

Coming up at
York College :

Jazz Concert at Art Gallery

December 7th 1999 at 12 noon

&

Jazz Concert in York College Theatre

December 10th 1999 at 7:30 PM

(Admission Free)

York College Chorus
Performs in Atrium:

(Admission Free)

December 12th 1999 at 3:00 PM

The Christmas Portion of Messiah

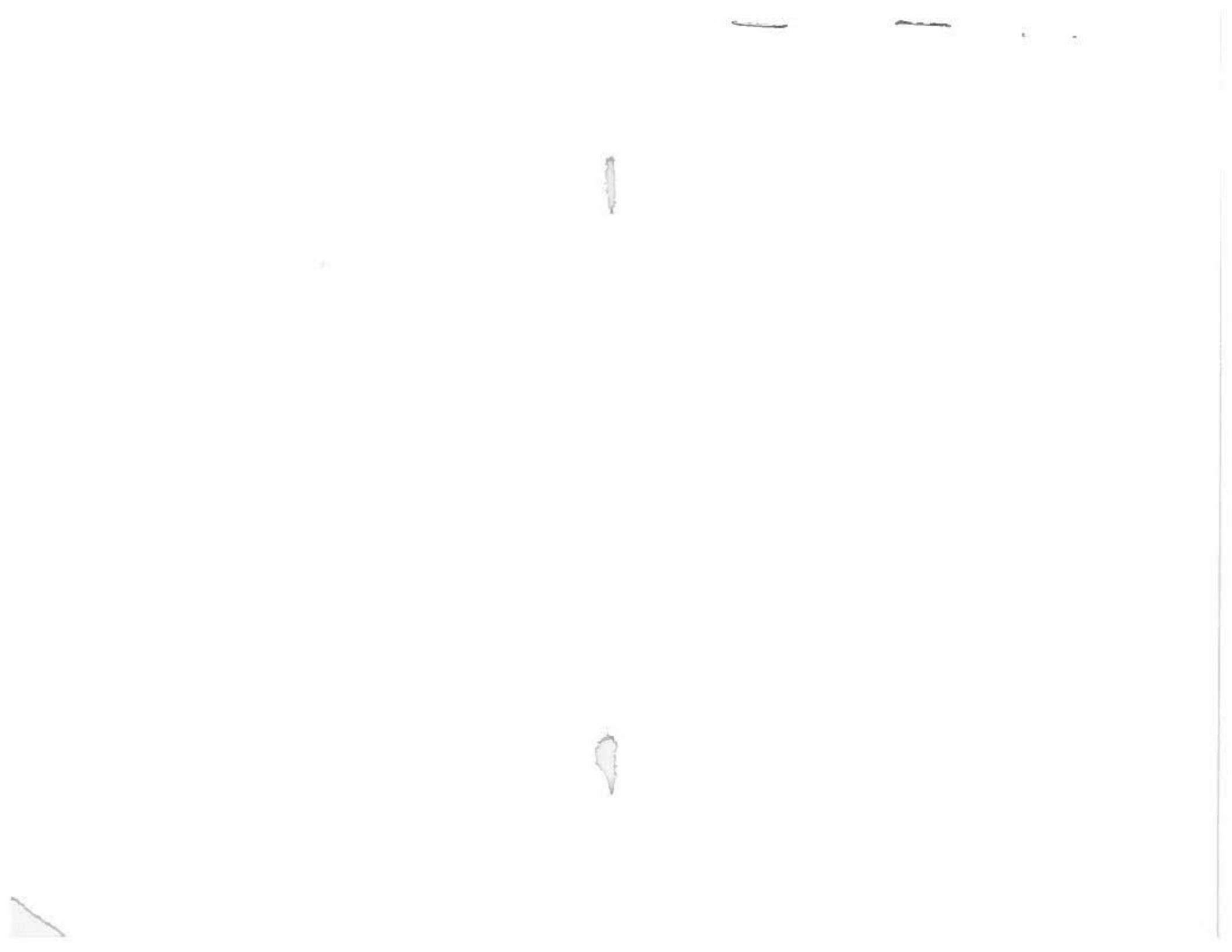
By G.F. Handel

The Arts of South Asia and India



York College
Theatre

94-45 Guy Brewer Blvd
Jamaica, NY



Our Special Thanks

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Costume Cleaning for York College Theatre
Courtesy of

Hallak Cleaners
1282 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10026

York College
The City University of New York
Department of Performing & Fine Arts
Barbara Nickolich, Chairperson

Presents

The Arts of South Asia and India

Directed by
Sarah Schilling

Scene and Lighting by
Paul Martini

Udeshika Abeysene
Richard **Robert Ishmael**
Faria Sookdea
Brenda C. Williams

Special Appearance by
Rehana Arift

1999
Friday December 3 at 8pm
Saturday December 4 at 8pm
York College Theatre
94-45 Guy R. Brewer Blvd
Jamaica N.Y. 11451

Program

I. Words from Ghandi

The Company

Excerpts from newspaper articles

II. A Dance from Chandni Moon

Faria Sookdea

III. Sri Lanka(The Island Country)

Udishka Abeysene

IV. Two Poems

Brenda C. Williams

1. Jaisalmer¹ by Ghulan Mohammed

Sheikh

2. Days in New York by Shiv K.

Kumar

From the Oxford Anthology of Modern

Indian Poetry

Edited by Vinay Dharwadker and A.K.

