

Theater Emory probes complex nature of women

Theater Emory is launching its second season with a quintet of one-act plays that confront the "reality and myth of the feminine experience." Collectively titled "Desecration and the Lover's Night Five Portraits of Woman," the plays will run in rotating repertory — two one evening, three the next — from Sept. 1-Oct. 2, with weekend matinees.

"We expect controversy," admits Jim Flannery, Theater Emory's artistic director. "We expect anger, and we expect support. We've put together a poetic, highly charged symphony of plays on a topic of immense psychic and social resonance: the nature of woman. The plays are written by masters of the modern theater, who also happen to be men. This in itself is bound to spark some questions."

Flannery will direct the set of two plays. August Strindberg's naturalist masterpiece, "Miss Julie," depicts the passion and destructiveness of a proud aristocrat's affair with her ambitious servant. On the same bill with "Miss Julie," William Butler Yeats's dance drama "A Full Moon in March" celebrates the mystery of sexuality in a hauntingly beautiful ritual of ecstasy and terror. A line in Yeats's piece provides the title for

tween a female character and her male author. "Request Concert," a silent play, portrays one woman's grim immersion in the killing details of her own, and her culture's, altered lives.

The play's authors have "thought deeply about the idea of the feminine and how it functions in its social context, in its universal aspect, and, most complex of all, how it works within themselves." Flannery points out: Adds Westberg: "Each one of these plays lights up dimensions of the others; they are complementary and conflicting. Every conceivable position is asserted and eventually questioned." Panels will be organized to pursue the issue these plays raise beyond the plays themselves.

"Desecration and the Lover's Night" will be performed by an entirely professional cast. Leading Atlanta actresses Charandra Wille, Kim Dixon and Dena Malon will each play two major roles, and New York actor Rock Dutton will perform the male leads. Award-winning composer Dan Erkkila, master of a host of ethnic and self-made wind, string and percussion instruments, will perform the original scores he wrote for these productions. Mark Morton and Susan Hinshfeld, who have worked extensively for the All

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Emory Theater's associate director, Dana Burns Westberg, will be staging the program of three plays: "The Human Voice" by Jean Cocteau, Mary Goldstein and the Author by OyamO and "Request Concert" by the Austrian playwright Franz Xaver Kroetz. "The Human Voice" probes the harrowing emptiness of a sexual liberation devoid of human values, while OyamO's play humorously and self-consciously examines, among other issues, the delicate relationship be-

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The plays will run from Sept. 1-Oct. 2. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday performances will take place at 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets will be \$6, \$4.50 for senior citizens and students. Friday and Saturday evening performances begin at 8 p.m. Tickets will be \$7.50, \$5.00 for senior citizens and students. Patrona can save \$1 by ordering tickets for both sets of plays in advance.



Dana Burns Westberg as a dancer and

Emory alumnus earns environmental award for war

August 29 1983 campus report

Convocation Dillingham

Members of the academic community extended a warm welcome to the Class of 1987 with an opening convocation Aug. 29. Among the highlights of this ceremony was the presentation of the Thomas Jefferson Award to poet-physician John H. Stone and the University Citation Teacher of the Year Award to English professor William B. Dillingham.

In past years, medieval historian professor George F. Cuttino led the convocation procession as University marshal. That honor will go to when Chemistry member next year.

President James T. Laney also welcomed and introduced the first two new faculty members — William A. Patterson and Robert W. Woodruff — to the University.

