

HTM Webmaster

From: Announce@htmlplayers.com

Sent: Monday, April 04, 2005 7:59 AM

To: announce@htmlplayers.c

Subject: [Announce] Reserve Your Seat Today - HTM presents Arthur Miller's Incident at Vichy

*"Arthur Miller at his most searching and provocative.
A play that makes you think." - The New York Times*

The Hand-to-Mouth Players

Presents

Incident at Vichy

By Arthur Miller

Directed by

Melinda O'Brien

Friday and Saturday Evenings

April 22, 23, @ 8:00 pm

Wednesday, Friday and Saturday Evenings

April 27, 29, 30 @ 8:00 pm

Sunday Matinee

May 1, @ 2:00

Trinity Boscobel United Methodist Church

275 Church Street, Buchanan, NY

Adults \$12.00 / Seniors \$10.00

Call 914-734-4336 for reservations

In a detention room in Vichy in 1942, the Nazis have picked up several men for questioning. They wonder why they were chosen. Perhaps only their identity papers will be checked, but most of them are Jews or are suspected to be. The Nazi officer has been forced into this police assignment and he resents it. He has faced the glory of the battlefield and has been wounded in combat. The prisoners, include a former French officer, who has thoughts of overpowering the guard, an Austrian nobleman who left Vienna in disgust after the Nazi occupation, and several other French citizens who are caught up by the frenzy of fear and rumor in occupied France. Who will be freed and who will be sent to a concentration camp?

Arthur Miller (1915-2005) was one of America's most celebrated and profound playwrights. He was born in Manhattan and attended the University of Michigan studying journalism. Miller returned to New York and worked as a freelance writer completing several radio plays, a draft of a movie script and stage plays. His first successful play on Broadway "All My Sons" (1947) received the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award. His most famous work, "Death of a Salesman" (1949) followed and received the Pulitzer Prize and within a short while, it had been translated into over a dozen languages. In response to the paranoia of post war America, Miller wrote "The Crucible" (1953) which led to his conviction before the House Committee on Un-American Activities. In 1964 after visiting the Mauthausen death camp and covering the Nazi trials in Frankfurt, Germany for the New York Herald Tribune, "After the Fall" and "*Incident at Vichy*" premiered.

"Arthur Miller has dedicated himself to the investigation of the moral plight of the white American working class.

With a sense of realism and a strong ear for the American vernacular, Miller has created characters whose voices are an important part of the American landscape. His insight into the psychology of desperation

and his ability to create stories that express the deepest meanings of struggle, have made him one of the most highly regarded and widely performed American playwrights." PBS American Masters

Melinda O'Brien is among the Hudson Valley's most respected directors. She has a Bachelor of Arts from the Parsons School of Design and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Pace University. She has been active on stage and backstage for several theaters in Westchester and Putnam Counties. Melinda O'Brien's directorial credits include *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Philadelphia, Here I Come* and *Lord Byron's Love Letter* and *Mr. Dickens Tells a Christmas Carol*. She has directed *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, *You Imperfect Speakers*, *Blind Date*, *Third and Oak: the Laundromat*, *The Substitute Tooth Fairy* and *Art*, which was chosen to represent NY State at the Eastern States Theatre Festival in 2003, *Monkey See, Monkey Voodoo*, for which she received an award for Outstanding Production Values & Use of Space by the Theatre Association of NY State (TANYS) and *A View from the Bridge*, for which she won a Best Director Merit Award from TANYS. On stage, she originated the role of Dr. Kate Rafferty in *The White Inferno*. Written by Cathy Gonick, "The White Inferno" was featured at the Philipstown Depot Theatre One Act Festival, the Schoolhouse Festival and for Samuel French Off-Off Broadway. Melinda O'Brien's acting appearances also include Lee in *Marvin's Room*, Mrs. Chevelly in *An Ideal Husband*, Lenny in *Crimes of the Heart*, Maggie in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, Rose in *Dancing at Lughnasa* and the Angel in *Angels in America*. She and her husband, Michael J. Muldoon, have founded M&M Productions, a professional traveling theatre company that is presently touring Westchester and Rockland counties.