

UAB  
DEPARTMENT OF  
THEATRE AND DANCE

*Howard L. Reynolds, Chair*

presents

THE NIGHT  
THOREAU  
SPENT  
IN JAIL



by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee

A SOUTHSIDE REPERTORY THEATRE PRODUCTION

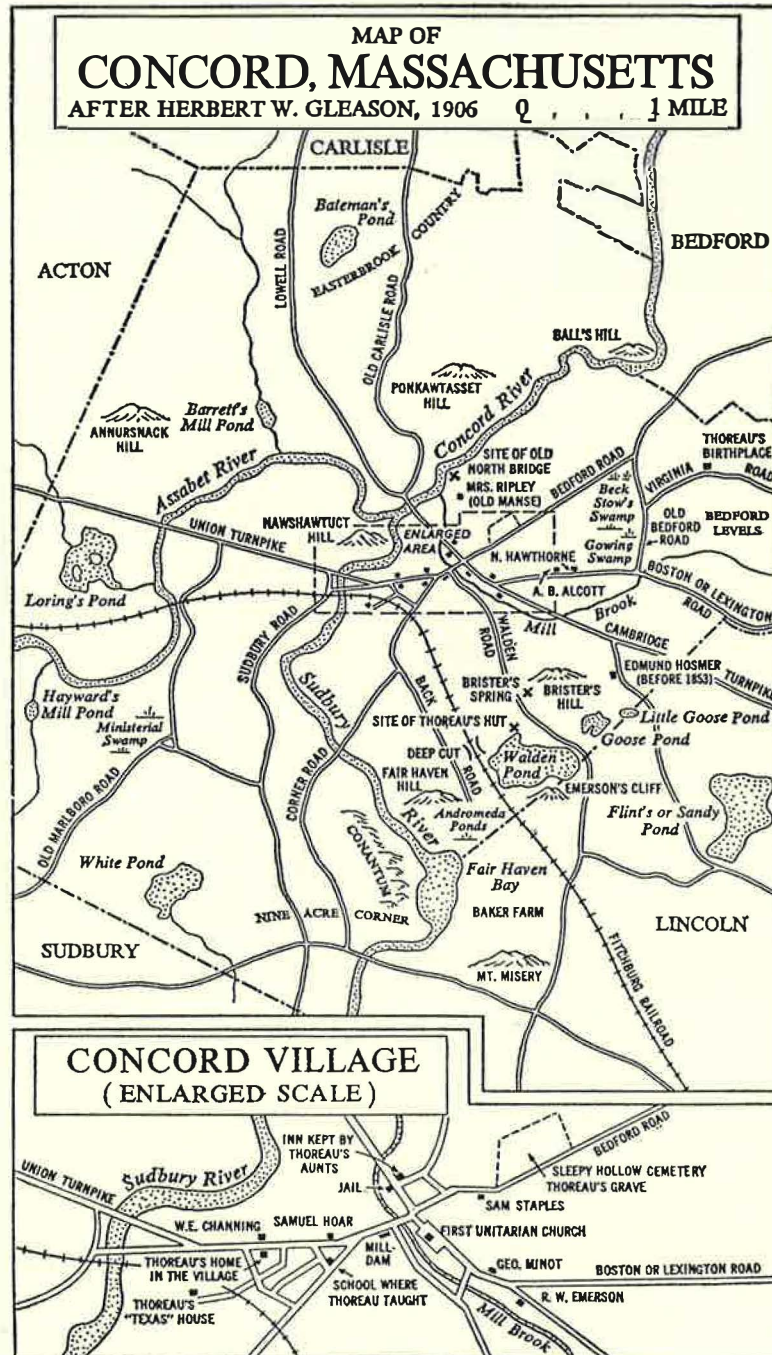
Directed by **BOBBY FUNK**

OCTOBER 17 - 21, 1995

8:00pm

**UAB BELL THEATRE**

700 13th Street South



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A SOUTHSIDE REPERTORY THEATRE PRODUCTION

**THE NIGHT THOREAU  
SPENT IN JAIL**

by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee

*Opening Night - October 17, 1995*

Directed by

**BOBBY FUNK**

Costume Design by

**KIMBERLY SCHNORMEIER**

Lighting Design by

**LANG REYNOLDS**

Scenic Design by

**KEL LAEGER**

Stage Management by

**DENNIS DEAN** and **JUNE GARZA**

This production is produced by special arrangement with  
**Samuel French, Inc.**

