

## SYNOPSIS

### MR. U. S. GRANT: The President and His State of the Union!

By Dan Haughey, Author-Actor.

**MR. U. S. GRANT: The President and His State of the Union!** A sequel to his one-person show **MR. U. S. GRANT: A Man & A Patriot!**, Dan Haughey's (hoy) one-person portrayal of the two-term President of the United States is a one-act drama that blends history with theatricality (in approximately 35-40 minutes). Grant's presidency was filled with political drama, scandal and corruption, yet Grant dealt with weighty issues of Lincoln's assassination, reconstruction and reconciliation of Southern states, the possible annexation of Santo Domingo, Native American land issues, a possible war with Great Britain, and Civil Rights. The action of the play takes place in the White House, late at night, during his final days in office, December 1876. As he reflects upon and reviews the final draft of his "Annual Message to Congress", Grant struggles with how to reconcile his political failures and "errors of judgement". They seem to weigh upon his conscience. We learn of his feelings for both his private and public life: for his wife, his children, family, and the devotion of true friends through a difficult eight years of a Presidency he did not necessarily seek. Besieged by fatigue and overwhelmed by a quagmire of thoughts, Grant falls into a deep slumber, which steeps him into an action-dream sequence, confronting him with ghostly apparitions of past friends and foes, from both the military and political spectrums. The figures of his dream confront Grant with accusations of disloyalty and neglect of his Presidential duties as they drag him through a nightmarish trial. Throughout the terror of his metaphorical trial, Grant stands up to his accusers and feistily defends himself with arguments straight from his "Annual Message to Congress". Grant suddenly awakens from the mysterious nightmare reassured by his own self-determined verdict that--despite his eight turbulent years in the White House--he faithfully has been a loyal father, loyal friend, and loyal citizen. Both the historical issues and theatrical ingredients of the play will lend themselves to a lively question-and-answer epilogue with the audience! -- [www.danact3.com](http://www.danact3.com)