

Theatre UAB 2015-2016 Season

DANCING AT LUGHNASA

by Brian Friel

Directed by Jack Cannon

The Sirote Theatre

October 14 - 17 at 7:30pm & October 18 at 2:00pm

STUPID F***ING BIRD

by Aaron Posner

Directed by Dennis McLernon

The Odess Theatre

November 11 - 14 & 18- 20 at 7:30pm & November 21 at 2:00pm

BURIED CHILD

by Sam Shepard

Directed by Karla Koskinen

The Sirote Theatre

February 24—27 at 7:30pm & February 28 at 2:00pm

THEATRE UAB THIRTEENTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TEN MINUTE PLAYS

Produced by Lee Shackleford

The Odess Theatre

March 13 at 2:00pm & March 14 - 17 at 7:30pm

SPRING AWAKENING

Music by Duncan Sheik. Book & Lyrics by Steven Sater

Directed by Valerie Accetta

Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi

The Sirote Theatre

April 13 - 16 at 7:30pm & April 17 at 2:00pm

ASC Box Office: 975-ARTS.

Show information at <http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/productions>

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Department of Theatre

Frank and Joan Dawson,

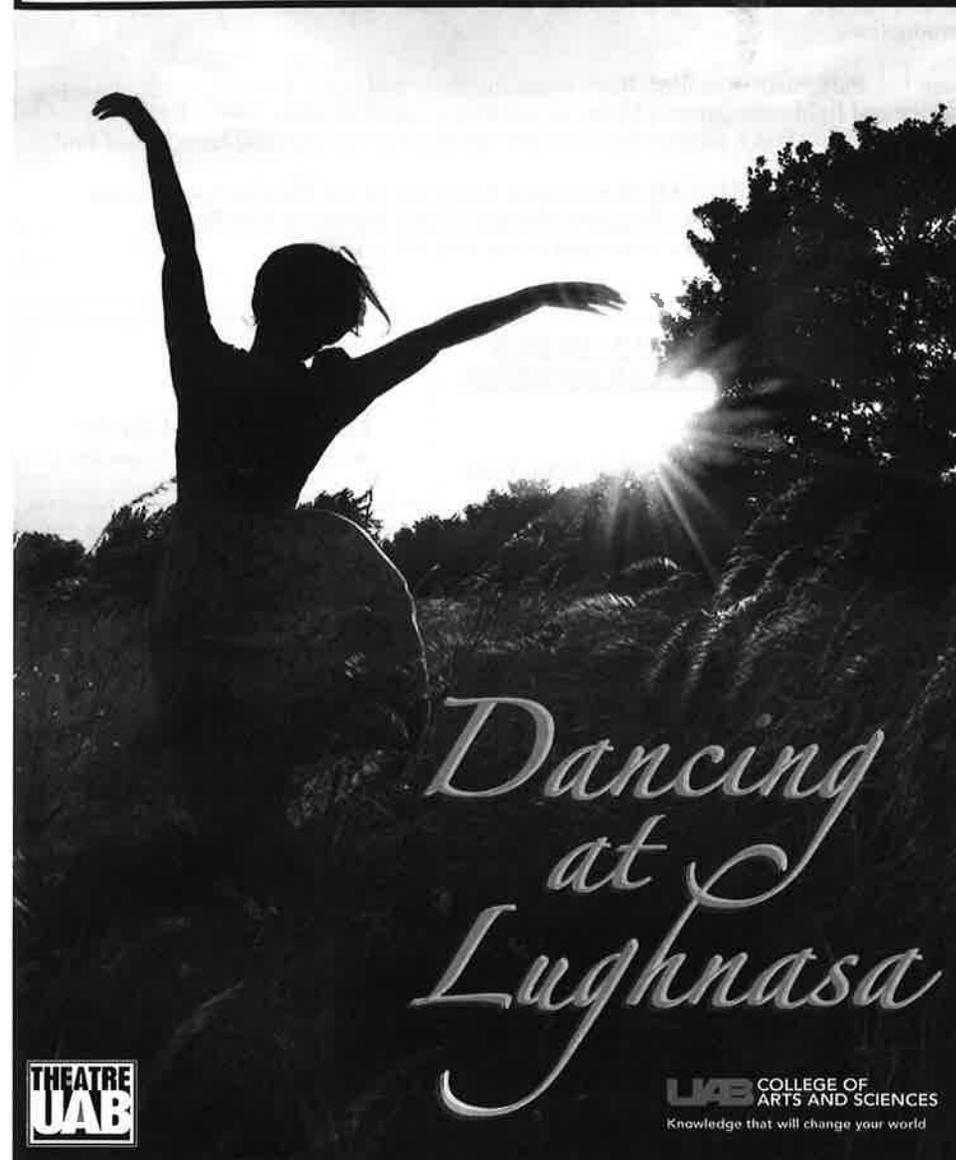
Michael J. and Mary Anne Freeman

Mary and Kyle Hulcher

and

W.B. Philips, Jr.

