

The Brigham Young University
Department of Theatre and Cinematic Arts
presents

TERRA NOVA

by Ted Talley
directed by Ivan Crosland

Pardoe Theatre

October 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29,
and November 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 at 8:00 p.m.

Matinee Performance on Monday, October 31, at 4:30 p.m.

“TO STRIVE, TO SEEK, TO FIND AND NOT TO YIELD”
—Ulysses, Tennyson

By Robert Nelson, Dramaturg
and Kim Yun Cheol

Terra Nova dramatizes the final agonizing journey of the English explorer Captain Robert Falcon Scott in his deadly race with the Norwegian Roald Amundsen to the South Pole. In one of the play’s many interchanges fantasized by Scott, Amundsen sneers that the Englishman treats “dogs like gentlemen and your gentlemen like dogs”; nevertheless, Scott refuses to adopt the Norwegian’s practice of using sled dogs both for hauling and for food. Instead, he leads his four men to the South Pole on foot, only to find that he has lost out to Amundsen as its discoverer by a month. On their return, Scott and his men are stranded by worsening terrain and a fierce blizzard, and they finally perish, one by one—only eleven miles away from base camp.

Scott’s last journal entry gives us but a glimpse of their supreme, protracted, doomed struggle to survive the fury of a howling, frozen white wilderness:

Thursday, 29 March—Since the 21st we have had a continuous gale from WSW and SW. We had fuel to make two cups of tea apiece and bare food for two days on the 20th. Every day we have been ready to start for our depot *11 miles* away, but outside the door of the tent it remains a scene of whirling drift. I do not think we can hope for any better things now. We shall stick it out to the end, but we are getting weaker, of course, and the end cannot be far.

It seems a pity, but I do not think I can write more.

R. SCOTT

Last entry.
For God’s sake look after our people.

Terra Nova was first presented at the Yale School of Drama, and its professional premiere was at the Yale Repertory Theatre, 18 November 1977. *New York Times* critic Richard Eder observed that the play’s action “ was not heroism in pursuit of glory. It was heroism sustained in failure.” Playwright Ted Talley focusses on the ordeal of Scott and his men on their way back to base camp rather than on their way toward the Pole. Although he had lost the race, however, Scott was a man of honor who maintained to the end his code and standard of behavior—the standard by which he believed “England should measure the worth of action.” Here, then, we can find his victory in defeat. And in this triumph we can perhaps find a hero of genuinely tragic proportions for this unheroic age of ours, this scientific age of displaced souls.

Special Thanks to Pioneer Memorial Theatre for selected costumes and properties.

CAST

Scott
Amundsen
Kathleen
Bowers
Oates
Wilson
Evans

Bruce Newbold
James A. Van Leishout
Laura Conover
J. Scott Bronson
Eddy Schumacher
Jeff Combe
David Val Christiansen

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director
Scenic and Lighting Designer
Costume Designer
Technical Director
Assistant Director
Costumer
Resident Stage Manager
Production Stage Manager
Lighting Technician
Scene Shop Foreman
Scene Painter
Properties
Property Assistant
Sound (BYU Instructional Support Services)
Ticket Office Manager
House Manager
Publicity Director
Publicity Photographer

Ivan Crosland
Eric Fielding, USAA
Sandra Gray
O. Lee Walker
Elizabeth L. Moger
Sandra Gray
Brad Six
Douglas Duncan
Michael Handley
Paul Nibley
Russell Saxton
Dan Baldwin
Amanda Smith
Don Rigby
Colleen Thatcher
Lee Burdge
Martin L. Kelly
Mark Philbrick

Director’s Note

So far as I can venture to offer an opinion on such a matter, the purpose of our being in existence, the highest object that human beings can set before themselves, is not the pursuit of any such chimera as the annihilation of the unknown but it is simply the unwearied endeavour to remove its boundaries a little further from our sphere of activity.

Thomas Huxley

(From Scott’s Antarctic journal)

BE SURE TO SEE THESE GREAT UPCOMING SHOWS!



BY CHRISTOPHER DURANG
DIRECTED BY TAD Z. DANIELEWSKI

This fast-paced comedy recomposes America's entire cinematic history, according to Time magazine, from Orphans of the Storm to The Exorcist, from the screwball comedies of the '30s to Elizabeth Taylor screaming at Richard Burton in the '60s. But the tongue is firmly in cheek—and the audience on the floor, laughing—while the deeper truths seep through the satire into our minds.

November 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19,
22, 23, 24, 25, 26 in the
Nelke Experimental Theatre.

Matinee Monday, Nov. 21, at 4:30 p.m.
Tickets go on sale October 31, 1983.



BOOK, LYRICS, MUSIC BY RICK BESOYAN
DIRECTED BY MARION BENTLEY

This glittering, sparkling musical bubbles over with charm and pure fun. The fairest of young maidens, the most heroic of forest rangers, and the fiercest wild Indians dance and sing through this romantic and joyful spoof of the old Jeanette McDonald and Nelson Eddy musicals. We dare you to leave the theatre with your feet touching the floor!

November 24, 25, 26, 29, 30,
December 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 in the
Pardoe Drama Theatre.

Matinee Monday, Dec. 5, at 4:30 p.m.
Tickets go on sale Nov. 14, 1983.