone.

Rieman Music
for our new keyboard.

They made us an "offer we couldn't refuse!"

Ballard High School
for the use of their follow spot-light.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

SISTER MARY REGINA, the beloved Mother Superior of the Little Sisters of Hoboken, is originally from a small county in Ireland called Kilkenny. She headed the pioneering group of religious who established the leper colony in the Mediterranean and later returned to Hoboken as Superior General of the Order. After *Nunsense*, Mother Superior says she has no desire to continue in the theatre. But rumor has it that she would consider doing national commercials or a television series to raise money for the Order. Prior to taking her vows, Sister Mary Regina was Bonita Lemon. Prior to *Nunsense*, she also performed in *Sound of Music*, *Gyps and Dolls*, *Oklahoma*, and *Wizard of Oz*.

SISTER MARY HUBERT entered the Little Sisters of Hoboken upon graduation from Precious Blood Elementary School. Sister currently serves the Order as Mistress of Novices, training new recruits. Her position is not unlike a drill sergeant, however, she is the first to point out that her approach is more gentle - but firm. Sister is a little "off-the-wall" at times but this has been attributed to the fact that she was trampled by a camel that went berserk during the annual nativity pageant held in the leper colony. (She was portraying one of the three wise men.) Sister Mary Hubert is the former Pat Faulkner, who has also graced (no pun intended) our stage in *The Foreigner* and *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.

SISTER MARY ROBERT ANNE was a child of a disadvantaged Brooklyn family. After dropping out of Verna's Cashier School, Reverend Mother took pity on poor little Karen and accepted her into the Little Sisters of Hoboken, where she became Sister Mary Robert Anne. Today she is one of the most popular sisters with New Jersey kids because she speaks their language. Reverend Mother regrets the fact that a lot of this language is unprintable. Sister Robert Anne had a very checkered career prior to entering the convent, including acting stints in *Oklahoma*, *Gyps and Dolls*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, and *Barfoot in the Park*. The nuns rarely discuss Tegan, Jimmy and Danae, her three children nor Phil, her Catholic husband.

SISTER MARY AMNESIA is truly a lost soul. She arrived at the convent in her habit without a clue as to her identity... recalling only that a crucifix fell on her head. It has been said that she resembles Kathryn Bisbey, who learned ventriloquism (but not very well) when she became a Little Sister of Hoboken and previously performed in *Company*, *Indygirl*, *I Remember Alama*, and *Wizard of Oz*. She also was a member of Act II and has directed several shows.

SISTER MARY LEO came to the order from a humble Missouri home. She entered the convent to dedicate her life to God through the dance. Many people think she took her name from the famous "leopard", but that is not true. She is

named after her Uncle Leo, a notorious member of the Jessie James gang. Sister thought that by taking his name, the Lord would go easy on Uncle Leo. She is a novice and has much to learn. Before joining the Order, sister was known as Gaye Pierson, who tested her theatrical ability by appearing in college and community theater productions including *The Funnies*, *Piddler On The Roof*, *Hello Dolly*, *Once Upon A Matress*, and *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*. Prior to taking her vow of poverty, Sister supported herself by grooming pets at the Ankeny Pet Salon.

FATHER AL PRICE (Director) is the assistant pastor of Mt. Saint Helen's. He was originally a monk in the Cistercian Abbey of Our Lady of Dallas, but was asked to leave after shouting "Places, please!" during *Grand Silence*. Father Al was given the job of supervising *Nonsense* as a penance for past sins committed as director of *Play On* and performer in many of ACT's productions including *Our Town*, *Oktoberfest*, *Trigs and Dicks*, and *Annie Get Your Gun* as well as with the Drama Workshop in Des Moines.

BROTHER DALE HUNTER (Musical Director) is our convent musician. Brother achieved much notoriety when he published his first music book, *Two Part Inventions for the Fingertless*, which he dedicated to the lepers. Brother Dale has helped the Order enormously by taking his talent outside the convent walls. He moonlights as organist and choir director at Ankeny Christian Church (please don't tell the Bishop) and has acted in many productions in Ankeny including *Howd of the Baskervilles*, *Play On*, *Boing Boing*, and *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum*.

SISTER SUSAN RHOADES (Producer) was released from her vows as Sister Fulton Fouette. This occurred after the Bishop discovered that Sister Fulton had used her habit as a parachute to jump from a jetliner onto a burning building, when she single-handedly saved 300 pounds of uncut cocaine from the flames, giving rise to her favorite expression: "Come fly with me!" Since then, as Susan Rhoades, she has been co-producer of *Bell Book and Candle*, *Play On*, and *Our Town*. On-stage she has been in the Summerfest Melodrama and ACT Musical Review. Susan works as an educational advisor at the DMACC Urban Campus.



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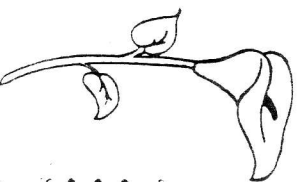
Ankeny Community Theatre has expanded our service to the arts and our community with a new feature we call "Scene 2". In addition to our regular season of three shows, we will occasionally offer plays that, while being excellent, artistic productions, may not appeal to our general audience. These may be an original play or a classic by Ibsen, Chekov, or Tennessee Williams. If you have a suggestion for us, share it with any Board member.

Tru, March 8-16

Don't miss our first offering. This is the Tony-winning, one-man play about the life of Truman Capote. It will be performed by Jim Fogerty, commonly considered one of the very best actors in the Des Moines community.

Voices That Care (tentatively), March 22-30

A stage adaptation by Des Moines resident, Lawrence McElroy, of the best-selling book about people living with and touched by AIDS.

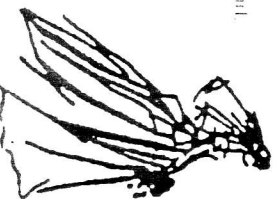


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