present



The Sirote Theatre
in the Alys Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Center

OVATION THEATRE UAB

(Sponsored by Theatre Advisory Committee)

Opening nights at Theatre UAB are OVATION nights. OVATION UAB features refreshments and conversation with the director and designers before the show, as well as a post-performance meet & greet with the cast and crew.

But that's not all. OVATION's mission is to support and sponsor our students working backstage and performing in Theatre UAB productions. Membership dues ranging from \$40 - \$1500+ help off-set the cost of tuition for each student to participate in the productions.

Join us! Park early, socialize, learn about the show and enjoy hors d'oeuvres, desserts, coffee and light refreshments before an evening of great theatre. OVATION THEATRE UAB is a perfect way to assist our talented students and have lots of fun!

OVATION THEATRE UAB Membership Forms are in our Theatre UAB Season Brochure or simply contact Program Manager, Mel Christian at 934-3237 or cmel@uab.edu. We'd love to see you at our next OVATION!

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

2015-2016 Members

Peter and Miriam Bellis, Michael & Peggy Carlisle, Louise Cecil, Brenna Clark, Glen Conn, Frank & Joan Dawson, Ben & Ellen Erdreich, Michael J. & Mary Anne Freeman, Emanuel & Myrna Goldstein, Dr. Robert & Mrs. Barbara Glaze, Lanny & Darlene Gray, Dr. Ward & Mrs. Martha Haarbauer, Frank & Rona Harper, Dr. James Hawk, Mary & Kyle Hulcher, Michael and Catherine Hulcher, Anne S. Martin, Scottye Moore, Jonielle Osborne, Carol Odess, W. B. Philips, Jr., Taylor Richardson, James & Dawn Ribe, Paul O. Siabour, Jr., Dorinda & John A. Smith, John Swindall & Karla Koskinen, Blake Tanner, Joyce Whitten



THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival™ 48, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by David and Alice Rubenstein.

Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; the Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation; the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation; The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust; Hilton Worldwide; and Beatrice and Anthony Welters and the AnBryce Foundation.

Education and related artistic programs are made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts and the President's Advisory Committee on the 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 invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

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 Faculty and Administrative Staff

Kelly Dean Allison, Professor.....	Chair
Valerie Accetta, Assistant Professor.....	Head of Musical Theatre Performance
Jack Cannon, Assistant Professor.....	Acting/Intro to Theatre
Ward Haarbauer	Professor Emeritus
Cheryl Hall, Assistant Professor.....	Intro to Theatre
Ron Hubbard, Associate Professor.....	Film Studies/Stage Combat
Karma Ibsen.....	Professor Emerita
Marlene Johnson, Associate Professor.....	Acting/Voice
Karla Koskinen, Professor.....	Acting/Directing
June Mack, Associate Professor.....	Film Studies
Dennis McLernon, Professor.....	Head of Performance
Amy Page, Assistant Professor.....	Costume Director
Kimberly Schnormeier, Associate Professor/Associate Dean.....	Costume Design
Lee Shackelford, Assistant Professor.....	Playwriting
Cliff Simon, Professor.....	Scene Design
Carolyn Violi.....	Musical Director and Accompanist
Vessela Warner, Associate Professor.....	Theatre History
Will York.....	Professor Emeritus
Ed Zuckerman, Associate Professor.....	Production Manager/Technical Director
 <u>Adjunct Faculty</u>	
Charlotte Lantz.....	Dance
Sharon Morgan.....	Costume Technology
Elizabeth Ross.....	Jazz
Jessica Winters	Ballet
Mel Christian.....	Program Manager/Tour Coordinator
Chris Humphries, Doctorre McDade.....	Audio/Visual Technicians
Rebecca Jurgens.....	Social Media Intern
Nora Whitten.....	Administrative Associate

The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Department of Theatre
Frank and Joan Dawson,
Michael J. and Mary Anne Freeman
Mary and Kyle Hulcher
and
W.B. Philips, Jr.
Present

DANCING AT LUGHNASA

By **Brian Friel**

Presented by Special Arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York

Stage Manager
Rachel A. Walsh

Scenic Design
Ed Zuckerman

Costume Design
Kimberly Schnormeier

Lighting Design
Elliot Johnson

Sound Design
Sean Allan Doyle

Properties Design
J. Marc Quattlebaum

Voice & Dialect Coach
Marlene Johnson

Choreography
Elizabeth Ross

Directed by Jack Cannon

Opening Night: Wednesday, October 14, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

Non-tobacco products will be used in this production.

