

Theatre UAB 2010-2011 Season

Theatre UAB Festival of Ten Minute Plays

Produced by Lee Shackelford

September 22, 24-25 7:30pm; September 26 2:00pm
The Odess Theatre

The Rocky Horror Show, by Richard O'Brien

Guest Director Bill Castellino

October 6-9 7:30pm, October 10 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

Venus, by Suzan-Lori Parks

Directed by Karla Koskinen

November 10-13 & 17-20 7:30pm, November 21 2:00pm
The Odess Theatre

Lysistrata, by Aristophanes

Directed by Vessela Warner

February 16-19 7:30pm, February 20 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

We Three, by Paul Shoulberg

Directed by Dennis McLernon

March 2-5, March 9-11 7:30pm, March 12 2:00pm
The Odess Theatre

Three Sisters, by Anton Chekhov

Directed by Will York

April 13-16 7:30pm, April 17 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

For Individual Tickets please call ASC Box Office
975-2787

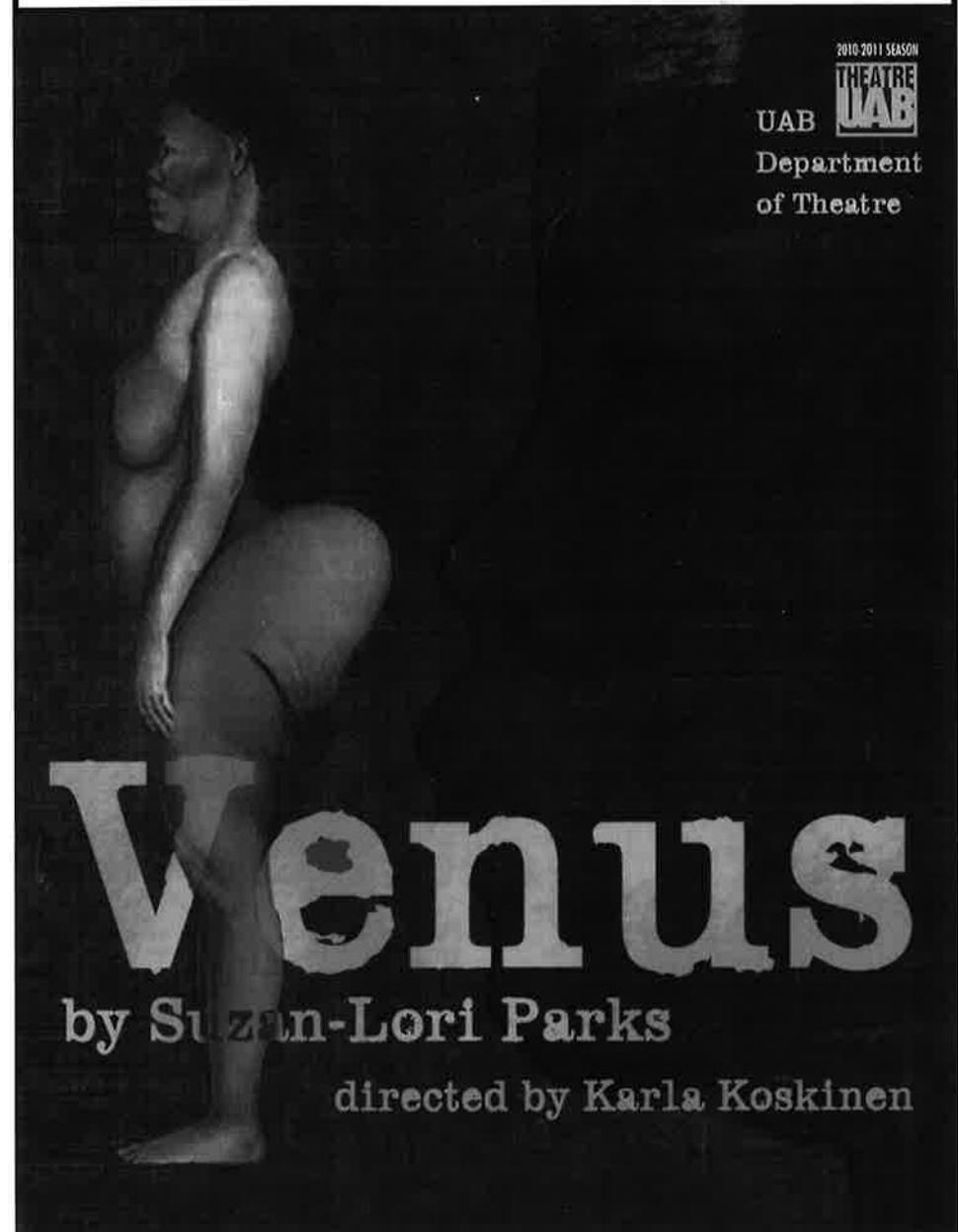
Special Thanks to Britta McCaffrey

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Department of Theatre

at the Odess Theatre

in the Alys Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Center



OVATION UAB

(Sponsored by Theatre Advisory Committee)

Opening nights at Theatre UAB are OVATION UAB nights. OVATION UAB sponsors a box dinner and conversation with the director and designers before the show, as well as a post-performance party with the cast and crew.

