American Conservatory Theater

presents

SOME ENCHANTED EVENING

The Songs of RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN

December 26 to 31
Herbst Theatre
RODGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN

RICHARD RODGERS
The reign of Rodgers and Hammerstein began in 1943 with Oklahoma!. Their seventeen-year association bristled with musical bonanzas: Carousel, The King and I, South Pacific, Me and Juliet, Allegro, Pipe Dream, The Pajama Game, and The Sound of Music. They won a special Pulitzer citation for Oklahoma!, the Pulitzer and Critics' Circle prizes for South Pacific, and a Motion Picture Academy Award for their song, “If I Were a Bell.” Mr. Rodgers also received Donaldson awards for the music of Carousel and South Pacific and an Antoinette Perry award for the South Pacific music.

At just seventeen he had his first song, “Any Old Place With You,” published and went on to become one of the truly outstanding and deeply respected members of the theatrical profession. From 1955, he was a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters. Richard Rodgers was also a trustee of Barnard College and the Juilliard School and was awarded the Navy Distinguished Public Service Medal for his song for Victory at Sea.

OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II
Before he began his spectacular collaborating alliance with Richard Rodgers in 1943, Oscar Hammerstein II had written the book and/or lyrics for some forty musical comedies and operettas. Notable among his triumphs were the memorable musicals Rose Marie, Cabin in the Sky, Show Boat, New Moon, Music in the Air and Carmen Jones. Oscar Hammerstein II had a vivid theatrical background. His grandfather, for whom he was named, was the impresario who built the Manhattan Opera House (1900); his father, William Hammerstein, long managed the world famous vaudeville house, Hammerstein’s Victoria, at the corner of Broadway and 42nd Street in New York; and his Uncle Arthur produced such musical hits as The Firefly, Rose Marie, and Song of the Flame. Certainly Oscar Hammerstein II contributed his own individual brilliance to his famous name.

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SOME ENCHANTED EVENING

Music by Richard Rodgers, Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

The Cast
FRANCES EPSEN
REVEKA MAVROVITIS
KAREN MORROW
LARA TEETER
ROBERT YACKO

Direction and Musical Staging by Paul Blake
Musical Direction by Harper Mackay
Lighting by Derek Duarte
Sound Design by Stephen LeGrand
Stage Manager Eugene Barcone

25 THE SALTIER SEASON
RICHARD RODGERS

The reign of Rodgers and Hammerstein began in 1943 with Oklahoma! Their seventeen-year association bristled with musical bonanzas: Carousel, The King and I, South Pacific, Me and Juliet, Allegro, Pipe Dream, The Pajama Game, and The Sound of Music. They won a special Pulitzer citation for Oklahoma!, the Pulitzer and Critics' Circle prizes for South Pacific, and a Motion Picture Academy Award for their song "I Might As Well Be Sailing." Mr. Rodgers also received Donaldson awards for the music of Carousel and South Pacific, and an Antoinette Perry award for the South Pacific music. At just seventeen he had his first song, "Any Old Place With You," published and went on to become one of the truly outstanding and deeply respected members of the theatrical profession. From 1955, he was a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters. Richard Rodgers was also a trustee of Barnard College and the Juilliard School and was awarded the Navy Distinguished Public Service Medal for his song for Victory at Sea.

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WHO'S WHO

FRANCES EPSTEIN, a native of San Francisco, is thrilled to be performing at last in her hometown. She is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in the Advanced Training Program at ACT, where she has studied since the age of 12, beginning with classes in the Young Conservatory. Ms. Epstein graduated from Northwestern University and has appeared in theater and film, with a minor in vocal performance. She has had classical vocal training at The Julliard School. Ms. Epstein made her professional debut as Sibilla in Michael Butkin's twenty year anniversary revival of Hammerstein and Chanan's Vic Theatre, and she also appeared in the title role of Sibilla. Nancy in Oliver and Buxy Byrus in Babes in Arms. Ms. Epstein is also a native of the Bay Area, where she has performed in numerous concerts and radio programs.

