New York Deaf Theatre, Ltd.
14th Anniversary Season

The Hearing Test
by Willy Conley

&

25 Cents
by Aaron B. Weir

December 4 - 19, 1993
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New York Deaf Theatre, Ltd.
and welcomes the opening of
its 14th season

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presents

TWO ONE ACT PLAYS BY
TWO DEAF PLAYWRIGHTS

Winners of the Sam Edwards Deaf Playwrights Contest

THE HEARING TEST
by Willy Conley
Directed by Jackie Roth

&

25 CENTS
by Aaron B. Weir
Directed by Alan R. Barwiolek

Set Design by Richard Harrison
Costume Design by Irene Bartok
Lighting Design by Michael Appel
Sound by Nicole Bernadette & Richard Rose

December 4 to 19, 1993

Judith Anderson Theatre
New York, NY
THE HEARING TEST

Radio Announcer Andrew Hurley
Rafael Guzman Juan Pina
Mrs. Guzman Angela Pietropinto*
Rafael's Mind Voice Manny Hernandez
Dr. Snyder Katherine Diamond*
ASL Interpreter Marie Tacconga

*Member AEA

Time: the present
Place: office of Dr. Snyder

Intermission

25 CENTS

Old Man Alan R. Barwiolek
Brian Jeff Bravin
Harry Troy Kotsur
Kelly Genie Gertz
Voice Daniel Hahn
Voice J. Patrick

Time: the present
Place: a city park

The use of photographic or recording devices is prohibited

The production is made possible, in part, with funding from the New York State Council on the Arts and New York City Department of Cultural Affairs
**Who's Who**

**Jeff Bravin** (Brian) comes from a 4th generation Deaf family. He made his acting debut, at age 9, in the title role of CBS Movie of the Week "And Your Name is Jonah" with Sally Struthers and James Wood. For his performance, he was awarded Gallaudet University's Actor of the Year Award in 1979. Jeff has also appeared in PBS's "Rainbow's End" and "Bloodhound Gang". Off-Broadway, he performed in "Antigone in New York". Recently he performed with the Signrise Theatre Co. in their production "Institutional Blues".

**Katherine Diamond** (Dr. Snyder) made her Broadway debut as an original cast member of NYSF's "Runaways" and has since originated other roles both on and Off Broadway including Speaker Hoy in the NY premiere of "The Season Signal of Dummy Hoy". Her numerous film and TV credits include Martin Scorsese's "The Age of Innocence" as well as principal work on "Guiding Light". Recently, Katherine played Olympia Dukakis's mother (yes, mother!) in "The House of Bernarda Alba". She returns to NYDT to recreate the role of Dr. Snyder which she originally performed for the staged reading.

**Genie Gertz** (Kelly) marks her Off Broadway acting debut with "25 Cents". Born in the USSR, she moved to the US in 1979. A graduate of Gallaudet University, she is currently completing her graduate studies at NYU where she will earn her M.A. degree in Human Resources Management. She has served NYDT in the past as House Manager and is on their Board. Genie is the current Miss Deaf New York and travels extensively throughout the state.

**Daniel Hahn** (Voice "25 Cents"), of Cleveland, is a recent graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy. He holds a B.A. in Theatre from Baldwin-Wallace College and has studied at the National Shakespeare Conservatory. He first worked with actor/playwright Aaron Weir in Cleveland as a member of Fairmount Theatre of the Deaf in 1991. Favorite roles include Adam in "The Apple Tree", James Leeds in "Children of a Lesser God" and Mercutio in "Romeo and Juliet".

**Manny Hernandez** (Mind Voice) is an Instruction Ass't. at the Lexington Elementary School. He performed in various high school productions. "The Hearing Test" marks his professional acting debut. Manny is currently enrolled in the College of Staten Island where he majors in Elementary Education. His dream is to be an ASL storyteller for deaf children.

**Andrew Hurley** (Radio Announcer) is from Cardiff, Wales. "The Hearing Test" marks his New York debut. Other credits include George in "Actor's Nightmare", Conrad in "Bye Bye Birdie", "Funny Girl" and "The Wiz".
Dedicated to Jeremy, Simon and Patrick "who I love more than I can say" and to Betsy who made it an Art.

