Los Angeles City College
Theatre Academy

NATIONAL PASTIME
by
Bryan Harnetiaux

In Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Jackie Robinson’s Entry into Major League Baseball

Presented in the Theatre Academy’s Caminito Theatre
The Theatre Academy of Los Angeles City College
in association with
The Jackie Robinson Foundation
presents
Production Number 844, 78th Season, March 16, 17 & 21- 24, 2007

NATIONAL PASTIME
Written by Brian Harnetiaux
Directed by Louie Piday

CAST
Jackie Robinson............................................Egbert Bernard
Mallie Robinson............................................Constance Strickland
Rachel Islum................................................Amber Harris
Wendell Smith............................................John Christopher
Branch Rickey............................................Al Rossi**
Jane Rickey...............................................Louie Piday**
Walter “Red” Barber..............................James Hurley**
Lylah Barber.............................................Sheena Lorene Duff
Clyde Sukeforth......................................Michael Hausner
Bus Driver..................................................Charles De Groot
Officer.........................................................Jerid James
George “Mule” Suttles..............................Martin Head
Leroy “Satchel” Paige............................William Daniels
Harold “Pee Wee” Reese.......................Jerid James
Fred “Dixie” Walker........................................Michael Hausner
Messenger..................................................Charles De Groot

*Student Designer  ** Guest Artists

There will be one fifteen minute intermission. Please, no digital recording of any kind. No flash photography.

“Before President Truman desegregated the military, before the bus boycott in Birmingham, before the civil rights marches in the South, before Rosa Parks, before Brown v. Board of Education, and before anyone had ever heard of Martin Luther King Jr., there was Jackie Robinson.”

--Buck O’Neil, Chairman of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum

The Theatre Academy wishes to thank the following supporters for their contributions to this production:

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Pasadena City College  Branch Rickey III and the Pacific Coast League
The National Baseball Hall of Fame  Ed Krieger  Lawrence Busey and Custodial Services Staff
Student Production Staff

Stage Manager .................................................. Robert Fisher
Assistant Stage Manager .................................. Marta Portillo
Prop Master .................................................. Dennis Kimble Sound
Engineer .................................................... Thomas Engler
Sound Board Operator .................................. Justin Watlington
Light Board Operator .................................. Anthony Perzov
Scenic Artist ............................................... Marine Walton
Production Manager .................................... Eric Burris
Production Crew: Reyna Flores, Joe Harris, Roger Ramirez, Clint Thomas, Paula Thomas
Wardrobe Crew Head ................................... Shonte Buford
Wardrobe Crew ........................................... Alex Alpobome, Cherish Basnett, Dave Rosales
House Managers .............................................. Lewis Blanchard and Natasha O'Neill
Ushers ......................................................... Jesse Billings, John Chillino, Kathy Chou, Reyna Flores, Joe Harris
Roger Ramirez, Sunny Romero, Chiana Russi, Mark Skeens, Clint Thomas

Production Staff

Producing Director of the Theatre Academy ....................................... Fred Fate
Technical Director ...................................................... Jim Moody
Production Manager .............................................. Kevin Morrissey
Scene Shop Supervisor/Production Coordinator .............................. Efrain Corona
Props/Stage Manager Coordinator ........................................... Deena Mullen
Costume Shop Manager ............................................... Naila Aladdin-Sanders
Costume Shop Forewoman ........................................... Patricia McKenna
Publicity and Marketing .................................................. Steve Moyer
Theatre Manager/Box Office Manager ...................................... Kathleen Becket
Box Office ........................................................... Morgan Garcia

Theatre Academy and Department Faculty

Naila Aladdin-Sanders, Eddie Bledsoe, Tony Carreiro, Chris Fairbanks, Fred Fate (Chair), Leslie Ferrera, Daniel T. Green, Beth Hogan, Tina Kronis, Tony Maggio, James Moody (Head of Technical Theatre), Kevin Morrissey (Production Manager), Cliff O'Connell, Louie Piday, Dr. Al Rossi (Head of Acting), Jennifer Roundtree (Head of Vocal Performance), Diane Sisko (Head of Costuming)

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Who's Who

Egbert Bernard (Jackie Robinson) is a fourth semester student at the Academy. Words cannot adequately describe the caliber of gratitude he feels from being blessed with this great role. Thank you!

