

Chapter 1 : The Other Philadelphia Story

Gemini is a play by Albert Innaurato. Plot. Set in the backyard of a blue-collar South Philadelphia neighborhood early in the summer of , the comedy-drama focuses.

Albert Innaurato left during cast rehearsals for "Doubtless" in July. His cousin Stephen Paesani said Mr. Innaurato was found dead in his bed Tuesday and had probably been dead for two days. The cause was not clear, Paesani said, but Mr. Innaurato had heart problems recently. It opened on May 21, , at the Little Theater on Broadway and ran for 1, performances. Get Fast Forward in your inbox: A look at the news and events shaping the day ahead, delivered every weekday. Sign Up Thank you for signing up! Sign up for more newsletters here Innaurato had only recently graduated from the Yale School of Drama, where his fellow students included Christopher Durang, Sigourney Weaver, and Meryl Streep. Innaurato was as fond of opera as he was of theater, both writing about it and directing it. Most recently he had been reviewing opera for the online magazine Parterre Box. A writer visiting his apartment in Greenwich Village for a profile for The New York Times in " at the peak of his theatrical career " found it almost unfurnished but full of records, most of them operatic ones. Advertisement Albert Francis Innaurato Jr. His father, Albert, was a linotype operator; his mother, Mary, was a nurse. There, he and Durang, who was in the same class, quickly found common ground: Both had attended Roman Catholic schools. In its very first staging, in , Mr. Innaurato played that part. Innaurato, it was a relatively short trip from those early efforts to the big time. It is still one of the longest-running plays in Broadway history. It was also an early example of a mainstream work with a gay plot: The protagonist is being pursued romantically by a character named Judith but is more interested in her brother. Innaurato also pursued his love of opera, writing for Opera News and other publications and sometimes directing or acting as dramaturge. Innaurato leaves no immediate survivors. If his writing could be caustic and his stage humor devastating, Weaver remembered a gentler side. She recalled performing a weighty monologue while a student at Yale that was greeted with indifference by faculty members, whom she often found unsupportive.

Chapter 2 : Gemini (play) - Wikipedia

Albert Francis Innaurato Jr. (June 2, - September 24,) was an American playwright, theatre director, and writer.

A cause of death had not been determined. During his career, Mr. His biggest hit was Gemini, set in mid South Philadelphia. Born in Philadelphia, Mr. Durang, now in Bucks County, spoke by phone of their friendship: For a while, we wondered whether there was room for both of us. But we made each other laugh and became good friends. Later, in subsequent productions, the part was played by classmate Meryl Streep. Innaurato at the Prince Music Theater. It kind of led the way on that. Another notable success was The Transfiguration of Benno Blimpie, a shattering play that begins with the lines "I am Benno. I am eating myself to death. It also was performed at the then-Philadelphia Company in Innaurato as "remarkably funny, but also with an undertone of melancholy. Innaurato "wonderful to have in the room, warm, generous, knowledgeable. An accomplished musician, he was also deeply involved in opera, becoming a well-known writer and critic in the field. At what was then the Center City Opera Theater in Philadelphia, he was for a time artistic director of creative development projects, a workshop and development program for new operas. He also directed Philadelphia performances of classic opera for the company, including Eugene Onegin and The Magic Flute. Innaurato had no immediate relatives, and no details of memorial services were available at the time of this writing. September 28, - 3:

Chapter 3 : STAGE REVIEW : A Tossed-In Gay Theme Just Confuses 'Gemini' Play - latimes

Albert Innaurato, whose early play Gemini ran on Broadway from through and was adapted as both a feature and television film, has died. Deadline confirmed that he was found dead Tuesday.

A new revival finds the playwright finally putting pen to paper again. ShareThis For Albert Innaurato, the humiliation never seems to end. Channel-hopping one winter night, the playwright paused when he saw Wayne Knight, late of Seinfeld, now performing on Broadway in Art, talking to Conan. His interest, however, quickly turned to dismay. He pays the rent on his Chelsea apartment by writing for newspapers and magazines about opera, music, even starlets. He spends an inordinate amount of time cruising opera Websites, where he is not always welcome, given his affiliation with the Establishment press. Without warning, a cabal went and got me thrown off. Opera people are nuts," he comments, without irony. And he watches nature shows "about insects who devour other insects. Even now, as he tells of his humiliations, his eyes take on a steely glint. Gemini helped launch the careers of actors like Danny Aiello and Kathleen Turner, but they appear to have forgotten that fact. But it certainly is dispersed; no doubt, temporarily. Yet Innaurato-as-playwright has always seemed to be anticipating his own Catholic, operatic martyrdom. Just look at the titles of his plays: *Passione* Italian family reunites, compares attempted suicides, with fat daughters-in-law and lots of food , *Benno Blimpie* pound youth eats himself to death , the low-cal *Ulysses in Traction* drama students are trapped in the theater during a race riot. Gemini, his sole hit, was his most baldly commercial effort -- zero mutilation, self or otherwise. It was as ubiquitous and loud as *Crazy Eddie*. Innaurato was 25 when he wrote Gemini, just out of Yale Drama School and working as a messenger. It concerns an Italian-American boy, Francis Geminiani, home from Harvard to spend the summer in South Philly, about to turn 21 and sexually confused. His Waspy sometime girlfriend, Judith, shows up with her brother Randy, whom Francis thinks he rather prefers. Cultures clash, food flies, hearts break.