Troy Kotsur (Harry) makes his NYDT debut with "25 Cents". He was a member of NTD for several seasons performing in "Farwell, My Lovely", "Treasure Island", and as Hamlet in "Ophelia". Other theatre credits include "Mother Hicks", "In a Room Somewhere" and as a touring member of NTID's "Sunshine Too". Recently he performed in "The Night of January 16th" for the DeafWork Theatre Co. in Phoenix. He has appeared on TV in "A Man Called Hawk", "In A Grove" and with NTD's "Farwell, My Lovely". A native of Mesa, Arizona, Troy treasures the courage of his parents, Leonard and JoDee, and dedicates each performance to them and the memory of his brother, Brent.

J. Patrick (Voice "25 Cents") was last seen on "Another World" as Dr. Jim Newton. He is excited to be in the final stages of completing a short film he wrote and acted in entitled "Half Full/Half Empty". He is currently studying acting at the William Esper Studio. James (J.) would like to thank both the cast for exposing him to their very rich culture and also his parents for their endless support of the Arts; namely their son.

Angela Pietropinto (Mrs. Guzman) was a founding member of The Manhattan Project under the direction of Andre Gregory and played the title role in their Obie-Winning production of "Alice in Wonderland". She has appeared in over 30 Off-Broadway plays and in 1980 made her Broadway debut opposite Derek Jacobi in "The Suicide". She returned to Broadway to cover and go in for Anne Meara in "Eastern Standard". Among her film credits are "Honeymoon in Vegas", "Goodfellas", "So Fine" and the soon-to-be-released "Cop Gives Waitress 2 Million Dollar Tip". She has guest appeared on many television shows and was a regular on "All My Children" and "One Life to Live". Angela has taught at Yale and presently teaches at NYU Tisch School of the Arts, Lincoln Center Institute and The Manhattan Theatre.

Juan Pina (Rafael Guzman), a native of New York City, is making his acting debut. He is 13 years old and an 8th grade student at JHS 47 for the Deaf in Manhattan where his favorite activities are basketball, drawing and telling jokes. Juan lives at home with his parents brother and two sisters.

Jackie Roth (Director "The Hearing Test") is the newly appointed Artistic Director for NYDT. She has toured with the national and international companies of "Children of a Lesser God" in the role of Sarah. Other theatre credits include Viola in "Twelfth Night", Clarissa in "Spider's Web" and Alais Capet in "The Lion in Winter". Most recently, she was Melissa in "Love Letters" for NYDT and starred in an original sign language opera, "Sinister Love", at the Workhouse Theatre. She appeared as a guest star on "Airwolf", "
"The Jeffersons, and "Fame". Jackie just completed being president of Deaf Woman United, a national organization, and was chair of NYC's 1993 Deaf Awareness Week. She lives in New York with her husband Alan Rich.

Alan R. Barwiolek (Director "25 Cents"/ Old Man) is a founding member of NYDT for whom he has acted ("A Play of 1,000 Words", "A Christmas Carol") and directed ("A Play of Our Own", "Veronica's Room"). A co-producer of CHALB Production, he has written, directed and acted in "Deaf-Pa, What?" and "Anatomy and Physiology of Deaf Bodies" which have been performed throughout the USA and in Italy, France and Japan. These works are available on Video in American, French and Japanese Sign Language. Alan has consulted for over fifty signed interpreted performances for TDF, Hands On, Paper Mill Playhouse and others. He is currently a professor of Deaf Studies at Union County College, NJ and lives in New York.

Aaron B. Weir (Playwright "25 Cents") was born in Kansas, attended the Kansas School for the Deaf, and then left with "ToTo" many years ago. He attended Gallaudet (Class of '76). As an actor, he worked in community theatre for five years in Arizona, attended NTD's Summer School Program in 1990 and 1991, and performed two seasons with Fairmount Theatre of the Deaf. He presently lives in Cleveland, OH with his significant other, Mary Pietilo, and six cats. Aaron is completing his B.A. in English at Cleveland State University.

Illese Alexander (Production Manager), these two one act plays mark her seventh production working with NYDT: "Veronica's Room", "Educating Rita", "A Christmas Carol", "'night, Mother", "The Mystery of Irma Vep" and "Love Letters". Her love for NYDT is here to stay.

Richard Harrison (Set Designer) is pleased to be back designing for NYDT. He has designed for the Bronx Opera Co., Light Opera of Manhattan, Manticore Theatre, Coyote Theatre and others. His most recent production is "Lake No bottom" at the T. Schreiber Studio. He has assisted set designs for Maurice Sendak, David Mitchell and worked with Franco Zeffirelli at the Metropolitan Opera. Mr. Harrison holds degrees in set design, costume design and fine arts from S.U.N.Y. at Oswego.