Tanya Bishop (Costume Designer) has been designing and sewing costumes for the past 15 years with the Metropolitan Educational Theatre Network of Southern California, and Theatre Network International, in many cases providing costumes for over 200 cast members in such shows as: ANNIE, KING AND I, OLIVER, PETER PAN, GREASE, SECRET GARDEN, MUSIC MAN, and JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT. She also worked with the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts Musical Theatre Ensemble creating costumes for FAME: THE MUSICAL, FIDDLER ON THE ROOF, GREASE, CAROUSEL, JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR, and DREAM GIRLS. This is her second semester at LACC, last semester she was the Wardrobe Head for INTIMATE APPAREL.

John Christopher (Wendell Smith) is a second year actor at the Los Angeles Theatre Academy. Originally from Austin, Texas, he moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in acting and costume design. Recently John has been seen in the plays THE SANDSTORM, INTIMATE APPAREL and THE ACTOR’S NIGHTMARE here at the Academy. He is also a company member of The Coop Theatre in Santa Monica and the Company of Angels in Silverlake.

William Daniels (Leroy “Satchel” Paige) theater credits include multiple roles in John Guare’s LANDSCAPE OF THE BODY, and as the bleeding Sergeant in MACBETH. William has also won several awards for his writing. In 2006, he was selected for a Project: Involve Mentorship for his script, ZORA. William’s mentor is Effie T. Brown, producer of the film REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES.

Charles De Groot (Bus Driver/Messenger) is a returning to the Los Angeles City College Theatre Academy after studying acting at the Stanford Meisner Film School. He also enjoys Portrait photography and production.

Sheena Lorene Duff (Lylah Barber) is a third semester Academy student. She has performed in San Diego for years. She has been seen in A STREET CAR NAMED DESIRE, FIVE WOMEN WEARING THE SAME DRESS, THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE, THE CRIPPLE OF INISHMANN, HAY FEVER, BOOK OF DAYS and a number of original experimental pieces. Last year she was Stage Manager for the World Premiere of THE BRAIN FROM PLANET X. Most recently, Sheena was seen in the Academy’s Student Directed One Acts, performing in both THE WOMEN OF TROY and THE ACTOR’S NIGHTMARE.

Amber Harris (Rachel Isum) is a third semester Theater Academy student in addition to acting, she enjoys dancing, singing, directing, playwriting and behind the scenes crew work. Her credits include Xia in THE WOMEN OF TROY, Puck in A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM, Rizzo in GREASE, Sally in THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS and dance captain in two original musicals, both written by Mark E. Swinton: EPHRAIMA’S SONG and KEEP MOVING ON. She was also the Assistant Stage Manager for the world premiere of THE BRAIN FROM PLANET X, produced by the Academy in December 2006. Amber has studied tap, ballet, jazz, modern dance, salsa, samba, belly and swing.


Martin Head (George “Mule” Suttles) is in his second year of training at the Theatre Academy. Martin was Lonnie, the leading role, in this winter’s production of DEAD MAN’S APARTMENT. Martin was also The Man in HELLO, OUT THERE. In addition, Martin served as Production Manager of THEATRE OF OPERATIONS directed by Louie Piday in the Fall of 2006. Martin is honored and proud to be a part of this fantastically important production.