CAST

Michael.....Brian Wittenberg
Chris.....Merideth Busby
Maggie.....Madelyn Burrell
Agnes.....Meredith Morse
Rose.....Holly Morgan
Kate.....Marissa Hebson
Gerry.....Chance Novalis
Jack.....Diego Thomas Faulkner

Setting: The home of the Mundy family, two miles outside the village of
Ballybeg, County Donegal, Ireland.

Act One: A warm day in early August, 1936

Act Two: Three weeks later.

There will be one fifteen minute intermission.

Dramaturgical Notes:

Dancing at Lughnasa, by Brian Friel (1929-2015), tells the life of the Mundy sisters—Kate, Maggie, Agnes, Rosie and Christina—during the month of August, 1936 in Donegal, Northern Ireland. It is a “memory play” that presents the events through the eyes of Christina’s son, Michael. Since its opening in 1990 at the Abbey Theatre in Dublin, the play has gained high acclaims, taking countries like Ireland, England and the United States by storm. It has won multiple awards, including a Tony Award for Best Play in 1992 and the Outer Critic’s Awards 1992. It was even made into a movie starring the legendary Meryl Streep and Michael Gambon. In *Dancing at Lughnasa*, like in most of his work, Friel depicts the effects of British colonization on Northern Ireland since the 17th century, including cultural isolation, economic constraints, and the constant feeling of inferiority and suppression of the people in the region. Friel also touches on the topic of lost “Irish” identity by recalling his own childhood experiences as well as local traditions.

The Lughnasa festival is an important part of the Mundy sisters’ provincial world and mundane lives. It is a centuries-old celebration of the harvest time, which is held for eleven days in the beginning of August. The festival began as a pagan worship to God Lugh and an expression of hopes for a bountiful

Continued on next page...

Theatre UAB Production Staff

Production Manager/Technical Director.....Ed Zuckerman
Costume Studio Supervisor.....Sharon Morgan
Stage Electrics Director.....Sean Doyle
Properties Master.....J. Marc Quattlebaum
Assistant Technical Director.....Brad Cozby
Scenic Charge.....Olivia Skillern
Scenic Studio Assistants.....Aaron Duncan, Ben Lundy, Jessica Mathews,
Holly Morgan, Olivia Skillern
Electrics Assistants.....Bliss Bailey, Elliot Johnson, Noah Parsons, Rachel Walsh
Costume Assistants.....Noah Duffy, Emily Harris, Phoebe Miller,
Kenya Mims, Victoria J. Morales
Properties Assistants.....Rita Pearson-Daley, Lauren Edwards, Felix Crutcher,
Ali Ribe, Nicole Slaski, Cameron Snider
Media Relations.....Shannon Thomason
House Manager.....Jerry Sims
Associate House Manager.....Derek Purifoy

Notes on the Play, continued...

harvest of fruit, wheat and other produce. It would be common during the festival for people to pick bilberries, which are a symbol of a plentiful and healthy year. During Lughnasa, women would make flower garlands or braid flowers into their hair. Men would also wear flowers that look similar to a boutonniere. At the end of the festival week the participants would bury the flowers to represent the end of summer. The Lughnasa festival could not be complete without the dancing. Dance competitions are organized during the celebration and each member of the winning couple can choose his/her bride/groom. The Irish have found a way to meld the pagan Lughnasa with their Christian tradition so that people could continue to celebrate their beloved festival. For the Mundy sisters, Lughnasa is a symbol of the joy, love, and youth that slowly slip away, as well as a reminder that they can still choose what their future will look like without families of their own.

