

Charles Lindbergh: The Lone Eagle

Program Notes

Charles Lindbergh: The Lone Eagle is the first play Steve Carroll has written. It was initially developed at New Jersey Repertory Company. Today's show is part of an ongoing tour of the play, which has reached audiences in professional theatres, aviation groups, historical societies, senior centers, libraries, museums, colleges and high schools all over the U.S.

"The Lone Eagle" was just one of many nicknames given to Charles Lindbergh by the press after he became the first pilot to fly nonstop from New York to Paris in May of 1927. Mr. Carroll feels it was an apt description of the man.

"Almost everything Lindbergh did, he did alone," he said. "Whether it was flying the Atlantic, heading his son's kidnapping investigation, or making a stand against World War II, he always seemed to be taking on the world all by himself."



The play spans Lindbergh's life as he returns from the grave to set the record straight about his life. We learn of his early barnstorming days, the famous flight to Paris, his son's kidnapping, the unpopular stance he took against entering World War II, his subsequent heroism as a fighter pilot, marital troubles that led both him and his wife into affairs, and his final days as a world renowned environmentalist.

Reeve Lindbergh, daughter of Charles Lindbergh and President of **The Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh Foundation**, wrote Mr. Carroll to express her thanks after attending a command performance of the play in Garden City, N.Y. at the 75th anniversary of her father's famous flight to Paris.



"I was indeed impressed by your performance, which I found moving and very thoughtful, with a fresh perspective on my father," Lindbergh wrote. "It meant a lot to me. It makes people think."



Rave Reviews For Charles Lindbergh: The Lone Eagle

"Carroll's Lindbergh is a truly fine piece of theater! That he resembles the famous flyer is a bonus. Carroll carries us up and down the aviator's roller coaster life ... No one save Lindbergh himself could have known all that Carroll unearthed for his show. It's a soaring production. Don't miss it!"

— Kim Cool, *The Venice Gondolier, Venice, Fla.*

"The performance is outstanding! The audience was mesmerized. Lindbergh was complex, opinionated and private; he is not an easy man to understand, to write about or to portray. Carroll makes Lindbergh accessible at all levels, first as playwright, and second as the one and only actor on stage ... He's a professional, and it shows!"

— Jan Findley, *The Sun-Herald, Port Charlotte, Fla.*

"An outstanding, well researched and compassionately performed story! I was attracted to the show because I am a Lindbergh historian and Mr. Carroll has obviously done his homework. He has gathered all the pertinent facts, but has added a personal side to the story that has never found its way into any of the books and movies I've seen about Col. Lindbergh. It was thrilling!"

— Mike Warmington, *Tip Sheet To A Hip Town, Red Bank, N.J.*

"A spectacular one-man show! Carroll transfixes the crowd from the moment he sweeps onto the stage, speaking frankly — from the afterlife — about Lindbergh's triumphs, tribulations, and choices ... "(His) riveting description of Lindbergh's take-off and flight from New York to Paris keeps the audience mesmerized!"

— Janet Sailian, *The Island Sand Paper, Fort Myers Beach, Fla.*