James Hurley (Walter “Red” Barber) began acting in grade school, appearing in local and regional theatrical productions in the Pacific Northwest throughout his youth. His formal training was undertaken at AADA in New York City and USC in Los Angeles. After graduation James worked primarily in film and television production, managing to juggle his behind the scenes work with several film, TV and theatrical appearances. Eventually, he chose to cut out the distractions inherent in his production career and turned his focus toward his ultimate goal of success as a dramatic actor. This decision led him to the intense actor’s training program at LACC. In addition to his continued work with the school, Jim has acted in and produced several award-winning entries in regional and national short film festivals.
Jerid James (Officer/Harold “Pee Wee” Reese) as been given the opportunity to be a part of productions such as TAKE ME OUT, FUDDY MEERS, THE BRAIN FROM PLANET X, THE SAND STORM, THE LONG GOODBYE, RAIN, and HELLO OUT THERE. Work outside the Academy includes BANG BANG YOUR DEAD, SCRIPTED and the Shakespeare Competitions at Whittier College. Jerid has been fortunate enough to Direct the One Act A DEAD MAN’S APARTMENT as part of the Academy’s Student-Directed One Acts. He wishes to express his love and thanks to family and Academy mentors.

Steve Moyer (Show Press Agent; Publicity/Marketing) has promoted the LACCTA productions of THE SAND STORM: STORIES FROM THE FRONT and NECESSARY TARGETS, INTIMATE APPAREL and The World Premiere of the musical, THE BRAIN FROM PLANET X. At Williamstown Theatre Festival he promoted 41 productions, including 14 World Premieres. Moyer had a long affiliation with the late playwright Arthur Miller, working with him on the first American Revival in 55 years of THE MAN WHO HAD ALL THE LUCK the 50th Anniversary production of ALL MY SONS and the American Premiere of THE RIDE DOWN MOUNT MORGAN all of which played on Broadway. Other major productions Moyer has promoted which played on Broadway or Off-Broadway include: the World Premieres of GEORGE GERSHWIN ALONE, BACK FROM BROADWAY (Lincoln Center), KEATS, DINAH WAS and THE MOONLIGHT ROOM (originally produced by The Group at Strasberg). In 2001 Moyer was inducted into the International Edition of Who’s Who of Professionals in the world.

Louie Piday (Director/Jane Rickey) began her stage career in Los Angeles as a founding member of the pioneering Company Theatre before embarking on a New York theatre sojourn performing in Broadway and off-Broadway plays, including OH! CALCUTTA, ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO’S NEST, and THE KARL MARX PLAY. Her transition into film began in commercials and voice-overs, continuing on with television series and features. Since debuting as a director in 1975, Louie has worked extensively in both the academic and professional theatre, here and in Europe. She has also taught at USC, Long Beach Community College and South Coast Repertory Conservatory. Twelve years ago, Ms. Piday appeared with Al Rossi in the KENTUCKY CYCLE in which they also played husband and wife.

Al Rossi (Branch Rickey) is celebrating his 50th year as a professional actor. He’s performed in over 250 plays and dozens of films and TV shows, most recently playing a lead in the film, “Resilience,” which will be released later this year. He’s worked with many fine actors during his career, a few of whom are Charlton Heston, Bert Lahr, Dean Martin, Hume Cronyn and Jessica Tandy, Zoe Caldwell, Lynn Redgrave, Tyne Daly, Alan Alda, Ed Asner, Martin Sheen, and LACC alumni Cindy Williams, Hugh O’Brian, Diana Canova and Paul Winfield. Favorite roles are Falstaff, Prospero, Starbuck in THE RAINMAKER, and both Nathan and Sky in GUYS AND DOLLS. He is eternally grateful to his mentor, the late Sir Tyrone Guthrie, about whom he has written two books. As Head of Acting at the Theatre Academy, he admires greatly all of his peers on the faculty and the exceptional staff. He dedicates his performance to his father, who took him to see Jackie Robinson and the Dodgers battle the Cubs many times in Chicago at the world’s most beautiful ball park.

Constance Strickland (Mallie Robinson) was last seen on the Academy’s stage in THE WOMEN OF TROY and JULY 7, 1994. She is grateful for all the opportunity she has had to date. Constance dedicates this performance to her mother and brother and everyone who has made it possible for her to be an actor. She continues to enjoy the journey.
The Jackie Robinson Foundation:
Built on Tradition, Defined by Excellence.

In 1947, Jackie Robinson became the first African-American to play Major League Baseball.