KAREN MOORWOOD was raised by operatic parents in Los Angeles. After a short period of teaching grade school, she turned to theatre in Minneapolis. In New York she starred on Broadway in I Had a Ball. A Joyful Noise, I'm Solomon, Music, Music, The Selling of the President, and The Ovarian, and, most recently in The Mystery of Edwin Drood. Off-Broadway, she directed her first musical, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and played the role of Sibil in The Music Man. She is the recipient of numerous awards.

MORROW started as a regular on "The Jim Nabors Hour," "Friends," "Babschka," "Ladies Man," "Goodnight Beaucow," "Song by Song" for PBS TV, and CBS Cable's "100 Years." She has been a guest star on "The Tonight Show," "Harry Golden," "M.D.," "The Boy in the Plastic Bubble," "Lone Star," "Pillow," "The Trials of Rosie O'Neill," among many others. She was also a regular guest on Garrison Keillor's "A Prairie Home Companion" for the past four years. Ms. Morrow has won the coveted Theatre World Award, an Emmy, and two Dramalogue Awards. She has sung with the Honolulu, Pacific, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra and has recorded nine albums, the most recent of which is "An Evening with Jerry Herman."

Some Enchanted Evening...
WHO’S WHO

FRANCES EPSEN, a native of San Francisco, is thrilled to be performing at last in her hometown. She is currently pursuing a Master’s Degree in the Advanced Training Program at A.C.T. where she has trained since the age of 12, beginning with classes in the Young Conservatory. Ms. Epson graduated from Northwestern University and University of California at Los Angeles theatre and film, with a minor in vocal performance. She has had classical vocal training at the Tanglewood Music Festival. Ms. Epson made her professional debut as Shih-Tzu in Michael Butler’s twenty year anniversary revival of Harper Lee’s To Kill A Mockingbird. She also appeared in the title role of Alcott in Little Women. For her portraits of the title role of Cora at Villa Montalvo, engagements last season included a Schwabacher Debut Recital, a solo recital at Montalvo, a Career “Pop Series” evening with Victor Borge and the San Francisco Symphony, the role of Ellen in Joanne Lavatini at Berkeley’s Early Music Festival, and her San Francisco Opera debut last fall as the Second Lady in Maestro Angelotti. Earlier this year she travelled to Japan and Guam with the San Francisco Opera and Opera Center personnel for a presentation of Carmen. Future engagements include the title role of Carmen for Baja Opera Theatre, and the role of Valentine in the Metropolitan Opera’s Macbeth. Ms. Epson’s recent performance in San Francisco Opera’s 1992 production of Boris Godunov, Miss Maravillas completed her master’s degree at the University of California at Santa Barbara, and is the recipient of numerous awards.

KAREN MORROW was raised by operatic parents in Des Moines, Iowa. After a short period of teaching grade school, she turned to theatre in Milwaukee. In New York she starred on Broadway in I Had a Ball. A Joyful Noise, I’m So Irritable, Oklahoma, Knoxville, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, and On Your Toes, for which she received a Tony Award nomination and the Outer Critics Circle Award for her portrayal of Julian Deloin. She has performed at New York City Opera at Lincoln Center starring Sissi Sleek in Naughty Marietta and most recently as Herman in Most Happy Fella.

Morrow started as a regular on "The Jim Nabors Hour", "Friends", "Diahann", "Ladies Man", "Goodnight Beethoven", "Song by Song" for PBS TV, and CBS Cable’s "Singin’. She has been a guest star on "The Tonight Show", "Trapper John, M.D.", "The Boy in the Plastic Bubble", "Loco Bote", "Palace Crest", "Murdex", "Wanda" and "Night Court", and "The Trials of Rosie O’Neill", among many others. She was also a regular guest on Garrison Keiller’s "A Prairie Home Companion" for the past four years. Ms. Morrow has won the coveted Theatre World Award, an Emmy, and two Drama League Awards. She has sung with the Honolulu, Pacific, Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra and has recorded nine albums, the most recent of which is "An Evening with Jerry Herman."

