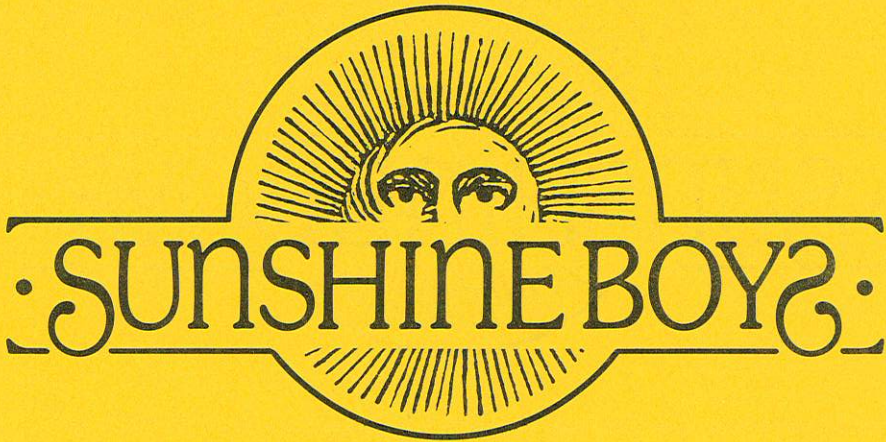

The Brigham Young University Department of Theatre and Cinematic Arts
presents



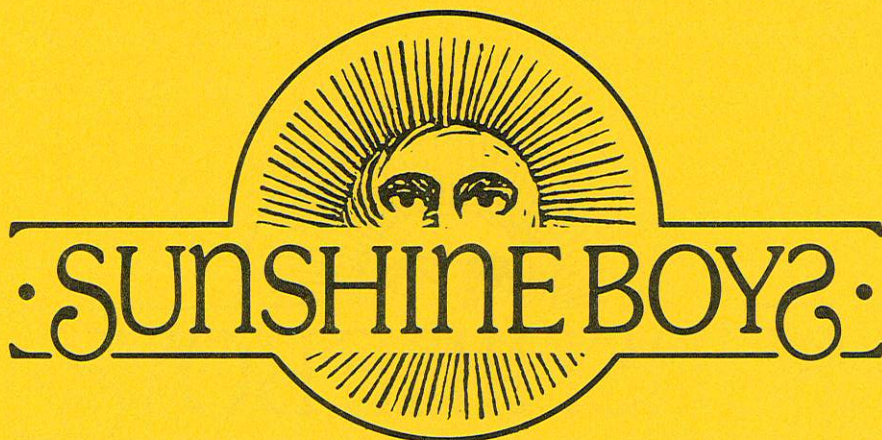
by Neil Simon

Directed by Tad Danielewski

September 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30

October 1, 2 at 8:00 p.m.

Matinee performances September 26 and 28 at 1:00 p.m.



Neil Simon's *Sunshine Boys* opened in New York on December 20, 1972, to generally favorable reviews. Almost all the critics enjoyed the new gags, and several mentioned the vulnerable humanity of the play's two aging ex-vaudeville comedians. Edwin Wilson pointed out that, while Simon's plays are "funny, sometimes wildly funny" (which we already knew), "they are not happy." Despite all the humor on the surface, his comedy is based on considerable misery.

So, what is Simon after as a playwright? Nancy Funk of the *Salt Lake Tribune*, in a recent exclusive interview with Simon and his wife, actress Marsha Mason, quotes him as saying that "if he were to describe himself it would be as a 'serious playwright who writes funny.'" Although there was a time when he "was trying to emulate screwball comedies," he is "happier writing about something more poignant."

He has always been most serious about his craft as a writer. The following observations, written in the summer of 1979, crystallize his attitude toward his work: "I must take my work seriously, but not the results. I can control only what I write and not what others write about my writing. To agree with the ayes and negate the nays is a foolish pastime. To get gastric lesions because four people walked out of your play, or euphoria because someone asks for your autograph, will eventually misdirect your intentions and you will work to please rather than be pleased with your work."

