

1992/93
A42

AIDS BENEFIT AND AWARENESS EVENT

Sunday, February 7, 1993 at 8:00 p.m.

Campus Auditorium, Northside Hall

Indiana University South Bend

All proceeds benefit MY BROTHER'S HOUSE-assisting people with AIDS

- 1) **The Chester String Quartet; Aaron Berofsky-violin, Kathryn Votapek-violin, David Harding-viola, Thomas Rosenberg-cello**

Felix Mendelssohn

(1809-1847)

Quartet in E flat major, Opus 12

Adagio non troppo - Allegro non tardante

Canzonetta: Allegretto

Andante espressivo

Molto allegro e vivace

- 2) **The Theatre Company at IUSB; Randy Shilts' Talking AIDS to Death adapted by James Sie.**

Performed by Randy Colborn

Jay Anderson

Jennifer Phelps

Andrew Miller

Sarah Andrews

By special arrangement with Randy Shilts, James Sie and Lifeline Theatre, Chicago, IL.

- 3) **Laurence Jeanningros, Piano**

Maurice Ravel

(1875-1937)

Miroirs

Noctuelles

Oiseaux Tristes

Une Barque Sur L'Ocean

Alborada del Gracioso

La Vallee des Cloches

PROGRAM NOTES

I saw the AIDS Memorial Quilt at Chicago's Navy Pier in the Spring of 1988. Perhaps the presentation was not quite as dramatic as the display in October on the grounds of the Washington Monument--filling eight 48-foot tractor trailers, weighing 26 tons, covering the equivalent of 12 football fields and growing by another football field and a half just that weekend from new panels streaming in. I say, perhaps, because "The Quilt" affected me so profoundly in its serpentine presentation in room after room after room... I kept hoping it would end and there seemed no end... There is still no end. According to coordinators, the Memorial Quilt has grown so immense that this may have been the last display of it in its entirety.

If you have not seen the Quilt think of it as a great community artwork and symbol of postmodern culture. The presentation is startling when you realize that its plan is inspired by the modern cemetery; each quilt a six-foot-by-three-foot grave-shaped tapestry woven, in many cases, from the very fabric of lives cut short by AIDS. It is that individuality of each quilt combined with the sheer volume that is so overwhelming. If you wish to remain objective about the AIDS Crisis then avoid the Quilt at all costs. As I strolled the "miles" of quilts I felt compelled to breath in each name, each personality, each life boiled down in a three-foot-by-six-foot panel, lest I would reduce them to a number. You see, the Quilt is quite "HUMAN". It is funny, sad, cynical, naive, suave, awkward, elegant, cute and most of all--frail. Real cemeteries of course specialize in presenting permanence; granite and marble and "eternal" flames. The Quilt must be repaired constantly and always protected from the weather. No fuss there about religion or family or even complete names. There are at last count 28 quilts naming only "Dennis", 53 for "Joe".

In the way it remembers, the Quilt is more relaxed, more inclusive, more sensual, more human, more *theatrical* than anything previously imagined in the protocols of mourning. The very idea of the Quilt, combining monumentality with patchwork, expresses at once the scale of the leaping world AIDS crisis and its assault on humanist faith in order and social continuity.

Without losing its healing associations, the Quilt is far more than "comforter". It is an inspired multiplex of grieving, art and social activism, it resonates so deeply. The Quilt is a unique symbolic representation emerging in response to an unprecedented crisis.

Tonight is a bit of an artistic patchwork; some theatre and some music. The intent of this evening is to celebrate community and understanding, perhaps even clear up some misunderstandings. This event is not about me, or you, or them--IT IS ABOUT US. Tonight, let us embrace our diversity and celebrate our humanity. Tonight is dedicated to the living and the dead, but especially to those who fight this Crisis in any way that they can.

Randy Colborn

SPECIAL THANKS

Lifeline Theatre Company
Daniel Cohen, Chancellor
Lester C. Lamon, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Robert W. Demaree, Jr., Dean, Division of the Arts
Thomas C. Miller, Director of Production
Lois K. Carder, Acting Director of Production, Costume Design
C. Kenneth Cole, Technical Director
David R. Davenport, Resident Stage Manager and Equipment
Coordinator
Warren Pepperdine, Directing and Theatre History
Area Coordinator, International Recruitment
Area Coordinator, Design
The IUSB Player's Guild
The Theatre Company at IUSB
The Division of the Arts
Mark Todd, Production Coordinator