More dramaturgical information can be found at: <http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/productions/2015-2016/dancing-at-lughnasa>

- **Kristen Ciano, Dramaturg**
Dancing at Lughnasa

Staff for this Production

Assistant Stage Managers.....Emily Harris, Anna Knicely
Stage Management Production Assistant.....Mary Ashley Dease
Dramaturg.....Kristen Ciano
Scenery/Lighting Construction/Electrics.....Lucas Bradley, Diamond Carson,
Caylin Cobb, Noah Duffy, Aaron Duncan, John Kennedy,
Kenya Mims, Katherine Montgomery, Hannah Mueller,
Roxana Munoz, Rita Pearson-Daley, Olivia Skillern,
Alyse Rosenblatt, Abby Tueckmantel, Kevin Wehby,
Royzell Walker, Wesley Wright
Scenic Painter.....Bliss Bailey
Scenery/Properties Running Crew..... Lauren Edwards, Rita Pearson-Daley
Costume/Craft Construction.....Chandler Champion, Jessica Chess, Victoria Cruz,
Lindsey Culver, McKenzie Donaldson,
Chandler Jimmerson, Madi March, Sarah Mathews,
Elyse Whitt, Jennifer Beard, Seth Burgess,
Nole Jones, Jessica L. Mathews, Cara Matzke,
Perry McKee, Brandon McLemore, Mark Nelson,
Ella Smitherman, Breanna Wright
Dressers.....Bethany Maldon, Joey Parker
Properties ConstructionNicole Slaski, Cameron Snider
Light Board Operator.....Katherine Montgomery
Sound Board Operator.....John Kennedy
Cover/Poster Design.....Cliff Simon

Theatre UAB would like to thank Catherine Alexandra Lewis for her work on *Dancing at Lughnasa* as knitting consultant.

Visit our website at <http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/>

Created and moderated by Lee Shackelford

***Dancing at Lughnasa* Production Biographies**

Madelyn Burrell (Maggie)

Home Town: Warrior, AL

Education: Corner High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Avenue Q*, *Women of War* (UAB,) *Children Of Eden*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Gruesome Playground Injuries*, *The Taffetas* (Corner HS.)

Merideth Busby (Chris)

Home Town: Fairhope, AL

Education: Fairhope High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Women of War* (UAB,) *Romeo and Juliet* (ASF Youth Theatre.) *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Beauty and the Beast* (Fairhope HS.)

Jack Cannon (Director)

Home Town: Atlanta, GA

Education: MFA Directing/Acting - The University of Arizona.

Recent Production Work: Directing: *In The Next Room* (or, *The Vibrator Play*), *Twelfth Night*; or, *What You Will*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *Largo Desolato*, *The Food Chain* (UAB.) Acting: *Don't Trifle With Love*, *Three Sisters*, *King Lear* (UAB.)

Sean Allan Doyle (Sound Design/Electrics Coordinator/Master Electrician)

Home Town: Alexandria, VA

Education: BA Theatre Arts Lehigh University

Recent Production Work: Sound Design: *Romeo & Juliet: Love Knows No Age* (Unexpected Stage,) *Tangles* (Theatre for New Medicine at Wooley Mammoth,) *The Great American Trailer Park Musical* (Dominion Stage.) Sound Engineer: *Intersections Theatre Festival* (DC.) Lighting Design: *The Bachelorette* (Dominion Stage.) Light Board Operator: *The Call* (Theatre J.)

Diego Thomas Faulkner (Jack)

Home Town: Zion, IL

Education: Pleasant Grove High School

Recent Production Work: *2014-15 Traveling Aesop Show Touring Company*, *Women of War*, *Urinetown: The Musical* (UAB.)

Emily Harris (Assistant Stage Manager)

Home Town: Montgomery, AL

Education: Booker T. Washington Magnet High School

Recent Production Work: ASM: *Avenue Q* (UAB.) Electrics Assistant: *In the Next Room* (or, *The Vibrator Play*) (UAB.) Stage Management: *Little Shop of Horrors* (BTW.) Scenic Construction: *Hairspray* (BTW.)

***Dancing at Lughnasa* Production Biographies, continued**

Marissa Hebson (Kate)

Home Town: Pinson, AL

Education: Shades Valley Theatre Academy

Recent Production Work: Acting: *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (SVTA,) *The Drowsy Chaperone* (SVTA.)

Elliot Johnson (Lighting Design)

Home Town: Minneapolis, MN

Education: Associates of Fine Arts in Theater Production/Design from Normandale Community College, Richfield High School

Recent Production Work: Assistant Lighting Designer: *Avenue Q* (UAB), *Comedy of Errors* (NCC.) Master Electrician: *Almost, Maine* (NCC,) *Arabian Nights* (NCC,) *Jekyll & Hyde* (NCC.) Stage Management: *Evita* (Theatre Latte Da,) *Urinetown* (NCC.)

Marlene Johnson (Voice & Dialect Coach)

Home Town: Allentown, PA

Education: MFA, Virginia Commonwealth University

Recent Production Work: Vocal Coach: *Avenue Q*, *In The Next Room* (or, *The Vibrator Play*), *Women of War*, *Urinetown: The Musical*, *Twelfth Night*, *Big Love*, *Charley's Aunt*, *Proof*, *Macbeth* (UAB.) Vocal Director: *On The Verge* (UAB,) *Around The World in 80 Days*, *God of Carnage* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival.)