In 1973, Rachel Robinson founded the Jackie Robinson Foundation to provide scholarships, mentoring and leadership development to deserving students of color.

STATS
Over 1,200 students have received awards
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This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KCACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KCACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC in the spring of 2008.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

Here's to the wonderful new spring 2007 production series, right here in the heart of Hollywood at the LACC Theatre Academy! *

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EVERY GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

We hope you enjoy tonight's performance.

Help us continue to meet the needs of our nationally recognized Theatre Department and Academy.

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Supporting the Academy

The Theatre Academy at LACC has a legacy of quality training and exceptional productions supported by a talented pool of faculty, staff and students. The impact of the Academy speaks for itself: its alumni have been recognized with Academy Awards, Tony Awards, Emmy Awards, and Ovation Awards. As an academic theatre training program, it has also been recognized by the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival, President Clinton, The L.A. Drama Critics’ Circle, and the L.A. City Council, among others.

We are offering our Patrons an opportunity to become even more involved in the work that goes on here. By becoming a Partner in Production, you may enable others to train here who might not otherwise be afforded the opportunity.

If you're interested in providing tax-deductible funding for one or more of the items listed below, please contact the LACC Foundation. If there are other ways in which you can support our work here, please let us know. We'd love to speak with you.

We thank you in advance for your generous support of the Academy and its endeavors.

Apple Laptop $2,500
iPod for Movement Class $399
Wireless Router for SMs $129
Portable Dance Floor $2,000
Costumes for 1 Production $2,200
Scenery for 1 Production $2,500
Digital Sound System $77,000
New Greenroom Furniture $1,750

Posters & Postcards for 1 Production $600
Academy Tuition Scholarships $500/year
Year-End Banquet Tickets for Student $75
KC/ACTF Entry Fee for 1 Production $300
Book Grants (for The Actor's Book) $65/each, $3,250 for the entire Academy
Restocking Scenic Paint $1,500/year
Make-Up Kit for a Student $75/each

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The Theatre Academy is committed to training quality actors,
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CALL US TODAY ABOUT VISITING YOUR CAMPUS!!!

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THE ACTOR’S BOOK
Written by Donna Tollefson and Fred Fate

Based on the actor training that has taken place
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approaches related to the study, analysis,
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April 20-28 in the Camino Theatre
Following in the tradition of 12 ANGRY MEN: a powerful, sometimes explosive and harrowing deliberation by jurors seeking a just verdict.

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An original work of ensemble-based physical theatre developed and inspired by an investigation of The Seven Deadly Sins of Gluttony, Lust, Greed, Sloth, Anger, Envy and Pride.

How To Order Tickets
Tickets for LACCTA’s Spring 2007 theatre productions are still available in Season Subscription Two Packs (two plays), or individually for each of the remaining shows on the spring slate. Theatergoers can mix and match their season subscriptions to best accommodate their personal needs and schedules. Tickets for each show in a Season Subscription Two Pack (two plays) are based on Box Office availability. General Seating is available at all performances on a first-come, first-served basis.

A General Admission Season Subscription Two Pack (two plays) is $15 per subscription. A Season Subscription Two Pack (two plays) for Students, Seniors, Veterans, Faculty and Staff is $10 per subscription. Individual tickets for each of the two shows are $10 each for General Admission, and $6 each for Students, Seniors, Veterans, Faculty and Staff. Group Rates for Groups of 10 or more are also available; please call the Box Office for details, at (323) 664-2787. Tickets may be purchased online at www.lacffoundation.org/events/index.asp.

LACCTA Box Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. On Performance Days the Box Office is open one hour prior to curtain time. The Box Office is closed on Saturdays (except on Performance Days) and Sundays. To accommodate patron’s ticket requests, the Box Office Reservation Line is open 24 hours a day, seven days a-week. Free Parking for theatergoers is provided in the college’s Heliotrope Avenue Parking Lot located one block west of Vermont Avenue, between Santa Monica Boulevard and Melrose Avenue. Beverages and light fare refreshments are available for purchase at all productions.