Ramanajan

V. A Love Poem

Faria Sookdea

By Rumi

VI. Two Bengali Folk Tales

Richard Ishmael

From the Demon Slayers and other

Stories

Edited by S.Dasgupta and S. Das

Dasgupta

James Como came to York in 1968, when he founded the speech discipline. He chaired the Department of Performing & Fine Arts for 12 years. He holds a Ph.D. degree in Language, Literature and Communication from Columbia University. At York, he has appeared in *The Madwoman of Chailot* (directed by Barbara Nickolich). His new book is Branches to Heaven: The Geniuses of C.S. Lewis.

York College Performing and Fine Arts

Department

Barbara Nickolich

Theatre Coordinator & Chairperson

Sharon Hawkins

Administrative Assistant

Speech Communications and Theatre Arts:

Prof. Como, Prof. Nickolich, Asso.Prof. Schilling

Substitute Asst.Prof. Parsons, CLT Paul Martini

Fine Arts:

Prof.Simkin Prof.Garthwaite, Prof.Ryder, Prof.Borstein,

Substitute Asst. Prof. Necol

Music:

Prof. Ernst, Prof. Moorman, Asst. Prof. Adams, Sr. CLT Walter Dixon,

from Wheaton College, Northwestern University and New York University. In addition, she has been a student of Bobby Troka, voice coach, in New York city. She has appeared as a performer and director with the CUNY Readers Theatre. She developed a one-woman show, *American Counterpoint*, which she performed in Munich, Germany, Nashville and New York City. Most of her work has been as a director of legitimate theatre in university settings. Joseph Walker's *The River Niger*, *Antigone*, *Tartuffe*, *Six Plays by Dario Fo*, and *Callallo 6*, *The Miser* have been her most recent productions.

Sarah Schilling received her training at Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Playhouse. After graduation, she joined a professional acting company in Erie, PA, and played summer stock in Wisconsin. Upon arriving in New York, She performed for over a year in the role of Heloise in a play by the same name at the Off-Off Broadway Gate Theatre. While teaching, first at Packer Collegiate Institute and then at York, she worked as one of the directors at the Off-Off Broadway Actor's Place Theatre at St. Luke's in the West Village. Recently she taught theatre games for a directors workshop at the famous Berliner Ensemble in Berlin, Germany, and worked with other directors from all over the world on Bertolt Brecht's *Mother Courage and Her Children*. She appeared in Samuel Beckett's *Cascando* at La Ma Ma in January of 1995.

VII. Sri Lanka Dance

Udishka Abeysene
Manaranjana Darshiniya Lanka (dance)

VIII. Excerpts from Ghandi

Brenda C. Williams

Richard Ishmael

IX. The Wedding Dress

Faria Sookdea

X. The Taxi Driver by K.S. Duggal (Punjabi)

Richard Ishmael

**From Contemporary Indian Short
Stories**

Edited by Shantinath K. Desui

XI. Dance from Sri Lanka

Rehana Arift

Introduction by Udishka Abeysene

Production Staff

Technical Director

Paul J. Martini

Scenery and Sound
Dorothy Lee

Lighting Technician
Anabelle Morales

Program and Flyer Design
Jacqueline Jackson

Who's Who:

Udeshika Abeysena is a Sri Lankan American; born and raised in Queens, NY. She takes great pride in the Sri Lankan culture and its history. She participates in many Sri Lankan social functions at school and religious events. She has studied dance and singing since the age of five. Her major is Liberal Arts at York.

Rehana Arift was born in Sri Lanka. She is very talented in the arts of dancing. She has been dancing since she was five. She has participated in school and other social events. She is currently in Junior High School.

Richard Ishmael will graduate this June. He was last seen as Harpegon in the Fall production of *The Miser*. "I want to thank God for all He's done for me and for giving me purpose and saving me"

Faria Sookdea is a junior majoring in Psychology at York. Her ancestry goes back to Udipur, India then to Guyana and now to the United States.

Brenda C. Williams is a Psychology major and expects to graduate February '00. She is from Jamaica where she appeared in many dramatic presentations, especially for children. She enjoys poetry and choral speaking.

Dorothy Lee (Technician) is an English major. This is her first production working backstage at York.

Annabelle Morales (Lighting Technician) is a Speech/Education major and will graduate in June '00. This is her third production at York.

Paul J. Martini (Scenic and Lighting Designer) is now in his second year as technical director here at York College. Last year he was the TD and lighting designer for the productions of *A Streetcar Named desire* and *The Piano Lesson*. While in New York City he has also designed lights for Animated Theatre Works (*Brotherly Loves*) and The Gallery Players (*The Pirates of Penzance*) for which they won a 1998-9 OOB Award. Other regional credits include *Phantom*, *Camelot*, *42nd Street* and *Crazy For You*.

Randall Parsons makes his York College Theatre debut with *The Miser*. Randall is an Substitute Assistant Professor of Theatre, having received his MFA from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. Current and recent projects include *Evita* for Theatre Three in Port Jefferson; *Seven Deadly Sins*, Charleston Ballet Theatre (SC); *A Midsummer Nigh'ts Dream*, Ramapo College, (NJ); *Regina*, Bronx Opera; and *You Are Now Entering Nellie Oleson*, PS 122.

Barbara Nickolich, the Chairperson of Performing and Fine Arts Department, received her formal theatre training