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WITT RETURNS TO MASQUER THEATER

Daniel Witt returns to the University of Montana after a two-year absence as guest director for the 1967 Masquer Summer Theater to direct "The Bat" and "Charley's Aunt," according to Richard H. James Jr., director of summer theater.

During the past two years Dr. Witt has served as head of the Department of Theater at Stanislaus State College in Turlock, Calif., and since last fall he has been on the staff of the Arizona State University Department of Drama and a leading member of the Arizona Repertory Theater.

At Arizona State University he directed "A Resounding Tinkle," "Androcles and the Lion" and "Summer and Smoke." He has appeared in leading roles with the Arizona Repertory Theater in "The Lower Depths" and "The Beautiful People."

This season at the Masquer Summer Theater Witt will direct "The Bat" to run July 27-30 and again on July 13-16 and "Charley's Aunt" to run July 27-30, Aug. 3-6 and Aug. 10-13. Witt will also conduct classes in acting and directing during the summer session.

Witt's first assignment, "The Bat," is the Mary Roberts Rinehart mystery-comedy which has proven to be the most popular of all mystery plays which have been produced on the American stage. "The wacky who-done-it," Witt assures, "will amuse and intrigue everyone who has a seat in the theater."

(more)

Witt is remembered in Missoula as frequent master of ceremonies of local television and radio shows and the Miss University of Montana Pageant. At the University he is known for his professional acting and directing, the work he did with the Children's Theater program and his teaching in the Departments of Drama and Speech.

During his last season with the Department of Drama Witt directed two Children's Theater productions -- "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" and "Jack and the Beanstock," which toured the state.

Witt's direction was last seen in the 1965 Masquer Summer Theater production of "The Corn Is Green," which featured guest artist Pauline Flanagan of the Seattle Repertory Company.

Tryouts for Witt's first play, "The Bat," will be Monday, June 19, at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. on the stage of the University Theater. Scripts are now available in the Drama Department office, room 201, Fine Arts building on the University campus.