

Department of Theatre
2002-2003 Season

Flaming Guns of the Purple Sage

By Jane Martin

Directed by Marc Powers

(Odess Theatre)

November 19-24, 2002

Falsettos

Music by William Finn

Book by William Finn and James Lapine

Directed by Dennis McLernon

(Sirote Theatre)

February 19-23, 2003

Stop Kiss

By Diana Son

Lee Shackleford

(Odess Theatre)

March 18-23, 2003

Rashomon

By Fay Kanin and Michael Kanin

Directed by Karma Ibsen

(Sirote Theatre)

April 23-27, 2003

Thank You For Your Help On This Production

Ron Hubbard
Dennis McLernon

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Department of Theatre

at the Sirote Theatre

in the Alys Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Center



Theatre UAB presents:

**SHE STOOPS
TO CONQUER**

UAB 2002-2003 Season



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Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival™ XXXIV

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The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

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This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KC/ACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KC/ACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in KC/ACTF programs involving awards, scholarships, and special grants for actors, playwrights, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KC/ACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KC/ACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC in the spring of 2003.

Last year more than 1,200 productions and 198,000 students participated in the American College Theater Festival nationwide. By entering this production, our department is sharing in the KC/ACTF goals to help college theater grow and to focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Department of Theatre
Presents

SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER

Or

The Mistake of a Night

by

Oliver Goldsmith

Light Design
Kelly Allison

Scenic Design
Cliff Simon

Costume Design
Kimberly Schnormeier

Stage Manager
Jessica Holbert

**Directed by
Will York**

Opening Night, Wednesday, October 30, 2002, 7:30 p.m.

◆Member of Psi Beta cast, Alpha Psi Omega National Theatre Honorary

This production is funded in part by The UAB Cultural Activities Committee.

CAST

Mr. Woodward.....Brandon Triola
(also appearing as Stingo and Sir Charles Marlowe)
Young Marlow.....Parker Newton
Kate Hardcastle.....Audra Yokley
Mr. Hardcastle.....Jon Hennington◆
Mrs. Hardcastle.....Lydia Milman◆
Hastings.....Gerald Brandon
Tony Lumpkin.....Matt Suggs
Constance Neville.....Jessica Clark
Diggory.....John Kevin Pocus
Maid.....Kim Dean
Servants and Townspeople.....Mark Wells, Jared Harbison, Joshua Jones

The action of the play takes place in 1773

Act I

The county house of Mr. Hardcastle
The Three Jolly Pigeons alehouse
The county house of Mr. Hardcastle

Act II

The county house of Mr. Hardcastle
The horse pond
The county house of Mr. Hardcastle

There will be a 15 minute intermission

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

From the "laughing" comedies of the Restoration period through the Domestic Tragedies of the early 1700's, English popular drama again made a shift to a style of Sentimental Comedy by the middle of the 18th Century. In one hundred years the public taste had undergone the changes of laughing at the immorality of the upper class, to having the immoral punished, to seeing the immoral rescued and reformed. Several authors rebelled against this last genre of Sentimental Comedy and attempted to restore the style of "laughing" comedies, as made popular by Wycherley and Congreve, to the repertory of the late 18th century. SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER, written and first produced in 1773, is considered one of the masterpieces of this "laughing" style. Through comic misunderstandings, intrigues, and discoveries Goldsmith leads us down the rocky path of young love and brings us to a surprise resolution of events.

I have included a prologue with this production that was added by the great English actor David Garrick. In this prologue Mr. Woodward, an actual theatrical producer at the Dury Lane theatre, mourns the passing of the Comic Muse, or "laughing" comedy and as a doctor offers us this play as medicine to cure the ills of Sentimental Comedy. Garrick includes a reference to Shuter as one of the chief mourners of the Comic Muse. Edward Shuter was a low-comedy actor who played the original Mr. Hardcastle and was a favorite of the 18th Century audience.

So we present this "potion: a kind of magic charm- for be assured,
If you will swallow it, the maid is cured."

How DO we pick our plays, and why?

We are regularly asked these questions, and with every subtextual tone imaginable. As this season will undoubtedly raise a few eyebrows, I thought it best to provide some answers. First, let me say that play selection is not rocket science, and there is no formula guaranteed to please every taste. Most successful theatre companies develop a particular style and attract a particular audience pleased by that style. At many universities, play selection is simply a matter of allowing directors to select whatever they would like to do.

