

Second Season offering explores nature of faith

Exploring the nature of faith and the hunger for a spiritual miracle in the contemporary world, "Agnes of God," by playwright John Pielmeier, is the third of four plays offered this spring in the Arena Theatre as part of the University Theatre's Second Season series.

The plot for "Agnes of God" is based on an actual incident that occurred in upstate New York in 1976. A nun gave birth in her convent, strangled the infant, placed it in a wastebasket, claimed no recollection of the incident and was indicted for manslaughter.

Pielmeier was fascinated by this occurrence and acknowledged it as the source for his plot. But it merely serves as the background against which he presents a sense of mystery and

spiritual wonder.

The drama is an intense play of the mind and a play of miracles, says director Eileen Kearney, a doctoral degree candidate in theater arts.

In searching for the solutions to the mysteries of who killed the baby and who the father is, the nun (Agnes), the mother superior, and a court-appointed psychiatrist must face some hard realities and re-examine the meaning of faith and the commitment of love, Kearney says.

Performances are scheduled for April 11-13, 19-20 and 25-27. Curtain time is 8 p.m. and admission is \$2.

Tickets can be purchased at the University Theatre box office in the lobby of Robinson Theatre.



Photo by Shu-Shing Chen

Agnes (Jani Davis) grapples with her conscience in a scene from the Second Season production of "Agnes of God." Nancy Julian (left) plays Agnes' mother superior and Kim Anderson (right) plays a court-appointed psychiatrist.

Lecture series will feature noted architect

Noted architect Elizabeth Ericson will give the fourth annual Claire Watson Forrest Memorial Lecture tonight on campus.

Ericson was project architect for the Boston Children's Hospital and for the Tufts New England Medical Center, for which she received a citation from "Architectural Record."

Her talk, "Ornament Out of the Ordinary," will be in Room 107 Lawrence Hall at 7:30 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

The Claire Watson Forrest Memorial lectures were established in 1980 by the architecture departments of the universities of Oregon, California at Berkeley, and Southern California. Forrest, who died in an automobile accident in 1977, taught at all three universities in the 1970s.

Free workshop to provide legal self-help information

Consumer Sounding Board is offering a free workshop tonight on legal self-help, including small claims court, consumer complaint resolution, and use of the "Lemon Law," a law designed to protect consumers from faulty retail products.

The CSB offers low-cost legal self-help kits for bankruptcy, uncontested divorce, name change, adoption, consumer complaints and landlord/tenant disputes.

Although the preparation and selling of such kits is legal, the Oregon State Bar has complained that founder and director Peggy Muse is "practicing law without a license."

Muse says she has agreed not to engage in activities considered by the bar as practicing

law, such as giving legal advice to customers. Muse was found in contempt of this agreement in June 1984, but is appealing the decision.

"The only thing we're doing is providing legal forms and helping people fill them out — something you can legally do yourself. But the forms in (regular) use are written in old 'legalese' and many people find them confusing," Muse says.

CSB workers do not give legal advice, accompany customers to court, or advise them of the probable outcomes of their cases, Muse says.

The workshop will begin at 7 p.m. at the Consumer Sounding Board office at 132 E. Broadway, Suite 214.

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Most students who come to America work in New York, and many are working now on cleaning the Statue of Liberty, she says.

Boucher explains that permits are issued only temporarily for prime job-finding periods. For example, work permits for New Zealand would only last from April to October, during the peak farming season. However, workers could possibly arrange for additional permits with their employers.

Costs for the program include air fare and a \$72 fee in all countries except Germany, where the program fee is \$80. Applications for the program are accepted throughout the year.

Another cost-free, but wage-deficient option is the CIEE volunteer program for working on community service projects in Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Poland and Spain. Room and board are complementary, and jobs range from restoring a Czechoslovakian castle to rebuilding seawalls on a German island.

The program fee is \$100 and air fare is additional. If participants go to France or Spain, they must speak the country's language. Volunteers don't

have to be students, but they must be at least 16 years old to work in Germany and at least 18 years old in all other countries.

The volunteer jobs usually last two to four weeks. May 1 is the application deadline for volunteers.

Reduced air travel rates for students and youth participating in CIEE programs may be available through the council's travel agency. For more information call the agency in Portland at 228-1900, or write to CIEE, 312 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94108.

Another source for locating paid or volunteer short-term work overseas is the annual guide from the Central Bureau for Educational Visits and Exchanges in England. "Working Holidays/1985" lists jobs and contains general and specific tips on work permits, visas, transportation, accommodations, medical requirements and other useful information about working in developed and developing countries. Individuals can order this 320-page guide for \$8.95 including regular mailing costs, or \$10.35 for first class mail, from the Canadian Bureau for International Education, 141 Laurier Ave. W., Suite 809, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1P 5J3.

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