Anna Knicely (Assistant Stage Manager)

Home Town: Fort Payne, AL

Education: Fort Payne High School/ Northeast Alabama Community College

Recent Production Work: Stage Manager: *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (Blackberry Little Theatre,) *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* (Blackberry Little Theatre.) Properties Coordinator: *The Hobbit* (Blackberry Little Theatre,) *The Three Musketeers* (Blackberry Little Theatre,) *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* (Blackberry Little Theatre.)

Holly Morgan (Rose)

Home Town: Madison, AL

Education: Bob Jones High School

Recent Production Work: Assistant Director: *Avenue Q*, *Women of War* (UAB.) Acting: *2015-16 Kids on the Block Touring Company*, *2014-15 Amazing Traveling Aesop Show Touring Company*, *11th Annual Festival of Ten Minute Plays*, *Twelfth Night*; or, *What You Will* (UAB.) *Alice In Wonderland*, *The Perfect Ending*, *The Greek Mythology Olympiaganza*, *Perfect* (Bob Jones HS.) *Twelfth Night* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival.)

Dancing at Lughnasa Production Biographies

Meredith Morse (Agnes)

Home Town: Westerville, OH

Education: Westerville Central High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *2015-16 Cabaret Touring Company, Avenue Q* (UAB,) *The Elixir of Love* (UAB Opera,) *Xanadu, Honk!* (Westerville Central HS,) *The Music Man, The Wizard of Oz* (Westerville Civic Theatre.)

Chance Novalis (Gerry)

Home Town: Madison Alabama

Education: Bob Jones High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *In the Heights, The Standard Deviation* (Bob Jones). Directing: *Off a Broken Road* (Bob Jones.)

J. Marc Quattlebaum (Properties Design)

Home Town: Lexington, SC

Education: MFA Wayne State University 2009. BA Newberry College 2005

Recent Production Work: Properties Design: *Avenue Q, In The Next Room* (or, *The Vibrator Play*.) *Clybourne Park, Urinetown: The Musical, Rabbit Hole, Twelfth Night, Big Love, Charley's Aunt, Don't Trifle With Love, Macbeth, On The Verge, Postcards to J. Bird, Caucasian Chalk Circle, Lysistrata, The Rocky Horror Show* (UAB.)

Elizabeth Ross (Choreography)

Home Town: Birmingham, AL

Education: Florida State University

Recent Production Work: Choreography: *Second Glimpse: Dances for Downtown Birmingham, "Smith" for "Vulcanalia," Trust, Rushes, and Receipts* (DANCEe.) *A Bluegrass Christmas Carol* (Virginia Samford Theatre.)

Kimberly Schnormeier (Costume Design)

Home Town: Gambier, OH

Education: MFA in Scenography from Northwestern University. BFA in Graphic Design, Miami University

Recent Production Work: Costume Design: *The Next Room* (or, *The Vibrator Play*.) *Clybourne Park, Urinetown: The Musical, Big Love, Charley's Aunt, Don't Trifle With Love, Caucasian Chalk Circle* (UAB.) *Beauty and the Beast, The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* (Birmingham Children's Theatre.)

Dancing at Lughnasa Production Biographies

Rachel A. Walsh (Stage Manager)

Home Town: Johns Creek, GA

Education: Northview High School

Recent Production Work: Stage Manager: *Women of War* (UAB.) Assistant Stage Management: *Twelfth Night; or, What You Will* (UAB,) *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, The Mystery Plays: Ghost Children, Noises Off!* (Northview HS.) Directing: *In the Red* (Northview HS.)

Brian Wittenberg (Michael)

Home Town: Johns Creek, GA

Education: Chattahoochee High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Sondheim on Sondheim* (Act3 Productions,) *Little Shop of Horrors* (Chattahoochee HS,) *Urinetown* (Orbit Arts Academy,) *Dracula* (Act3 Productions.) Directing: *The Tall Girls* (Chattahoochee HS.)

Ed Zuckerman (Scenic Design)

Home Town: Philadelphia, PA

Education: MFA, Wayne State University

Recent Production Work: Lighting Design: *Clybourne Park, Twelfth Night; or, What You Will, Proof, Rhinoceros, The Praying Mantis, The Piano Lesson, The It Girl, The Seagull* (UAB.) Scenic Design: *The Next Room* (or, *The Vibrator Play*.) *A Streetcar Named Desire, The Playboy of the Western World* (UAB.)

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