THE GOOD WOMAN

OF SETZUAN
The Good Woman of Setzuan

by Bertolt Brecht

Revised English version by Eric Bentley

Presented November 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22 and 23
by the Associated Students as Production 465
in the Fortieth Season of the Theatre Arts Department

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Stage Manager-Accompanist ........................................... Jim Summers
Wong ........................................................................... Joe Crane
First God ........................................................................ John Waroff
Second God ..................................................................... Larry Grindstaff
Third God ....................................................................... Jock Ferrell
Gentleman ....................................................................... Joseph Hoffman
Shen Te ........................................................................... Annette Cardona
Mrs. Shin ......................................................................... Shereen Ash
Wife ................................................................................ Susanne Carriar
Husband .......................................................................... Norman Berwick
Lee .................................................................................... Sanford Robbins
Unemployed Man ............................................................... Rex Hill
Carpenter ......................................................................... Roy deWayne Cameron
Brother .............................................................................. Joseph Shumener
Sister-in-Law .................................................................... Kareen Frederick
Mrs. Mi Tzu ....................................................................... Patricia Blanchard
Grandfather ....................................................................... Steve Pringle
Niece .................................................................................. Kathi Lightstone
Policeman ......................................................................... Steven Barry
Old Woman .......................................................................... Lyn Davis
Yang Sun ........................................................................... Blair Ensor
Whore ................................................................................ Deanna Gaffner
Shu Fu .............................................................................. David Greer
Old Man ............................................................................ Jeffrey Berens
Mrs. Yang .......................................................................... Patricia Nagel
Priest .................................................................................... Joseph Hoffman
Waiter .................................................................................. Mike Anthony
Propmen ................................................................. Hector Celorio, Phil Kellard
                                      Glenn Schnars, Allen Payne
FACULTY STAFF

Director ........................................ Mr. J. R. McCloskey
Scenic and Light Design ....................... Mr. Randall Edwards
Costumes ....................................... Mrs. Jo Jones
Department Chairman ........................ Mr. Norman Mennes

STUDENT STAFF

Stage Manager .................................. Mark B. Woodall
Ass’t Stage Manager ............................ Steve Marlowe
Sound Man ...................................... John Wiltshire
Electrician ..................................... Tom Liebig
Ass’t Electrician ............................... Ken Williams
Property Master ................................. Richard Heron
Property Crew ................................ Maureen Holmes, John Stock
Master Carpenter ............................... Peter Sealy
Carpentry Crew ................................. Thomas Wheeler, Charles Friedman, Jeff Wosk
Fellowspot ..................................... Shirley Hansen
Projectors ...................................... Pauline Plummer, Leilani Talliaferro, Donna Lee Mobley
House Manager ................................. Randy Baker, Randy Meyers
Wardrobe Master ............................... Lee Williamson
Ass’t Wardrobe Master ......................... Rod Gist
Wardrobe Mistress ............................. Randi Kaplan
Ass’t Wardrobe Mistress ...................... Margo Dean

Original music for this production composed by Bruce Kimmel.
The sets and costumes for this production were made by the faculty and students of the Theatre Arts Department.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT I

PROLOGUE: At the gates of the city of Setzuan
SCENE 1: Shen Te’s Tobacco Shop
SCENE 2: Wong’s Den
SCENE 3: The Tobacco Shop
SCENE 4: The Municipal Park

INTERMISSION

ACT II

SCENE 1: Wong’s Den
SCENE 2: The square in front of the Tobacco Shop
SCENE 3: The Song of Defenselessness

SCENE 4: The Tobacco Shop
SCENE 5: Before the wedding
SCENE 6: A restaurant dining room

INTERMISSION

SCENE 1: Wong’s Den
SCENE 2: The yard behind the Tobacco Shop
SCENE 3: Wong’s Den
SCENE 4: Shui Ta’s Tobacco Factory
SCENE 5: Shui Ta’s new office
SCENE 6: Wong’s Den
SCENE 7: A Courtroom
PROGRAM NOTES

Bertolt Brecht (1898-1956) was one of the theatrical giants of the modern theatre. His theories, which have added such terms as "epic theatre" and "alienation effect" to the vocabulary of the theatre, have had considerable effect upon the theatre's present day alienation from realism. He advocated an anti-realistic, non-illusionistic style of theatre which makes little attempt to deceive the audience into believing that it is witnessing "life." Instead, the audience is constantly reminded that it is witnessing "theatre." In a Brecht play, the characters break into song, talk directly to the audience, break character and comment on the action, use asides and soliloquies, and perform in an acting style that can best be described as "theatrical." The acting style is complemented by a non-illusionistic scenic mode which includes the use of projections, motion pictures, and all manner of graphic-arts to forward the idea of the play.

His plays are poetic parables, concerned mainly with showing how hard it is to be good in a world ruled by greed, selfishness, and violence. In "The Good Woman of Setzuan," first produced in Europe in 1943, reason and emotion appear as separate and contradictory aspects of the same personality. Since ruin is the result of being wholly good, the ruthless, hard-boiled, rational part of human nature takes command. This negativism, however, is balanced somewhat by a question in the epilogue, "Can the world be changed?" and Brecht's answer, "There must, there must, there's got to be a way."

BERTOLT BRECHT

1898 Born in Augsburg, 10th February, Eugen Berthold Friedrich Brecht
1916-18 Army medical orderly
1918 "Baal," first play written in four days
1919-22 Studied medicine and natural sciences at Munich University
1920 "Dramaturg" at Munich Chamber Theatre
1922 Producer and "dramaturg" at Max Reinhardt's "Deutsches Theatre," Berlin
1927-28-32 "A Man's a Man," "Threepenny Opera," "St. Joan of the Stockyards"
1933-47 Exile (Czechoslovakia, France, Sweden, Finland, Soviet Union, U.S.A.)
1938-40 "The Good Woman of Setzuan" (Originally a poem recited by Brecht at Dresden State Theatre)
1939 "Mother Courage and Her Children"
1941 Sets in U.S.A. "The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui"
1943 "Life of Galileo," produced at Coronet Theatre in Hollywood, Charles Laughton played Galileo
1944-45 "The Caucasian Chalk Circle"
1947 Return to Europe (Zurich)
1956 Died in Berlin on 14th August

COMING ATTRACTION

THE WAY OF THE WORLD

By William Congreve

December 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20 and 21
Camino Theatre — 8:30 p.m.

"The Way of the World" is Los Angeles City College Theatre Arts Department's entry for THE AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATRE FESTIVAL to be held in Washington D.C., April 27 through May 12. There are 192 colleges entered—only ten will be selected to participate.