

# The Salemite

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## Vincent Bugliosi Discusses Manson Trial



Photo courtesy of The Suburbanite

by Ellen Brown

One question frequently asked by the news media to Vincent Bugliosi, the prosecuting attorney responsible for putting Charles Manson and his co-defendants in prison, is why there is still so much interest in the Charles Manson case.

On Wednesday, February 9 in the Junior League of Winston-Salem's Celebrity Lecture Series Bugliosi, author of *Helter Skelter*, a book about the Charles Manson murders, lectured on his part in the 9½ month-long

case and answered questions about Manson and his "family."

"The Charles Manson case is one of the most bizarre cases in the annals of American crimes," Bugliosi said. "Manson is the most famous mass murderer ever known."

Like Hitler and Jim Jones, Manson had an inherent ability to dominate people, Bugliosi said. He perceived himself as a Christ figure. Also, Manson was aware of the power of his name - Manson - which he turned around into Son of Man.

"He's an evil, sophisticated con man," Bugliosi said.

"Manson gained control over his followers because he had the raw materials to work with," Bugliosi said. The time was the late 1960's. The mood of this conducive period was right for Manson - campus rioting, racial outbreaks, and Vietnam. Most of Manson's followers were teenage women with middle class backgrounds. Manson's followers had "dropped out of society."

Bugliosi explained how Manson used conventional techniques to gain control over these individuals. First, Manson used sexual perversion to break down

the egos of his followers. All of the "family" used drugs, such as LSD and marijuana. Moreover, Manson broke down any long-standing convictions a follower may have had. He convinced his followers that there was nothing wrong in murdering a person.

Since none of Manson's followers were forced or threatened into participating in the 1969 brutal murders of actress Sharon Tate and seven others, Bugliosi asked for the death penalty.

In 1972, the death penalty was abolished in the state of California so Charles Manson and his followers' sentences were reduced to life imprisonment, Bugliosi said.

To this day, Manson claims he was framed. There is a 50-50 chance of Manson getting paroled. Manson's co-defendants may be paroled in ten or fifteen years. "But none of them should be let free," Bugliosi said.

## Forum to Address 'Politics and the Arts'

by Melinda McAfee

This spring, residents of Winston-Salem will have five unique opportunities to "address the relationship of the arts to political or community life."

These opportunities comprise the Second Annual Tocqueville Forum on Contemporary Public Affairs conducted at Wake Forest University.

The Tocqueville Forum is a lecture series that seeks to present authoritative views of various major public issues. This year's series is entitled "Politics and the Arts."

Aimed at students, the forum's purpose is to educate us to the responsibilities of public life. Questions which are pertinent today and 15 years into the future will be presented. Different positions on various issues characterizing the lecture's topic will be discussed by distinguished authorities.

This year's topic was selected to honor the completion of the Roger C. Stevens Center for the Performing Arts in Winston-Salem and the

Scales Fine Arts Center at WFU. The series plans to present essays that stress the importance of art upon civilization and American democracy.

The next lecture in the series will be presented on Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. by Benjamin Barber, professor of Political Science at Rutgers University, playwright and novelist.

Barber edits *Political Theory: An International Quarterly of Political Philosophy* and has authored numerous books and articles including *Liberating Feminism*, *Strong Democracy: Participatory Democracy for the New Age*. He edited *The Artist and Political Vision*.

Dr. Barber is a winner of the Guggenheim and Senior Fulbright Research Awards and is currently working on the libretto for George Quincy's forthcoming opera, *Home and the River*.

Future speakers are: Karsten Harries (Mar. 8), Werner Dannhauser (Mar. 8), Arthur Danto (Mar. 31) and William Barrett (Apr. 6).

## 'Little Mary Sunshine' Slated

"Little Mary Sunshine," a musical comedy, will be presented for the Salem College community on April 6 and 7 by the Pierrettes.

The lyrics and music for the production were written by Rick Besoyan. The 2 act musical's plot is a spoof of Victor Herbert operettas, and late show films, especially those starring Jeanette McDonald and Nelson Eddy. It contains several story lines, including a court battle, love stories, and a white man versus Indian conflict.

A large cast of 20 students and three males from the community, will sing, dance, and dramatize, directed by Dr. Mary Homrighous. Susan Rivenbark is the assistant director for the musical.

Leading roles will be played by Christie Mock, Dawn Coley, and Elizabeth Clark. Ronda Beck, assisted by Julie Harrower, will direct the music, Hans Heideman will serve as pianist, and Sharon Stiener is costume designer.

Choreography and set design will be headed by Elizabeth Clark.

Dr. Homrighous said she was pleased with the large number of students who auditioned for the musical. The cast includes women from each class, but the group needs volunteers to

help with lights, sets, ticket sales, and other aspects of production.

Anyone interested in working with the Pierrettes should contact Dr. Homrighous. Free tickets for the 7:30 p.m. shows will be available to Salem students and faculty. Guest tickets will be sold for \$1.00.

## Capshaw Resigns

Teri Capshaw resigned her position as editor of *The Salemite* at a Publication Board meeting on February 14.

In her letter of resignation Capshaw stated that this semester she would be unable to devote the 110 percent of her time and attention to the newspaper which it requires and deserves because of academic and personal demands.

At Capshaw's recommendation, Publication Board voted that Stephanie Vance, associate editor of *The Salemite* take over as

editor until the Board appoints the 1983-84 officers for the publications in March.

As a result of her resignation from the newspaper Capshaw also had to step down as chairman of Publications Board. The Board voted Jo Stephenson, editor of *Sights and Insights* to be the new chairman.

Capshaw said the decision to resign was difficult but one she thought was for the best. "I don't think the paper will suffer. I plan on helping Stephanie and the others on staff as much as possible," she said.