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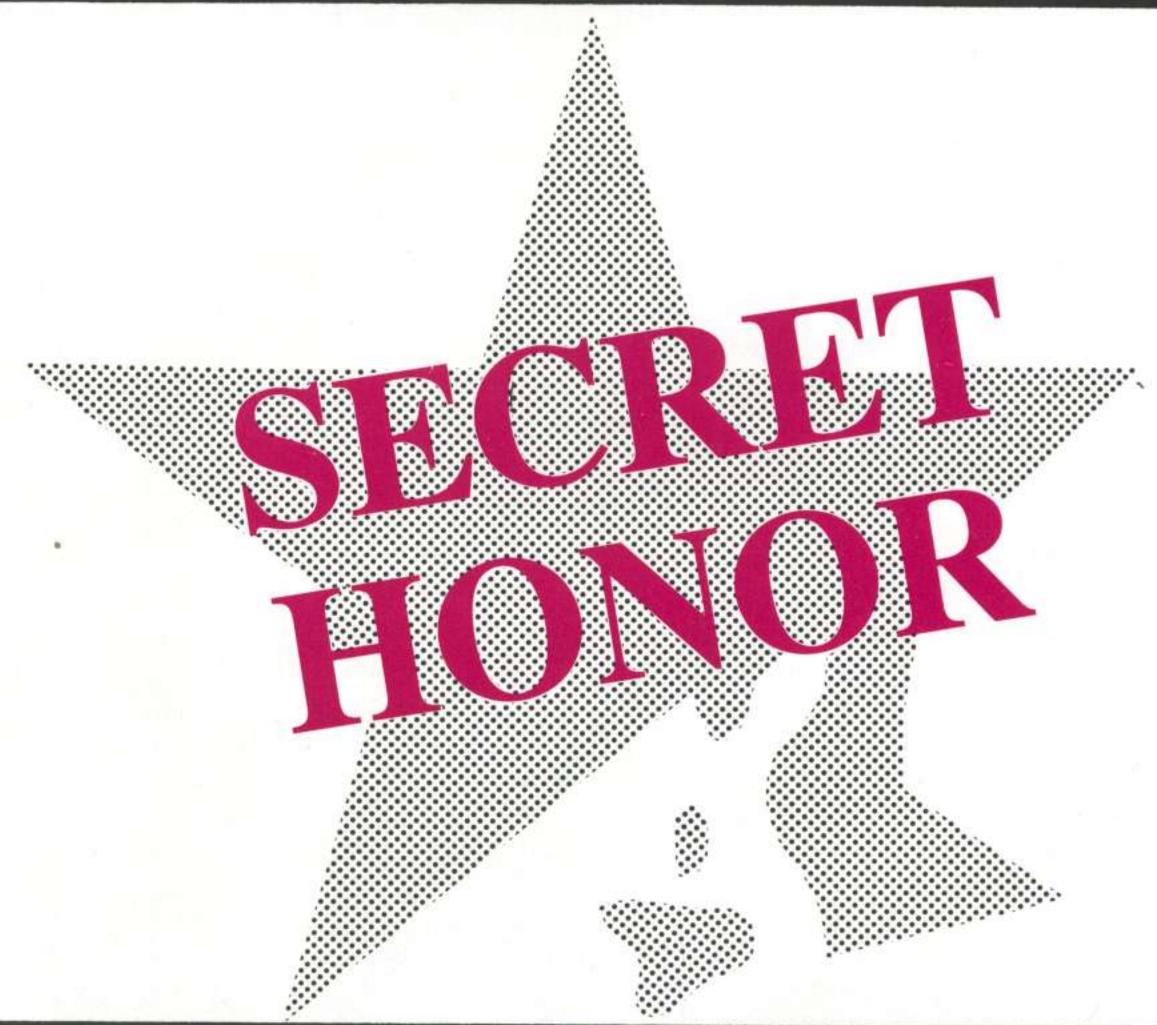
LOS ANGELES ACTORS' THEATRE

presents

PHILIP BAKER HALL

in

# a film by ROBERT ALTMAN



Special Pre-Release Showing! One Week Only!

Written by
DONALD FREED and ARNOLD M. STONE

Cannery Theater July 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>

Beach at Leavenworth — 441-6800

#### Robert Altman's

## SECRET HONOR

### Reviews from the Stage Production

"The scenario of the White House being parcelled out to the highest bidder(s) makes SECRET HONOR shine sharp as political drama... For all we know, election '84 could see Mondale and Reagan stoop even lower than Nixon had to." "In what may be one of the most important political plays of this decade" and "among the most literate and stimulating works presented this season," the writers "raise some interesting questions about how America is governed, and by whom."

"More disturbing than the dissection of a soul in torment is the insinuation that our presidents are bought and sold early in their careers." "SECRET HONOR, for all its fantasy, has some strong points to make about not only presidents but the money men who sponsor them and what these presidents owe them in return." "Having seen it, you will never again regard the 'Nixon Era'—or modern political history since Harry Truman left office—in quite the same way." It "looks at the power structure that makes presidents."

"SECRET HONOR alone among presidential depictions in the theater gives us a character of Shakespearean proportion—brilliant (perhaps madly), self-contradictory, driven, astute and shredded between circumstance and inner drives." "We see Nixon as a tragicomic pawn in a Big Business game, torn by the conflicts of his desires...He is the embodiment of the American contradiction of drives and subordination."

The piece "is true to our modern notion of heroism. In the past, the tragic hero had his moment of blinding illumination that redeemed him utterly, while his spirit shed its mortally stricken envelope of flesh. Today, he stonewalls:" Philip Baker Hall "creates a tragicomic character of virtual Shakespearean dimension, a sort of Richard IV with overtones of Falstaff in a smoking jacket." "Perhaps Nixon, like Faust, like Don Juan, will become a literary symbol." "

"This is, among other things, the greatest one-man political drama to come along in this country in decades, maybe even this century." "This is true whether one championed Nixon,... or rejoiced at his downfall." Because "one comes away thinking the unthinkable" SECRET HONOR "deserves the attention of everyone who cares about this country."

The Villager (NY)
 WSNL/WWHT (NY) and Eastside Express (NY)
 Variety
 WSNL/WWHT (NY)

California Magazine
 Staten Island Advance (NY)
 LA Easy Reader
 Sunday Star-Ledger, Newhouse Newspapers (NY)
 LA Times
 LA Herald Examiner
 LA Easy Reader

<sup>14.</sup> LA Herald Examiner 15. New York Times 16. WEEI Newsradio (Boston).