Chapter 4 : Gemini by Albert Innaurato

Gemini has 25 ratings and 2 reviews. James said: Odd little two day look into the enjoining backyards of 2 South Philly families. The son of the Geminian.

Young Francis Geminiani is at home during his last summer before beginning his senior year at Harvard. An overweight outsider who has never had a deep relationship with anyone, he is alienated from his lower-class father and their environment and appears to find solace only in his collection of opera recordings, which he plays for escape. Classmates from Harvard, Judith and Randy Hastings, arrive over the backyard fence to pay Francis a surprise visit. The attractive Hastings siblings are from a well-off Boston family, and Francis is embarrassed by his lower-class Italian American environment. Coupled with this awkwardness, Francis fears that he is becoming infatuated with Randy rather than Judith, who is in love with him. The personal equation is made more complicated by the addition of a sixteen-year-old Jewish neighbor from next door, Herschel Weinberger. Herschel is also smitten with Randy because the Harvard freshman has shown a modicum of interest in his extensive collection of subway transfers. Despite having had a fling with Bunny, Fran is now having a relationship with Lucille Pompei, an Italian woman who lives in the neighborhood. The Hastings have ostensibly come to learn whether Francis has lost his feelings for Judith. Francis is at a critical point in his development, as he stands on the cusp of manhood. He loathes himself and wants nothing more than to be left alone with his opera recordings. The body of this seriocomic play is structured around echoing themes rather than traditional plot development. In one of its subplots, the pathetic boozier Bunny tries in vain to rekindle the flame Fran had for her in the past. He pathetically promises to stop having seizures, to take gym class, to burn his subway transfer collection, and to give up his love of the subway. The overweight father has emphysema and a persistent rash that he continuously scratches. His most surprising trait is the unusually high regard he has for his first wife. Even though years earlier she abandoned him and her son, Fran does not appear to harbor any ill feeling toward her. Met a nice Southern man. You have to notice us. Take wit both hands, both feet and your mouth too. If your ass is flexible enough take wit that, use your knees and your elbows, train your balls and take! Additional character eccentricities are revealed in the manner in which Lucille refuses to use a supper plate during a meal. After considerable indecision, Francis finally appears to make up his mind to have a sexual experience with Randy. When Randy fails to respond positively, they are left in an awkward situation that is made even more painful when Judith discovers them embracing as she returns to the backyard unannounced. This odd mix of emotions is exactly what Innaurato wanted to depict for his characters. Judith could not be more befuddled as she discovers herself cuckolded by her brother and lover. After the Hastingses have left for the train station, Francis seems to summon up his courage while listening to opera music and prepares to follow them to Boston. When the brother and sister make a rather fortuitous return, Francis embraces Judith, having made his major life choice without fully sharing his reasoning with the audience.

Chapter 5 : Will Gemini Extend Off-Broadway Run at Second Stage? | Playbill

Albert Innaurato, author of Gemini, the longest-running Broadway play of the post-World War II period, and who popularized the phrase "Take human bites!," died September 24, 1982, at age 42.

The setting is the poor Italian section of South Philadelphia, where Francis Geminiani is staying with his father during summer break from Yale. The old man is pretty much a stereotype of what a lovable Italian is supposed to be: His name is Herschel. Will everybody get along? But right when it seems as if "Gemini" is going to be merely a street-wise comedy of culture-mixing and related high jinks, Innaurato tosses in a serious element: Francis, it turns out, had an affair with the beautiful Judith, but he also has strong feelings for her brother, Randy. Francis is very confused. And so is the audience. Innaurato, although he tiptoes up to the dilemma of what it must be like to be young and gay, never really faces it head-on. And he does provoke some good laughs with his in-your-face characters. But the gay issue never seems to take hold, never coming across as much more than a device to generate tension. The playwright especially loses it in the end, when his resolution is so neatly packaged and convenient that it lacks conviction. Nonetheless, "Gemini" is still watchable, mainly because director Jon Sidoli lets the characters have at it. Innaurato may have sketched them simplistically, but he did give them bold strokes, which Sidoli hits on at once. This noisy production, while far from luminous, has some bright moments. Both actors get our attention by bringing flair to their roles. In a role that is not written all that well, Steven Shults does reasonably well with Francis, giving him a tortured self-introspection that contrasts with the robustness of the rest of the cast. But he should make Francis more accessible. Directed by Jon Sidoli. Set and lighting by Eugene McDonald. Sound by Jim Bell. Plays Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.

Chapter 6 : Gemini: A Play in Two Acts - Albert Innaurato - Google Books

Albert Innaurato, Writer: Happy Birthday, Gemini. LATEST HEADLINES. Letitia Wright Joins John Legend for 'Le Brio' Remake 6 hours ago | The Hollywood Reporter - Movie News; Fede Alvarez Confirms 'Don't Breathe 2' Script Is Done, Sequel Will Definitely Happen Before 'Evil Dead 2'.

Chapter 7 : Albert Innaurato Theatre Credits

Playwright Albert Innaurato, best known for the plays Gemini and The Transfiguration of Benno Blimpie, died on Sept. 24, 1982. He was Christopher Durang. I met Albert Innaurato at the Yale School of Drama in September 1978.

Chapter 8 : Gemini Themes - theinnatdunvilla.com

Gemini's meaning is capable of many interpretations. In an afterword to a published version of the play, Innaurato states that although some people question the play's ending, he sees it.

Chapter 9 : Albert Innaurato - IMDb

Albert Innaurato, a playwright who enjoyed spectacular success for a time in the late 1970s, including having a play run on Broadway for more than four years, has died in Philadelphia.