



TACT – alert! for immediate release February 2013

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The American Century Theatre will present free staged readings of the 1938 play, *Abe Lincoln in Illinois*, by Robert E. Sherwood, February 21, 22 and 23, as part of its Rescues series.

Who: The American Century Theater

What: *Abe Lincoln in Illinois*, by Robert E. Sherwood

When: February 21, 22, 23, 2013 at 7:30pm

Where: Theatre on The Run, 3700 Four Mile Run, Arlington, VA 22206

A 1938 play that covers the life of President Abraham Lincoln from early manhood through his final speech in Illinois, and includes his romance with Mary Todd and debates with Stephen A. Douglas. Sherwood, an original member of the Algonquin Round Table, received a Pulitzer Prize in Drama in 1939 for the play.

Ellen Dempsey directs. The role of Abraham Lincoln will be played by Jon Townson.

Rescues is an ongoing program of The American Century Theater that furthers its mission to preserve, revitalize, and present important American stage works of the 20th Century. Excellent plays and musicals fall out of the standard stage repertoire for many reasons, among the most common being size, expense, and impracticality. Only by giving these plays a chance to be seen by as many people as possible can their virtues be remembered. Rescues staged readings are presented free of charge to the Greater Washington Community.

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About TACT

The American Century Theater's mission is to promote 20th century theater as a vital part of our cultural dialogue. Our mission is based on the firm conviction that this theatrical repertoire -- influential and critically acclaimed dramas, comedies, and teleplays first produced during what Henry Luce called the American Century -- portrays a uniquely American vision that is vital to our shared cultural heritage.

The American Century Theater is a 501(c)(3) professional nonprofit theater company dedicated to producing significant 20th century American plays and musicals at risk of being forgotten. TACT is supported in part by Arlington County through the Arlington Commission for the Arts and Arlington Cultural Affairs, a division of Arlington Economic Development; the Virginia Commission for the Arts; the National Endowment for the Arts; and many generous donors.