

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

It was not more than a few months ago that I taught a short unit on mythology to my ninth grade English classes. We were learning about a race of one-eyed giants known as the Cyclopes. I was involved in my lecture, teaching the students how the Cyclopes were a lonely race of beings. They lived alone in separate caves. They rarely visited with neighbors and hated to have others "pry" into their lives. They were too content in their own world to concern themselves with others.

It was during this lecture that a student raised his hand and asked a very powerful question. "How do the Cyclopes differ from the people of today?"

By my fourth hour class, I was having my students look out the window at the surrounding world. It was full of houses that seemed so close to each other, yet sadly we all agreed that they were very much like the caves of the ancient Cyclopes. It was difficult to realize how similar we are to the Cyclopes.

Take a minute to think how often we become so busy in our own little worlds, that we do not have the time to stop and look at the people around us. How fearful we have become to even help a hurting stranger along the road, for fear that we might catch a disease. How few people would dare help an elderly lady across the street, for fear of a lawsuit. How few of us would dare talk to a stranger in a laundromat or grocery store, for fear they might reject us for who we are.

But no matter what happens...our world is still full of these real people. People that Marcia Norman says "so often go unnoticed and forgotten." It is for these unnoticed people that she writes plays like "The Laundromat." It is on these unnoticed people that our play focuses. She wants to give them a voice. We want you to hear those voices.

As a theater company, it is our desire to show you the inside world of the happy, the hurting, the witty, and the tragic lives of people that surround us day to day...real people with real lives.

We can all see people on Butterfield Blvd. that we know, people that we would like to know, and people that we could have known had we taken the time to come out of our caves and look around us. It is with this in mind that we welcome YOU to Butterfield Boulevard.

-Jeremy Schnotala