LARA TRESTLER has performed, directed and choreographed in theatres and opera houses nation-wide. On Broadway, Ms. Trestler has been featured in such shows as The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, Happy New Year, Pirates of Penzance, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, and On Your Toes, for which she received a Tony Award nomination and the Outer Critics Circle Award for his portrayal of Julian Deloin. She has performed at New York City Opera at Lincoln Center starring Sissi Sleek in Naughty Marietta and most recently as Herman in Most Happy Fella.

SOME ENCHANTED EVENING, DIRECTORS, DESIGNERS, AND STAFF

PAUL BLAIR (Director) is happy to be returning to San Francisco for his fifth consecutive Christmas. Previous Christmas productions were last year’s comedy hit It Had To Be You starring "Designing Women’s" Jean Smart, and A.C.T’s award winning Diamond Lilly. Side by Side by Sondheim and Almost Like Being in Love. Recently, Ms. Blair directed Eye Bye Bye starring Zandy Tine and Ann Reinking, and also directed Van Johnson, Marge Champion and Carol Lawrence in No No Nette, Michael Feinstein in his musical theatre debut as "Hone Christian Andersen", and an all new production of 42nd Street which will be touring the country in the summer and fall of 1992. Ms. Blair thanks the San Francisco theatre going audiences for being so supportive of his work, especially for helping launch his production of Sammy Cahn in Words and Music, which will begin its fifth year of touring the country at the historic Royal Poinciana Theatre in Palm Beach, Florida.

HARPER MACKAY (Musical Director) was musical supervisor for A.C.T’s Diamond Lilly and appeared as Bargin Kitty the piano player, and served as Musical Director and pianist for Side by Side by Sondheim and Almost Like Being in Love. A native of Boston who studied piano at the New England Conservatory of Music, Mr. Mackay graduated from Harvard, and earned his M.A. and P.D.F. from the University of Southern California, where he has worked in various musical capacities in film, television and stage productions since the 1960’s. He has conducted musicals in Boston, St. Louis, and Los Angeles, was pianist and assistant for the film version of My Fair Lady, The Sound of Music, West Side Story, and Paintees from Heaven, and has been musical director for NBC specials starring Carol Channing, Danny Thomas, Sammy Davis, Jr. and others. He previously appeared in San Francisco with the Civic Light Opera, and was Musical Director of Sammy Cahn’s Words and Music at Martin’s Memorial Theatre. He has also composed an original score for the motion picture The Magic Balloon.

DEREK DUARTE (Lighting) returns to A.C.T. from several years in the lighting design field. Most recently his work was seen in Taking Steps and Cat on a...
Hot Tin Roof. Last season, Mr. Duarte designed eight A.C.T. productions, including The Gospel of Usman, Dark Star, and The Marriage of Figaro. Past lighting designs for A.C.T. include the award-winning productions of Sunday in the Park with George, King Lear, Saint Joan, Nothing Sacred, A Tale of Two Cities, and Juditress. Recent projects include Shenkin, sets and costumes designed by Erle) and an adaptation of Ray Bradbury’s Something Wicked This Way Comes. His work has been represented at the American Festival Theatre in Stratford, Connecticut, the Maxine Memorial Theatre, Berkeley Rep, Los Angeles Theatre Cente, Milwaukee Rep, San Jose Rep, Berksley Shakespeare Festival, the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland, and the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC. In 1986 he was awarded a Theatre Communications Group grant to study lighting design in New York City. Mr. Duarte holds an M.F.A in theatre technology from UCLA and teaches at Chabot College.

STEPHEN LeGRAND (Music and Sound) is now in his sixth season as sound designer and composer for A.C.T. His work with the company has included musical compositions for Taming of the Shrew, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, The Marriage of Figaro, The Seagull and Much Ado in Hell. He wrote the music for A Life of the Mind, Saint Joan, and A Midsummer Night’s Dream with his collaborator Don Byrd with whom he has received awards for their scores for The Lady’s Not for Burning at A.C.T., The Threepenny Opera and The Revolt at Berkeley Rep, and West at the Berkeley Theatre. Mr. LeGrand’s recent work has included scores for Renée Zellweger’s film Thank You Die at Berkeley Rep and the Los Angeles Theatre Center. In June, he will direct the first concert of music from the Mark Taper Forum.