This production is funded in part by the  
UAB Cultural Activities Committee

**THERE WILL BE ONE  
TEN-MINUTE INTERMISSION**

**CAST**

Ralph Waldo Emerson.....JOHN WRIGHT, JR.  
Lydian Emerson.....KATHRYN M. ANDREWS  
Mother.....VIRGINIA MAE SCHMITT  
Henry David Thoreau.....SAM L. LANDMAN  
John Thoreau.....STEVEN VARNES  
Bailey.....VAN DUBOSE  
Deacon Ball.....STERLING BREWER  
Ellen Sewell.....CYNTHIA EVANS  
Sam Staples.....PHILL ROBINSON  
Edward Emerson.....JASON ROGOFF  
Farmer/Minister.....DAVID ROBERTS  
Woman.....ANNE R. CARMICHAEL  
Henry Williams.....ANTHONY IRONS  
Voice/Soldier.....MICHKA GRANT  
Soldier.....JEFF SANFORD

**PRODUCTION STAFF**

Vocal Coach.....KARMA IBSEN  
Technical Director.....RUSS FRIEDRIKIS  
Assistant Stage Manager.....JEFF SANFORD  
Costume Shop Supervisor.....JANE KLEMENS  
Master Carpenter.....CHRIS LONG  
Master Electrician.....JOHN HILLIN  
Properties Manager.....KIM HACKBARTH  
Lightboard Operator.....MARK LONG  
Soundboard Operator.....ALICIA VAUGHAN  
Sound Technician.....J. HEITH LUNCEFORD  
Special Effects Operator.....MIKE ROWLINS  
Projectionist.....CHRIS HULBERT  
Production Construction Crew.....ANDY CHAPLE,  
JOHN DOUGLAS, THEATRE 201 CLASS  
Properties Construction.....THEATRE 221 CLASS  
Production Assistant.....SYLVIA HAGAN  
Costume Construction.....JEFF SANFORD,  
KATIE HOWARD, JENNIFER HOWELL  
Wardrobe Assistant.....SARAH CORRERO  
Box Office Manager.....KATHLEEN CROWDER  
House Manager.....DANA DiCHIARA  
Slide Photographer.....CYNTHIA LYBRAND  
Promotion Directors.....MARY McCORD-SHORT, MELANIE PARKER  
Administrative Associates.....BILLIE SHELDON,  
LEE BLUE, DENNIS DEAN  
Student Assistants.....SHERMETRA DeLAINE,  
LISA WOOLEY, CHRIS HARDIN

## CHRONOLOGY

- 1817:** Born on July 12th in Concord, Massachusetts.
- 1837:** Henry Thoreau graduates from Harvard at twenty, comes home to Concord, and looks for a career. At Ralph Waldo Emerson's suggestion probably, also begins a Journal.
- 1838:** Gives his first lecture before the Concord Lyceum, thus initiating a practice that was to have an important effect on his writing. Becomes an intimate of Emerson.
- 1839:** With his brother John, embarks on a "fluvial excursion" along the Concord and Merrimack, and gathers material for the *Week*. Falls in love with Ellen Sewell.
- 1840:** Makes his bow as a poet: the Transcendentalist *Dial* prints his lyric about Edmund Sewell, brother of Ellen. In November Ellen Sewell finally rejects Thoreau.
- 1841:** As handyman and friend, takes up residence with the Emersons. Is attracted to Lydian Emerson.
- 1842:** Publishes in the *Dial*, which carries nine of his best poems and his essay "Natural History of Massachusetts." His beloved brother John Thoreau dies.
- 1843:** Leaves Emerson's home to act as tutor to Emerson's nephew at Staten Island and to try his luck with the New York literary market. Publishes a few more essays and poems.
- 1845:** Goes to live in a hut beside Walden Pond. Commences his period of greatest literary productivity.
- 1846:** On July 23rd or 24th arrested by Sam Staples for not paying his poll tax and spends the night in jail. This will lead to Thoreau's writing of his most powerful and influential essay, "Civil Disobedience."
- 1846:** Travels to Maine; gathers some of the material later to go into *The Maine Woods*.
- 1847:** Ends Walden experiment; resumes residence at the Emerson home.
- 1848:** Sartain's *Union Magazine* prints "Ktaadn and the Maine Woods."
- 1849:** Thoreau's first book, the *Week*, and most influential essay, "Civil Disobedience," published.
- 1851:** Thoreau aligns himself with the abolitionists.
- 1853:** Busy as surveyor in Concord; sees publication of opening portions of *A Yankee in Canada*; visits Maine woods for the second time.
- 1854:** *Walden; or, Life in the Woods* published.
- 1855:** First episodes of *Cape Cod* appear in *Putnam's Monthly Magazine*; the rest are withdrawn when the editor tries to censor Thoreau.
- 1856:** Thoreau surveys and lectures; stays briefly at Horace Greeley's farm. Is introduced to Walt Whitman in New York.
- 1857:** Fight over slavery intensifies; Thoreau meets John Brown and is deeply impressed by him.
- 1860:** More essays, including two on Brown, are printed; Thoreau goes on last camping excursion: climbs Monadnock in company with Ellery Channing. At end of year becomes ill.
- 1861:** In search of good health, travels to Minnesota. Works up final group of essays for *The Atlantic Monthly*, including "Walking" and "Life without Principle."
- 1862:** Dies of tuberculosis in spring.

