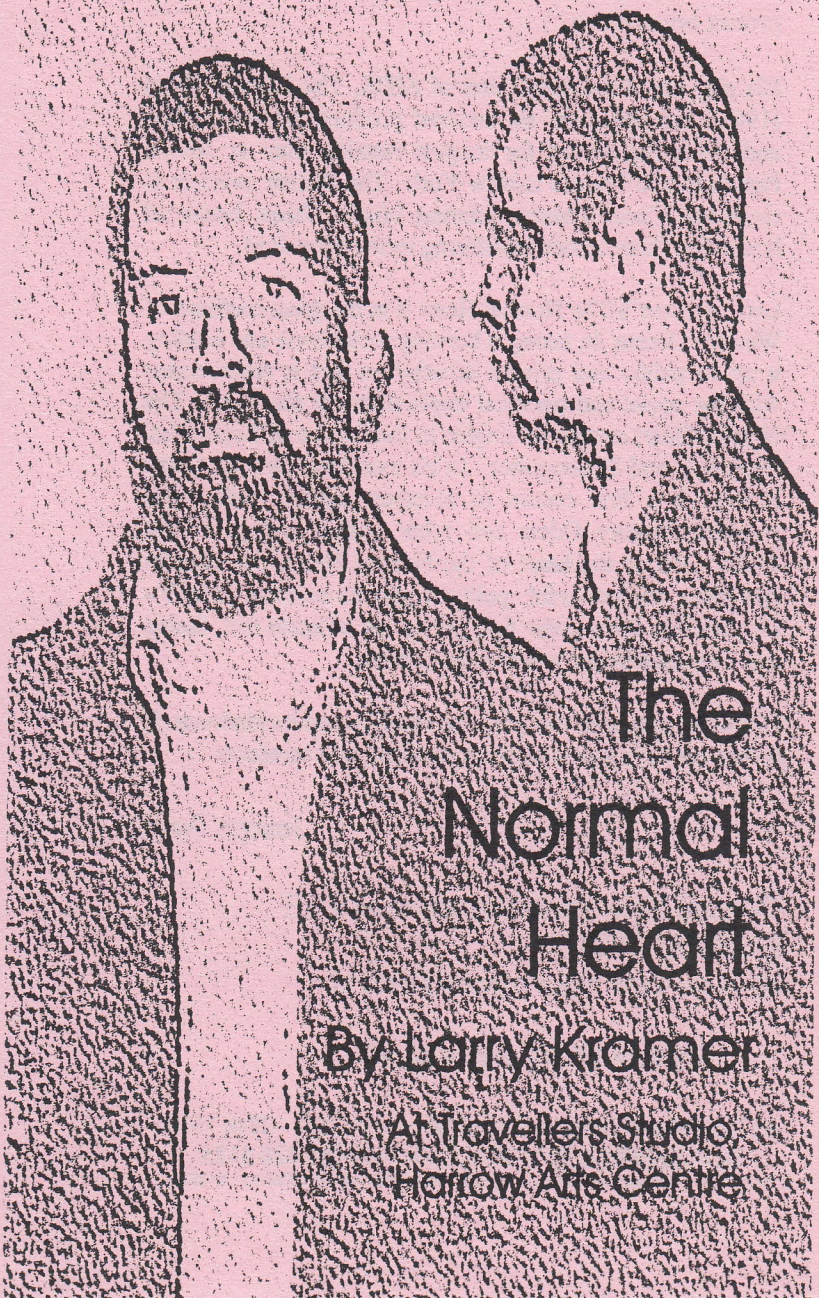


# PROSCENIUM



## The Normal Heart

By Larry Kramer

At Travellers Studio,  
Harrow Arts Centre

## **The Normal Heart**

by Larry Kramer

Larry Kramer is a writer and AIDS treatment activist. In 1981, with five friends, he founded Gay Men's Health Crisis, now the World's largest Aids service establishment; and in 1987 he founded ACT UP, the AIDS advocacy and protest organisation..

His play about the early years of AIDS, *The Normal Heart* (1985), has had over six hundred productions world wide and holds the record for longest running play at Joseph Papp's Public Theatre in New York. The British premier at the Royal Court Theatre, starring Martin Sheen, broke all box office there before transferring to the West End.

Larry Kramer's *The Normal Heart* is in the great tradition of Western Drama. In taking a burning social issue and holding it up to public and private scrutiny so that it reverberates with the social and personal implications of that issue, *The Normal Heart* reveals its origins in the theatre of Sophocles, Euripides and Shakespeare. In his moralistic fervour, Larry Kramer is a first cousin to nineteenth-century Ibsen and twentieth-century Odets and other radical writers of the 1930s. Yet at the heart of *The Normal Heart*, the element that gives this powerful political play its essence, is love - love holding form under fire, put to the ultimate test, facing and overcoming our greatest fear; death.

I love the ardour of this play, its howling and its kindness. It makes me very proud to be its producer and caretaker.

Joseph Papp

Original New York Production of **THE  
NORMAL HEART**

By New York Shakespeare Festival

**Tickets £5.50, concs £4.50**

**At Travellers Theatre from February 25th - 28th 1998**

**BOX OFFICE 0181 954 7169 OR 0181 428 0124**

Proscenium is affiliated to the Harrow Arts Council and is a registered Charity - no 28314