EUGENE BARBONE (Stage Manager) is a charter member of A.C.T. He has worked on more than 25 productions for the company, plus the television adaptations of A Christmas Carol, The Threepenny Opera of the Shires and Cyno de Digremon and, has had directed productions for Plays in Progress. As an Associate Director in the company he has been associated with Lard Willardsen’s annual production of A Christmas Carol for many years. This season marks Mr. Barbone’s 25th anniversary with A.C.T.

EDWARD HASTINGS (Artistic Director) is a founding member of A.C.T. having joined the company during its formation in San Francisco in 1985 and served as Executive Director under General Director William Ball. He was appointed Artistic Director by the Board of Trustees when Mr. Ball resigned his position in February, 1986. During A.C.T.'s twenty-five years in San Francisco, Mr. Hastings has directed thirty repertory productions, including Our Town, A Delicate Balance, The Time of Your Life, The House of Blue Leaves, Broadway, Street Scene, All the Way Home, Fifth of July, The Girl of the Golden West, The Real Thing, and King Lear. This year, he directs a Silver Anniversary Season revival of his first San Francisco A.C.T. production, Charley’s Aunt. Mr. Hastings' commitment to new writing and playwrights is evident in the many wide-ranging projects he has directed at A.C.T., including Lutice Lecat Rose’s Dark Sun, David Blood’s The Pope, Michael McClain’s General Gorgonius, William Hamilton’s Happy Landings and Martha Norman’s The Hollow. He served as resident director at the Eugene O'Neill Playwrights’ Conference for three summers and taught acting in 1984 at the Shanghai Drama Institute as part of the Theater Bridge Program between A.C.T. and the Shanghai theatre. He has been involved in the development of cultural exchange and is a member of the Arts International Committee of the Institute of International Education. In 1978, his production of All the Way Home was presented in Tokyo. He directed a national company of the London and Broadway musical hit Oliver!, staged the American production of Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night starring Michael Redgrave, directed the Australian premiere of The Hot L Baltimore, and restaged his A.C.T. production of Sam Shepard’s Buried Child in Serbo-Croatian at the Yugoslav Dramatic Theatre in Belgrade. Other productions have been presented on A.C.T. tours in the United States, including Hawaii, and he has been a guest director at major resident theaters throughout the country. A graduate of Yale College and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, Mr. Hastings is also a teacher in the A.C.T. Conservatory.
American Conservatory Theater

Edward Hastings
Artistic Director
John Sullivan
Managing Director

1991/92 REPERTORY SEASON

CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF by Tennessee Williams October 1, 1991 through November 23, 1991 Stage Door Theater

THE PIANO LESSON by August Wilson October 23, 1991 through January 5, 1992 Theatre on the Square

TAKING STEPS by Alan Ayckbourn December 3, 1991 through January 15, 1992 Stage Door Theater

A CHRISTMAS CAROL by Charles Dickens December 6, 1991 through December 28, 1991 Orpheum Theater

CYRANO DE BERGERAC by Edwardfecost January 21, 1992 through March 14, 1992 Theatre on the Square

CHARLEY’S AUNT by Brandon Thomas February 4, 1992 through March 28, 1992 Stage Door Theater


GOOD by C.P. Taylor April 7, 1992 through May 30, 1992 Stage Door Theater

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Mailing List: Call 749-2239 to request advance notice of shows, events, and subscription information.

Photographs and Recordings of A.C.T. performances are strictly forbidden.

SAN FRANCISCO WAR MEMORIAL AND PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

HERBST THEATRE

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The Honorable Art Agnos, Mayor
City and County of San Francisco

San Francisco War Memorial and Performing Arts Center Herbst Theatre

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