As an educational theatre, we believe we are obligated to goals other than building a patron base or simply serving the whims of our faculty. We are obligated to provide our students (as performers, designers, technicians and audience) with a broad range of experience. We are obligated to introduce them to the classics as well as the contemporaries, the realistic as well as the stylized, and to works from a variety of cultures.

At the beginning of each academic year, the UAB Department of Theatre begins the process of selecting the next year's season. We have established a rotation of 16 different categories, guaranteeing that in a four year cycle a student will have the opportunity to experience at least one production from each of those categories. Faculty and students are invited to submit titles of plays for consideration, and over the next few months, we work together to narrow the list. The criteria include everything from design considerations to casting challenges to topicality of themes to resources and budget. The reduced list is then arranged into a myriad of possible combinations until one emerges as the best possible season for us.

It's not rocket science, but we believe it takes us where we want to go.

Marc Powers, Chair

UAB THEATRE FACULTY

Kelly Allison, Associate Professor.....Head of Design Technology
 Adeniyi Coker, Associate Professor.....African-American Studies
 Russell S. Drummond, Senior Instructor.....Costume Technology
 D. Ward Haarbauer, Professor/Associate Dean.....Theatre History
 Cheryl Hall, Assistant Professor.....Intro to Theatre
 Ron Hubbard, Associate Professor.....Movement
 Karma Ibsen, Professor.....Directing
 Dennis McLernon, Assistant Professor.....Acting
 Marc Powers, Professor/Chair.....Acting
 Kimberly Schnormeier, Associate Professor/Associate Chair.....Costume Design
 Lee Shackelford, Instructor.....Playwriting
 Cliff Simon, Assistant Professor.....Scene Design
 Will York, Professor.....Head of Performance
 Ed Zuckerman, Associate Professor.....Technical Director

Adjunct Faculty

Jack Cannon.....Intro to Theatre
 Tara Fasshauer.....Dance
 Jonathan Fuller.....Acting
 Martha Haarbauer.....Acting
 Mary Margaret Hawkins.....Dance
 Charlotte Lantz.....Dance
 Billie Sheldon.....Administrative Associate

Theatre UAB Production Staff

Production Manager.....Kelly Allison
 Technical Director.....Ed Zuckerman♦
 Costume Studio Supervisor.....Russell S. Drummond

Program Manager.....Joyce Whitten

Stage Electrics Director.....Michelle Thompson
 Properties Master.....Phillip Anderson♦
 Scenic Studio Foreman/Master Carpenter.....Chad May

Assistant Costume Studio Supervisor.....Jonida Beqo♦
 Assistant Scenic Studio Foreman.....James Ball

Scenic Studio/Electrics Assistants.....Cassie Bird, Kim Dean
 Ashley Hubbard, Scott Littleton, Matt Suggs

Costume Studio AssistantsTammy Bellisle, Cat Fordham
 Suzanne Ludovina♦, Lee Turner♦

Properties Assistants.....Erica Boswell, Amanda Hayes♦, Kyle Johnson♦,
 Erin Thompson

Publicity Assistant.....Nikki Klecha♦

Media Relations.....Shannon Thomason
 House Manager.....Jerry Sims

Associate House Manager.....Ed Rosendahl

Staff for this Production

Sound Engineer.....Scott Littleton♦

Assistant Stage Managers.....Cassie Bird and Liv von Oelriech
 Scenery/Lighting Construction.....Bernard Aboujaoude, Jacob Adams

Tena Ajlouny, Erica Boswell, Elizabeth Crowson, Cat Fordham
 Lauren Lippett♦, Michael Madden, George Milton, Jason Reddick

Brittney Rogers, Erin Seals, Wesley Seals, Spencer Simpson
 Matthew Suggs, Shaun Thomas, Christina Thurston, Audra Yokley

Running Crew.....Wes Seals, Chris Thurston, Catherine Fordham, Sabina Cannon
 Properties Construction.....Sabina Cannon

Dressers.....Stephanie Thomas

Sound-Board Operator.....Erin Lee

Light Board Operator.....Lauren Lippeatt

Cover/Poster Design.....Nikki Klecha♦