



This presentation is under the auspices of the Centaur Foundation for the Performing Arts

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Centaur Foundation gratefully acknowledges grants from the Canada Council, le Ministère des Affaires culturelles du Québec and le Conseil des Arts de Montréal.

THE BLOOD KNOT

by

Athol Fugard

Zachariah ZAKES MOKAE
Morris MAURICE PODBREY

The scene is a one-room shack in the non-white location of Korsten, near Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

Directed by ALAN SCARFE
Designed by FELIX MIRBT
Lighting designed by VLADIMIR SVETLOVSKY
Costumes supervised by JANET KNECHTEL
Sound by FELIX MIRBT

Set built by Felix Mirbt with the assistance of John Flannery and Ian Osgood.

There will be one intermission of 15 minutes

Cover Photograph IVOR SHARP
Production Photographs PATRICK FAUQUE

Program courtesy of the Queen Elizabeth

Ce programme est une courtoisie du Reine Elizabeth

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Athol Fugard is a white-skinned South African. He is not allowed to leave his country because the world has recently begun to take too much interest in him and in his writing. He is being punished for his great brilliance as a playwright and for his ability to speak through his plays to all mankind.

His recurrent theme is isolation, the aloneness of human beings, one from the other; our ultimate unknowability.

He finds the sources of his drama in archetypal conflict, in the opposites man-woman, black-white, intellect-instinct, subject-object, one-many, part-whole, love-hate. His genius is that from these he can create specific situations in supreme four-dimensionality.

His setting is South Africa where the chance of history and the inadequacy of man's split vision have created an inhumanity of oppression equalled in its monstrosity only by its absurdity.

"The Blood Knot" deals with the dilemma of two brothers, one dark-skinned, one light-skinned; sons of the same dark-skinned mother and thus both classified as black.

One, Morris, has had an education of sorts. However, at an early age he turned his back on his brother and went away. During his travels he has betrayed his birth by attempting to "pass" as a white. He has become an out-cast from both the white and black groups.

At the beginning of the play we see him, having taken refuge with his dark-skinned and illiterate brother, attempting to create a home and a future for them. This they both do and do not want.

.....cont.

The Apartheid system of government in South Africa is ravaged, as it ravages all those under its sway, by acute spiritual schizophrenia. It cannot put itself together.

This is South Africa's madness, but further it is shown in the play to be the inescapable madness of man and of the universe in which he suffers.

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

The brochure for Centaur's 1972/73 Subscription Season is now ready and being sent to all present subscribers and persons on our mailing list.

We are particularly anxious to contact organizations and companies (special discounts are offered) which can provide us with additional outlets for distribution of this brochure. Please call Kate Fraser at 288-1229 if you would like to receive copies. Your help would be very much appreciated.

Our special reduced subscription offer lasts till the end of the present season.

BEHIND THE SCENES

In order to obtain the funds necessary to ensure the continuation of Centaur, we have to prove to government agencies that there is an annually increasing demand for English theatre in Montreal. The most effective way of doing this is with a heavy subscription return in the Spring.

For the campaign to accomplish this, we need many more hands than we have to help distribute the brochure. If you are interested in helping -- either in the office, delivering brochures, taking some for distribution to your office or friends, etc., and for however short a time -- please call Kate Fraser at 288-1229.

Another of the better things in life

Place Ville Marie is a fascinating complex, the centre of Montreal's famous city-within-a-city. It has beautiful underground shopping arcades. It has intriguing lounges to get your evening started, some of the city's finest restaurants, and a magnificent roof-top spot.

Don't just settle for a meal out. Make it a wonderfully different evening at the very heart of Montreal. Place Ville Marie—two minutes' walk from major downtown hotels. Entrances on Dorchester Blvd., University, Mansfield, or Cathcart Streets. American Express, Carte Blanche, Chargex, CN-Air Canada, Diner's Club, Hilton, and other major credit cards welcomed.

Altitude 737

The room with the view. Montreal's most magnificent buffet and a menu à la carte, 45 floors above the lobby at the corner of Dorchester and University.

Alti-thèque 727

The jet set disco in the sky. Take the elevator to the 44th floor. Open nightly, including Sunday from 5 pm-3 am. Cocktails 'n Jazz 5 pm-8 pm.

The Stampede

Pick your own steak from the finest cuts in the world at our butcher's counter. Just off Le Carrefour.

Le Carrefour

The swinging Montrealer's meeting place. Friendly atmosphere, circular bar, and a great choice of fine eateries. Close to Cathcart and Mansfield entrances.

Bluenose Inn

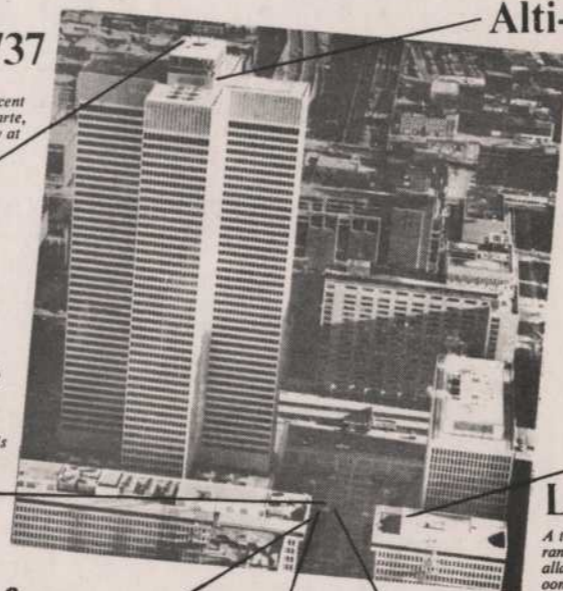
From B.C. salmon to down-east fiddleheads, the best seafood in town. Just off Le Carrefour.

La Popina

A touch of the Mediterranean... from Paella alla Valenciana to the oomp-pa of a sousaphone. Enter on the Plaza from Mansfield St., or take the elevator from the shopping promenade.

L'Escargot

An underground Paris sidewalk café. The only place in town with one of the menus just for snails! Just off Le Carrefour.



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