*"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured, or far away."*

- Henry David Thoreau

**A** hundred years ago Henry David Thoreau was looked upon as a minor disciple of Ralph Waldo Emerson. Fifty years ago he was thought of as an "also-ran" who was rapidly and deservedly being forgotten. Yet today he is widely rated as one of the giants in the American pantheon and his fame is on an upward rather than a downward curve. It is universally agreed that he speaks more to our day than to his own.

Nature lovers find solace and beauty in his works. Critics of our times find in him one of the great satirists of our foibles and follies. Conservationists look upon him as the pioneer in their battle to save our natural resources. Litterateurs hail him as one of the great modern prose stylists. Reformers have seized upon his theory of civil disobedience as their most effective weapon. Advocates of the simple life see in his philosophy the solution of some of the most pressing problems of our day.

Leaders in many fields have hailed his influence. Robert Frost has said: "In Thoreau's declaration of independence from the modern pace is where I find most justification for my own propensities"; Mahatma Gandhi: "There is no doubt that Thoreau's ideas greatly influenced my movement in India"; Henry Miller: "There are barely a half-dozen names in the history of America which have meaning for me. Thoreau's is one of them"; Frank Lloyd Wright: "The history of American Architecture would be incomplete without Thoreau's wise observations on the subject"; Justice William O. Douglas of the United States Supreme Court: "Thoreau lived when men were appraising trees in terms of board feet, not in terms of watershed protection and birds and music. His protests against that narrow outlook were among the first heard on this continent"; Sinclair Lewis: "Walden [is] one of the three or four unquestionable classics of American literature"; and President John F. Kennedy has paid tribute to "Thoreau's pervasive and universal influence on social thinking and political action."

- WALTER HARDING

"Transcendentalism is plain living and high thinking."

- OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Thoreau Society, Dr. Dan Holliman, Dr. Daniel Jones, Dr. Theodore Haddin, Phill Robinson, Roger Brothers, Jonathan Brothers, *Fun and Stuff*, *The Birmingham News*, *The Birmingham Post-Herald*, *Black and White*, The Birmingham Public Library, Bobby Horton, Jerry and Susan Griner, Buddy Manning, David Manning, 4th Alabama Cavalry - Co.B, Debra and John Varden, Chris Long, Mrs. Knox - 2nd Grade Class - Shades Cahaba Elementary School, Belinda Holloway, Sandy Watson, The Concord Museum, Barnes and Noble, Books-A-Million, Rusty Smith, Jack Mann, The Alabama Gas Company, Cynthia Lybrand, June Garza and The Asheville Historical Society.



Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival XXVIII

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The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

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and

**RYDER.**

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF SUPPORT TO KC/ACTF

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KC/ACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for adjudication by a regional KC/ACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in KC/ACTF programs involving awards, scholarships, and special grants for actors, playwrights, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KC/ACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the non-competitive KC/ACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, in the spring of 1996.

Last year more than 900 productions and 18,000 students participated in the American College Theater Festival nationwide. By entering this production, our department is sharing in the KC/ACTF goals to help college theater grow and to focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

**HENRY THOREAU AND LIFE IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY** is a concerted attempt to examine the thought and writing of Henry David Thoreau.

Speakers: Robert Sattelmeyer, Dan Holliman, Linda Frost, Larry Crenshaw, and Theodore Haddin

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1995**

Reception begins at 6:15pm, address by Robert Sattelmeyer begins at 7:00pm. Hulsey Recital Hall, UAB Campus, 13th Street opposite the Sterne Library.