

THE
FREE SOUTHERN THEATRE

PRESENTS

IN WHITE
AMERICA

by

Martin Duberman

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The Free Southern Theater

presents

I N W H I T E A M E R I C A

by Martin B. Duberman

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THE CAST

Denise Moses
Gilbert Moses
John O'Neal

Susan Wahman
Eric Weinberger
Lester P. Galt

Stuart House
on guitar

Directed by Gilbert Moses

TECHNICAL STAFF

Stage Manager...Cynthia Washington
Carpenters.....Dean Zimmerman
 Lester P. Galt
Properties
and Costumes..Helen Williams

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SCENE: The United States

TIME: From the beginnings of slavery
to the present

There will be a ten minute intermission
between the acts.

ADMISSION FREE

ABOUT THE PLAY

In his first play, history professor Martin Duberman tells the story of the Negro in the United States. For many different reasons that story has never been told before.

Mr. Duberman, believing that we have to face the past if we are to move towards a better future, has taken from authentic documents of each period -letters, diaries, newspaper official records, reminiscences- to tell what it has meant to be black "in white America." This play does not, of course, tell the whole story, but it does bring the broad outline of events and attempts to highlight the major figures.

Through the living presentation of this little known history, it is hoped that the emotions will be engaged as well as the intelligence. Only then can we respond to Nat Turner, John Brown, Thomas Jefferson, Frederick Douglas, and the others here who step out of the pages of history as real people who have lived and struggled with the problems as we do now.

The author says that "In White America" "is not likely to do much for the self-esteem of white Americans, for essentially it is the story through time, of our hypocrisy and cruelty. Here and there is evidence of compassion and concern, but it is really only the Negro who can find cause for pride in this history; in the face of continuing brutality and against overwhelming odds, he has somehow managed not only to endure but to achieve."

THE FREE SOUTHERN THEATER

The effects of segregation in the South go far beyond the economic and social conditions of the Southern Negro. The maintenance of this system forces inferior and misdirected education in segregated schools, omissions and distortions by local press, radio and television, designed to keep the Negro in ignorance of the problems that most directly concern him.

By themselves, protest and political action cannot sufficiently alter the present situation. In the South today, there is an educational and cultural void which must be filled. For this purpose the theater is uniquely equipped.

Thus now, for the first time, live integrated theatre is being established in the deep South. The Free Southern Theater will tour rural Mississippi and neighbouring states, performing for Negro and, where possible, integrated audiences. It will present dramas concerned with the political and moral dilemma of our time, by such authors as James Baldwin, Bertolt Brecht, Ossie Davis, and Langston Hughes.

The FST will play in Freedom Schools, as it is doing this summer, and in specially equipped halls, churches, barns, fields--wherever there is space and an audience. It will act as a stimulus to the critical thought necessary for effective participation in a democratic society. Performances will be free of charge.

In Jackson, The Free Southern Theater is assisted by Tougaloo College, an accredited interracial institution that is outside the jurisdiction of the state legislature. The producing directors are Gilbert Moses, John O'Neal, and Richard Schechner. Gilbert Moses and John O'Neal are on the staff of SNCC; Richard Schechner is the editor of the Tulane Drama Review. William Hutchinson, director of dramatics at Tougaloo, has given us his assistance.

Further information can be obtained through:
Free Southern Theater, Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Miss.