For Neil Simon, the joy comes from working to create "the first perfect play ever written in a single draft." (*Come Blow Your Horn* went through twenty versions.) The joy is in the work, in the process of becoming. Regardless of the reception of the finished product, "the trip has been wonderful. As George and Ira Gershwin said, 'They Can't Take That Away from Me.'"

Notes by Robert Nelson

Cast

Willie Clark
Ben Silverman
Al Lewis
Patient
Eddie
Nurse
Registered Nurse
T.V. Director
T.V. Crew

Charles Metten
Rick Macy
Charles W. Whitman
David Hagan
David Else
M. Jan Onychuk
Meryl E. Perry
Chris Scadden
Bruce Bredeson
Tenina Hicks
Susan Higginbotham
Colleen Mitchell
Martha West
Leslie Warwood
Laurie Harrop

Production Staff

Director
Costume Designer
Technical Director

Tad Danielewski
Janet L. Swenson
O. Lee Walker

Assistant Director
Second Assistant Director
Assistant Technical Director
Costumer
Resident Stage Manager
Lighting Technician
Scene Shop Foremen

David W. West
Julie Boxx
Christine Smith
Sandy Gray
Katy Davis
Robert Saxon
Dean Lorimer
David Beukers
Chris Harris
Cynthia L. Cook
Heidi Mendez
Cindy Edmunds
Bill Conner
David Jeppson

Scene Painter
Property Mistresses

Script Supervisor
Sound (BYU Sound Services)
Sound Technician

Ticket Office Manager
House Manager
Publicity Director
Publicity Director

Colleen Bird
Brad Stevenson
D. Terry Petrie
Floyd Rose

Director's Note

In *Sunshine Boys*, two old comics will make you laugh throughout the performance—yet the play probes deeper. It expresses the author's feelings about the incredibly fast pace of change of American life, about obsolescence, about the inability to change, and about the price one has to pay for not keeping up with these changes.

1981-1982 theatre at BYU
featuring two great theatre seasons for you

In the Pardoe Theatre

Sunshine Boys, Wings, Tom Brown's Schooldays, Pippin, King Lear, Fires of the Mind, Tartuffe, You Can't Take It with You

In the Margetts Arena Theatre

The Belle of Amherst, The Visit, Homecoming on the Wasatch Range, Watch on the Rhine, Hall of the Mountain King, Sons of Thunder

Season book sales end September 25, 1981. For further information contact the Pardoe Ticket Office, 378-3875

NOW PLAYING IN THE MARGETTS ARENA THEATRE

The Belle of Amherst

by William Luce

Directed by Jean Jenkins

- A one-woman show starring Barta Lee Heiner
- A play based on the life of Emily Dickinson. This magnificent new play delicately explores the life of America's greatest woman poet from the age of 15, when she felt full of hope and success, until she died at the age of 56, a virtual recluse with her door closed against society.

September 15,16,17,18,19,22,23,24,25 at 8 p.m. in the Margetts Arena Theatre

Matinee performance September 21 at 4:30 in the Margetts Arena Theatre

Tickets will go on sale Tuesday, September 8, 1981

COMING

THE VISIT

by Friedrich Durrenmatt

Directed by Marion S. Bentley

The story of the return of the richest woman in the world to her hometown, emphasizing the impact of her personality on the community.

October 15,16,17,20,21,22,23,24,27,28,29,30,31 at 8 p.m. in the Margetts Arena Theatre

Matinee performance October 26 at 4:30 p.m.

Tickets will go on sale Monday, October 5, 1981

Pardoe Drama Theatre

WINGS

by Arthur Kopit

Directed by Ivan Crosland

A magnificent adventure into the mind and a revelation of the strength and mystery of the human spirit.

October 22,23,24,27,28,29,30,31

November 3,4,5,6,7 at 8 p.m. in the Pardoe Theatre

Matinee performances November 2 and 7 at 1:00 p.m.