



## Playwright/Director Dialogue

Patrick Meyers and Kazimierz Braun

*BRAUN:* One of the most beautiful lines in the play for me is when Harold speaks of mountains as metaphors.

*MEYERS:* Yes—the mountain really is the third character in the play. When I was writing the play, I didn't realize how much of a character it really is. It's the silent character, but it's there—it's a formidable character, just a quiet one.

*BRAUN:* What does this character really symbolize?

*MEYERS:* In a way, for me, it symbolizes the truth—in that sense, I guess, also a metaphor for God and the way things really are. It's not personal in that sense, that the mountain isn't a person who's responsible for what's happened to Harold and Taylor, but it's still very real to them and very powerful. Climbing this mountain has, to put it mildly, changed both their lives forever—So in that sense, it's a metaphor for life and specifically death. It's a metaphor for endings that you can't get around, or manipulate, or change.

*BRAUN:* And this is what makes the play so much different for me—I read so many plays about social problems, relationships, psychology, but they lack another dimension.

*MEYERS:* A spiritual or philosophical dimension.

*BRAUN:* Yes. And a poetic one. In your play, this dimension is so strong. At the same time, the characters and the action are connected. The play is deeply rooted in the emotions inside of people. This is why I like this play so much.

*MEYERS:* That's pretty much why I like it, too—it cuts through all of the superficial stuff, yet it's connected, these people have lives, they have blindnesses and ignorances pulling them down. In a strange way, the mountain really helps them work it all out.



## K 2

by  
Patrick Meyers

Directed by Kazimierz Braun  
Scene Design by Spencer T. Brinker  
Lighting Design by Raymond Inkel  
Costume Design by Mary Copenhagen  
Sound Design by Jonny Jenks

### THE CAST

Taylor            Gregory Grene  
Harold           Chris Stepnitz

### THE TIME

September 4, 1977

### THE PLACE

A ledge, located on a six hundred-foot ice wall at twenty-seven thousand feet on K 2, the world's second highest mountain



Festival Playhouse acknowledges the generosity  
of the  
Irving S. Gilmore Foundation  
and

Kalamazoo Civic Players  
Kalamazoo College Land/Sea Program  
Kalamazoo College Physical Plant  
Meyers Bros. Insulation  
John Scheidler  
Kevin Stevens  
Wayne State University Theater  
Western Michigan University Theatre



### PRODUCTION STAFF

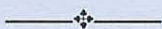
Artistic Director ..... Larry Jaquith  
Technical Director ..... Ray Inkel  
Climbing Trainer ..... Mark Hoffman  
Production Stage Manager ..... Wendy Henninge  
Company Manager ..... Wendy Henninge  
Makeup Designer/  
Prosthetic Artist ..... Jonny Jenks  
Assistant Technical Director ..... Greg Loftus  
Assistant Lighting Designer ..... Liz Oostendorp  
Assistant Stage Managers ..... Hillary Byrn  
Cindy Mom  
Production Assistants ..... Mark Bryan  
Hillary Byrn  
Cindy Mom  
Jody Wilson  
Properties Mistress ..... Marnie Weiland  
Master Electrician ..... Sarada Padgett-Shanti  
Master Carpenter ..... David Carter  
Costume Shop Manager ..... Jonny Jenks  
Makeup/Wardrobe Crew ..... Jody Wilson  
Light Board Operator ..... Mike Finnegan  
Sound Board Operator ..... Joe Stoltman  
Running Crew ..... Mark Bryan  
Hillary Byrn  
Ulric Dihle  
Erin Lenzian  
Cindy Mom  
Penny Olmstead  
Robert Saxton  
Jody Wilson  
Set Construction ..... David Carter  
Ulric Dihle  
Rekha Kuver  
Erin Lenzian  
Greg Loftus  
Sarada Padgett-Shanti  
Lighting Crew ..... Mike Finnegan  
Rekha Kuver  
Liz Oostendorp  
Sarada Padgett-Shanti  
Box Office Manager ..... Donna Ambler  
Program Design ..... Joseph Gallagher



Produced by special arrangement with  
Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

The use of photographic equipment during  
performance is strictly prohibited.

Please disconnect all electronic watch  
alarms while viewing the performance.



Thank you Mark Hoffman, mountaineer,  
for training the actors safely for K 2 and for  
teaching us all about the world of mountain  
climbing.



### Upcoming Attractions

#### **BABY WITH THE BATHWATER**

by  
Christopher Durang

July 12, 13, 18, 19 & 20                      8:00 p.m.  
July 14    2:00 p.m.

Dungeon Theatre

#### **THE SKIN OF OUR TEETH**

by  
Thornton Wilder

July 26, 27, August 1, 2 & 3                  8:00 p.m.  
July 28    2:00 p.m.

Nelda K. Balch Playhouse

#### **INDIANS**

by  
Arthur Kopit

November 21, 22 & 23                      8:00 p.m.  
November 24                                      2:00 p.m.

Nelda K. Balch Playhouse

**T h e S h o w**