Join us! You will be able to invite your friends to enjoy a tasty meal before the plays, be already parked and ready to settle back for an evening of live theatre.

OVATION UAB has the mission to support and sponsor the students working backstage and performing in Theatre UAB. Membership dues, ranging from \$10 - \$2500, are used to off-set the costs required of each student to participate in the productions.

To become a member of OVATION UAB, please pick up a brochure in the lobby outside the theatre and complete the form. Follow mailing directions listed in the brochure.

Help us support our rising stars!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT OVATION UAB MEMBERS

Founding Members

Russell Drummond, Col. Daniel D. Hall,
Patty McDonald, Carol Odess,
Chandler S. Smith, Jane Paris Smith,
BBS Martha Moore Sykes Fund

2010-2011 Members

Lowell R. Adamson, Dr. and Ms. Peter Bellis,
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Carlisle, Louise Cecil,
Mel Christian, Glen Conn,
Melanie A. Crane,
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dawson,
Catherine Danielou, Linda DeRocher,
Mr. and Mrs. Ben Erdreich,
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Freeman,
Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Goldstein
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Glaze,
Darlene Gray, Dr. and Mrs. Ward Haarbauer,
Patty McDonald, Carol Odess,
Herb Patterson, W. B. Philips,
Dr. and Mrs. John Smith,
Joyce Whitten and Will York



THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival-
XLIII

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education; Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation; The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; the Kennedy Center Corporate Fund; and the National Committee for the Performing Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). 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 KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KCACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KCACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC in the spring of 2011.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

Theatre UAB Production Staff

Production Manager.....	Kelly Allison
Technical Director.....	Ed Zuckerman*
Costume Studio Supervisor.....	Elizabeth Ayres Pollard
Program Manager.....	Mel Christian
Stage Electrics Director.....	Sarah Jordan
Properties Master.....	J. Marc Quattlebaum
Scenic Studio Foreman/Master Carpenter.....	Lee Adlaf
Assistant Costume Studio Supervisor.....	Sharon Morgan
Scenic Studio Assistants.....	Atom Bennett*, Kirstie Crumly*, Britta McCaffrey, Eddie Moncrief
Lighting Assistants.....	Kevin Allinder, Atom Bennett*, Marc Dolan, Adriane Johnson
Costume Assistants.....	Kelley Farley, Marci Turner-Holcombe, Anissa Jones*, Megan King*, Amanda Murrah*, Ashley Phillips
Properties Assistants.....	Tim Craig*, Natalie Kinsaul*, Rachel Landress, Hadley Wells
Media Relations.....	Shannon Thomason
House Manager.....	Jerry Sims



The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Department of Theatre
and
Patty McDonald and W.B. Philips, Jr.
present

Venus

By Suzan-Lori Parks

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

Scenic Design
Kendra Peine*

Stage Manager
Olivia Standridge*

Audio Design
Natalie Kinsaul*

Costume Design
Kimberly Schnormeier

Lighting Design
Cliff Simon

Vocal Director
Marlene Johnson*

Directed by
Karla Koskinen

Assistant Directors
Sarah Hereford* Jereme Lewis*

Opening Night: Wednesday, November 10, 2010, 7:30 p.m.

Venus contains adult language and situations.

*Member of Psi Beta Cast, Alpha Psi Omega National Theatre Honorary.

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

CAST

Venus.....Jasmaine McCorvey*
The Baron Docteur.....Joshua Butler
The Mother Showman.....Trista Baker*
The Negro Resurrectionist.....Tim Craig*
Bride-To-Be.....Natalie Kinsaul*
MotherElena Ray
Young Man/Chorus.Brett Matthew Blaylock*
Uncle/Chorus.....Richard Taylor Campbell*
Father/Chorus.....Matthew Sanford
Chorus.....Brittney M. Williams*
Chorus.....Whitney Rooks*
Chorus.....Byron King

The play will be performed with one fifteen minute intermission.

Dramaturgical Notes by Shan Sheikh

Suzan-Lori Parks' eighth play, *Venus*, continues to challenge both audiences and theatre professionals alike. In 1996, *Venus* premiered at the Joseph Papp Public Theater in New York City and subsequently won the Obie award for best off-Broadway play of the year. Since then, the play has had successful runs across the nation. Suzan-Lori Parks has received multiple awards in her career as a playwright, including a 2001 MacArthur foundation grant. In 2002, Parks became the first African American woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for Drama for the play *Topdog/Underdog*.