Irene Bartok (Costume Designer) returns to NYDT having designed the costumes for "The Mystery of Irma Vep". Born in Italy and raised in France, she moved to the US in 1988. She has worked for a children's sportswear company as a pattern maker and is currently working for the GAP. Irene is very proud that her ASL skills have improved from working with Deaf people and theatre, and not in class.
Michael Appel (Lighting Designer) has most recently designed the lighting for Brooklyn college’s "The Three Sisters". Other credits include "Female Dilemma: Solution No. 1" at Pratt Institute, "A Woman is a Drum" at Nuyorican Poets Cafe, and "Flypaper, the Musical" staged at Original Improvisation, and work on the "Mr. Abbott Awards" at the Roundabout. He spent last summer working as an apprentice at the Sante Fe Opera.

Nicole Bernadette & Richard Rose (Sound Design) have numerous credits both Off Broadway and regional theatre; including, New Jersey Shakespeare Festival, Hudson Guild Theatre, Chelsea Stage, Theatre for A New Audience, Playwrights Theatre of New Jersey (over 50 plays). We are please to be working with NYDT.

Gerri Broncatti (Masks) returns to NYDT having designed the props for last season’s "The Mystery of Irma Vep". She is presently a student at Lehman College and works part time for NYC Foundling Hospital.

Drew Sachs (Production Stage Manager) enjoys all aspects of theatre. A production assistant he has worked on such shows as "Hey Ma..." starring Kaye Ballard and Equity Library Theatre’s "A Little Night Music". As an actor, he has been seen in "1776", "Godspell", "A Midsummer Night’s Dream", "Magic Theatre for the Deaf", "Spring Awakening" and "South Pacific". Last Spring, Drew’s written work for the stage was workshopped by Steppin’ Out Rep in New York; and he recently co-directed "The Pirates of Penzances". There is only one other major aspect of theatre Drew still needs to try... building one.

Solange Karenty (Ass’t. Stage Manager "The Hearing Test") is a newcomer to NYDT. She has performed the roles of Lucy in "Your a Good Man Charlie Brown" and the Evil Stepmother in "Pete’s Invisible", a David Christopher production. In addition to acting, she spent 8 years with the Carribean Dance Co. and four years with the New Jersey Ballet. Her most recent work includes working the lighting crews at Mason Gross School of the Arts where she studies Theatre Arts, and Molecular Biology at Rutgers.

Nina Ciancio (Lighting Operator) is pleased to be working with NYDT. She has worked with various theatres in and out of NYC, including theatres in Connecticut, Long Island and Maine. New York companies include Inter­borough Rep Theatre, the Art & Work Ensemble and Lovecreek Productions.

Marilyn Altabe (Sound Operator) is a newcomer to NYDT. she has worked on lighting for her high school and community productions in Tenafly, NJ. Marilyn presently attends Rutgers University and is a member of the Mason Gross School of Arts light crew.
The New York Deaf Theatre, Ltd., established in 1979, is a non-profit theatre organization dedicated to creating opportunities for Sign Language performances in New York City for all audiences. Through its productions, workshops, lectures, and playwrights' competition, NYDT helps promote a clear professional visibility for Deaf actors and theatre artists while fostering a greater knowledge, understanding and appreciation of Deaf Culture and American Sign Language.

NYDT PRODUCTION STAFF

Artistic Director Jackie Roth
General Manager Tony Allicino
Assistants to T. Allicino Mollie Langston & Denise Rothstein
Development Consultant Doug Morgan
Production Manager Illese C. Alexander
Voice Coach "25 Cents" Tony Allicino
Production Stage Manager Drew Sachs
Ass't. Stage Mgr/ "The Hearing Test" Solange Karsenty
Ass't. Stage Mgr/ "25 Cents" Reba Euline
Masks Gerri Broncanti
Lighting Operator Nina Ciciano
Sound Operator Marilyn Altabe
Box Office Alex Jones & Mollie Langston
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NYDT wishes to thank the playwrights, directors, actors, designers, production, technical, house staff, Mollie Langston, Marie Taccogna, Laura Murphy, Denise Rothstein, AEA, NY Public Library at Lincoln Center, Carolyn Butts of African Voices, The Support Center, Guinta Associates, Rutgers University and Great Lakes College Assoc. and all who have helped make this production possible.

NYDT is a member of The Alliance of Resident Theatres, New York (ART-NY), The Arts and Business Council, Association for Theatre and Disability, and NYC Metro Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf.
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