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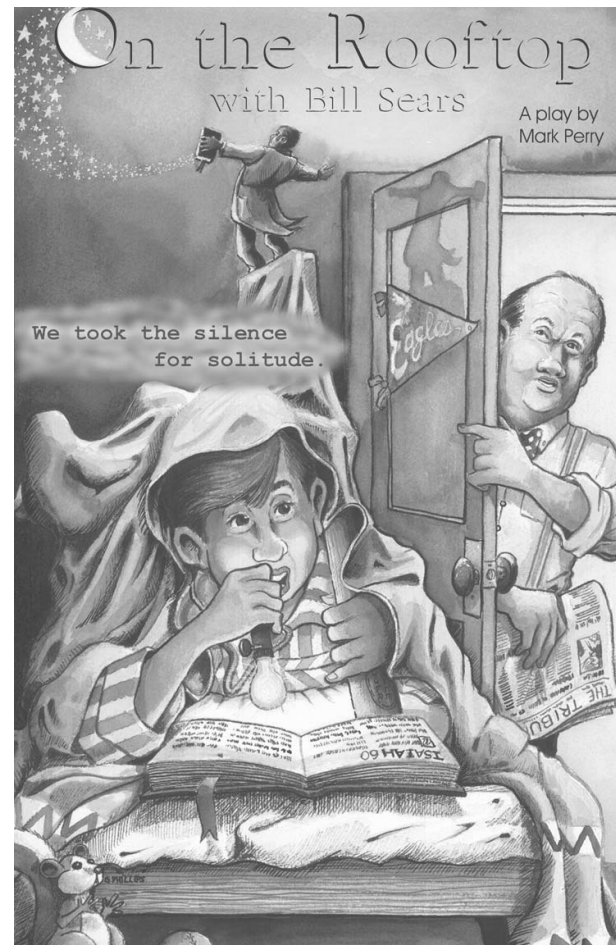
One of the goals of The Drama Circle is the fostering of dramatic storytelling, and with a particular interest in staging Bahá'í stories that may be enjoyed by a general audience. While the Bahá'í Faith is young compared to other world religions, it has so many superb stories that they can't help but find their way into dramatic form. William Sears (1911-1992) is a much-loved figure to Bahá'ís. In addition to being an intrepid traveler — a true world citizen, he was a master story-teller, and with books such as "God Loves Laughter" and "Thief in the Night," he has earned a lasting position in the memories of millions around the world.

"On the Rooftop" portrays Mr. Sears at a crucial point in his life. In one book, Baha'u'llah makes a reference that one hour's reflection can be preferable to seventy years of pious worship. Bill Sears has just about an hour and a difficult choice to make. Let's peek in on his dilemma...

For booking information, please contact

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The Drama Circle Presents



On the Rooftop with Bill Sears By Mark Perry

www.dramacircle.org

On the Rooftop with Bill Sears

Written & Performed by Mark Perry

Director: Julian Chachula, Jr
Stage Manager: Shawn Paulling
Props: Devra Thomas
Set: Jeff Marvin
Graphic Design: George Phillips
Sound: Rowell Gormon
Costume: Kathy Sadri

Produced by Mark Perry, Azadeh Rohanian Perry & Bahram Nadimi
in association with Flying Machine Theatre Co.

Biographies (From Original 2004 North Carolina Production)

Julian (J) Chachula, Jr. (Director) is the Artistic Director of Flying Machine Theatre Co. In addition to performing and directing, J teaches courses in the Meisner Approach to acting and is Director of Talent for Myriad Media. He spent two memorable years touring with Transactors Improv Company. Recent roles include The Librarian in *Underneath the Lintel*, Yad'u'llah in Drama Circle's *A Dress for Mona*, Gene in *Things You Shouldn't Say Past Midnight* and Pip in *Three Days of Rain*. He attended UNC-G, is a graduate of The American Academy of Dramatic Arts and studied the Meisner Approach with Larry Silverberg. J lives in Raleigh with his wife, Denise.

Rowell Gormon (Sound) An award-winning audio producer and copywriter, Rowell's many voices are heard across the country in radio and tv spots, corporate video, and the occasional talking toy. He has also performed on camera and on stage, even doing two movies as a "hired hand" with Jim Henson's Muppets. His home studio is a museum of radio/tv/animation and film history. www.voices2go.com

Jeff Marvin (Set) started his career on Broadway as the little shepherd in his father's church in Wichita, KS. Most recently he has performed with the Gallery Player's production of Wendy Wasserstein's "Isn't It Romantic" and co-directed the Piper Player's production of "Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum." Jeff currently teaches English and Theater Arts at Walter M. Williams High School. He thanks his family, Clare and Eva, for their love and support.

Bahram Nadimi (Co-Producer) has promoted Bahá'í inspired theatre in northern California, working with Kingfisher Theatre, as well as promoting many cultural events. He was the co-producer and sound person for the film 'El Espiritu De Mi Mama' and a 'road manager' of sorts for a tour of a Rock band in the Ukraine and Moldova in 1999.

Shawn Paulling (Stage Manager) Shawn is glad to be back working with The Drama Circle for a second time. Last year Shawn stage managed "A Dress for Mona", "Alice Neel", and "Shakespeare's R and J". Shawn has also recently appeared in the Romtimi Foundation's "Holding Talks", which is traveling to Charlotte in a May.

Mark Perry (Playwright, Bill Sears) received an M.F.A. in playwriting from the University of Iowa ('01), and a B.A. in theatre arts from the University of South Florida ('93). His play, *A Dress for Mona*, has been published and performed in many different places. In 2003, he directed "A Dress for Mona" at the Durham Arts Council as well as Flying Machine's "Underneath the Lintel." He also played Kenneth in New World Stage's "Alice Neel" and Orville Wright in "Dreams of Flight." He'd like to thank his wife, Azadeh, for all her help and support.

Devra Thomas (Props Mistress) has enjoyed learning about the beginning of television history and the Baha'i Faith. She is also thankful to have been a part of this original process! Her dream is to do props full time and tell everyone the joy of theater. Devra's prop work can also be seen in this month's Holiday (Deep Dish).

Special thanks to Mrs. Marguerite Sears, Shirley Macias, the Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Durham, Bob Tansik, Julya Mirro, Robert Stromberg, Margaret Maytan, Farzin Barazandeh, Afshin Vahdati, Kathy & Mrs. Parvin Sadri, Tamera Mulanix and to the many others who made this play possible.

"On the Rooftop with Bill Sears" is based on the life and writings of Mr. William Sears (1911-1992), and in particular on his book, "God Loves Laughter," published by George Ronald. Special arrangements have been made for this adaptation with George Ronald, and a portion of the proceeds will go to the estate of Mr. Sears.