Venus re-imagines the often-disputed real life story of Sarah "Saartjie" Baartman, an African woman known in Europe as the Venus Hottentot. In 1810, Baartman was taken to England from what is now South Africa. Due to her unique physical appearance to the Europeans, Baartman was exhibited for years as an oddity and freak across Great Britain and France. In England, controversy arose concerning the immodest nature of Baartman's display and the question of her freedom in a recently emancipated Great Britain. Actual accounts from the period describe her as being caged and usually nude or partially nude. Baartman was eventually transported to Paris where the scientific community of France took great interest in Baartman and conducted studies and anatomical drawings of her. After this initial curiosity faded, it is purported that Baartman became an alcoholic and took to prostitution. She died of contested causes in 1815, nearly five years since her arrival in Europe. After her autopsy, eminent scientist Georges Cuvier initiated a dissection of her body, keeping a plaster cast of her body and skeleton, as well as the preserved remains of her brain and genitalia in the Musee de l'Homme in Paris.

Continued on next page.

Theatre UAB Faculty and Administrative Staff

Kelly Allison, Professor.....Head of Design and Production
Jack Cannon*, Assistant Professor.....Acting/Intro to Theatre
Ward HaarbauerProfessor Emeritus
Cheryl Hall*, Assistant Professor.....Intro to Theatre
Ron Hubbard, Associate Professor.....Movement
Karma Ibsen.....Professor Emeritia
Marlene Johnson*, Assistant Professor.....Acting/Voice
Karla Koskinen, Associate Professor.....Acting/Directing
Dennis McLernon, Associate Professor.....Head of Performance
Elizabeth Ayres Pollard, Assistant Professor.....Costume Technology
Kimberly Schnormeier, Associate Professor/Associate Chair.....Costume Design
Lee Shackelford*, Assistant Professor..... Playwriting
Cliff Simon, Associate Professor.....Scene Design
Vessela Warner, Assistant Professor.....Theatre History
Will York*, Professor..... Chair
Ed Zuckerman*, Associate Professor.....Technical Director

Adjunct Faculty

Charlotte Lantz.....Dance
Billie Sheldon.....Administrative Associate

Dramaturgical Notes, *continued*

by Shan Sheikh

In 1994, newly elected president of the modern South Africa, Nelson Mandela, began negotiations with France to repatriate Baartman's remains. Fearing an onslaught of formerly colonized countries demanding the return of national treasures from the museums of the first world, the French took six years to decide how to give back the remains.

With *Venus*, Suzan-Lori Parks manipulates the known historical facts concerning Baartman into a postmodern history that investigates the still present preoccupation with the physique of the African woman. The challenge of *Venus* is partially due to the play's unconventional theatrical elements. The combination of postmodern theatre and serious subject matter creates situations that have the potential to expose and challenge taboos and stereotypes. The irreverence and circus-like situations depicted in *Venus* free Parks from the limits of moral judgment and push the play into a variety of thematic directions. The play's examination of cultural and sexual oppression continues to engage contemporary dialogue on race and gender by questioning beliefs and assumptions often left untouched in less controversial works.

For more information about the play, visit our Dramaturgy Page at: <http://theatre.hum.uab.edu/shows/10-11/venus-notes.htm>

Staff for this Production

Cutter/Draper.....Todd Roberts
Assistant Stage Managers.....Adriane Johnson, Christina Wingate
Dramaturge.....Shan Sheikh
Costume Design Assistant.....Anissa Jones*
Lighting Design Assistant.....Kirstie Crumly
Scenery/Lighting Construction.....Juan Bernal, Dallas Fields, Graham Herndon,
Noah Holcomb, Courtney Howard, Adriane Johnson,
Alana Jordan, Alora King, Byron King,
Jonielle Osborne, Ellis Oswalt, Emily Parks*,
Ashley Reiners, Cayce Saling, Julia Spring,
Adam White, James York, Veronica Zuniga
Scenic Painters.....Alora King, Rachel Landress, Haley Zuckerman
Scenery/Properties Running Crew..... Jim Earley
Costume/Craft Construction.....Xenia Bethancourt, Brett Matthew Blaylock*,
Kirstie Crumly*, Marc Dolan, Kristine Fitzgerald,
Jared Funderburg, Stephanie Harris, Ashleigh Horowitz,
Leah Huebner, Mitchell Kelechi, Eddie Moncrief,
Lindy Owens, Jared Patterson, Chrashonda Robinson,
Marie Tafra, Ariel Taunton, Victoria Ward, Hadley Wells,
Sophia Wells, Zach Wunderly, Mallorie Yance
Dressers.....Daniel Martin*, Amanda Murrah*, Marci Turner-Holcombe
Properties ConstructionKristine Fitzgerald, Whitney Rooks*
Light Board Operator.....Shaun Matthews
Follow Spot Operators.....Noah Holcomb, Leah Huebner
Cover/Poster Design..... Cliff Simon