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Playbill and Promotion

Quilters (1987)

Spring 5-28-1987

Quilters Press Release

John Garrity

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The Blackfriars Theatre

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 28, 1987

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THE BLACKFRIARS SUMMER THEATRE PRESENTS THE MUSICAL, QUILTERS

The Blackfriars Summer Theatre, on the Campus of Providence College, will begin an extraordinary second season with a new and innovative musical, Quilters. An exceptionally-talented cast will present Quilters at the Blackfriars Theatre June 17 through June 21 and June 24 through June 28, 1987. Quilters with book by Molly Newman and Barbara Damashek and music and lyrics by Barbara Damashek, combines music, dance, and drama in a powerful celebration of America's pioneer women. The Blackfriars Summer Theatre production of Quilters will be the first production of Quilters in Rhode Island.

Quilters is a moving presentation of womanhood. Quilters is a story about a woman and her six daughters who must face life in frontier America. This powerful ensemble piece blends interrelated scenes of this woman and her daughters as each forms their tale onto quilt "patches." The action depicts the lot of women on the frontier: girlhood, marriage, childbirth, spinsterhood illness, and death. Quilters captures the beauty, joy, and harsh challenges of these lives and is a moving presentation of simple human dignity and courage in the face of hardships. The final colorful quilt becomes a testament to the strength, creativity, and spirit of all women.

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on the campus of Providence College — Providence, R.I. 02918 — 865-2327

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Quilters will be directed by Mary G. Farrell, who recently won the Best Director Award at the American College Theatre Festival for her work on James Schevill's new play, Time of the Hand and Eye. Ms. Farrell will be directing an exceptionally-experienced and talented cast. Among the cast will be Hoda Baron who was last seen in Our Town at the Trinity Repertory Company; Elizabeth Stott, a Trinity Conservatory graduate; Julie Marrinucci, a P.C. alumnus who was seen in last summer's Evita and who has currently finished a four month cabaret-style performance at "The Melody Room" in West Warwick, R.I.

Scenic and lighting design for Quilters will be done by Charlene Hall, whose past credits include Julius Caesar at the Opera Company of Boston and The Play's the Thing at the Pittsburgh Public Theatre of Pittsburgh, PA. James Ascoli, an alumnus of the University of Rhode Island, will be the musical director for Quilters and Wendy Oliver, a member of the Providence College faculty, will choreograph. Also included on the production staff will be David Costa-Cabral, Resident Costume Designer of the Blackfriars Theatre, who will also design and construct the quilts which are symbolic of the rites of passage of the women in the play and of all womanhood.

All the performances of Quilters take place in the intimacy and comfort of the air-conditioned Blackfriars Theatre June 17 through June 21 and June 24 through June 28. Curtain time for

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all performances is 8:00 p.m. Ticket prices are \$7.00 for Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday performances and \$8.00 for Friday and Saturday performances. Group rates are available. For ticket reservations, call (401) 865-2218. The Blackfriars Summer Theatre on the Campus of Providence College is conveniently located on the corner of River and Eaton Streets.

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