

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 Shackelford

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. Phillips, Jr.

present

uab department of theatre presents

S F B

by
Aaron Posner

directed by
Dennis McLernon



UAB COLLEGE OF
ARTS AND SCIENCES
Knowledge that will change your world

The Odess 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, 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. Phillips, Jr., Taylor Richardson, James & Dawn Ribe, Paul O. Siabour, Jr., Dorinda & John A. Smith, John Swindall & Karla Koskinen, Blake Tanner, Joyce Whitten



The Kennedy Center

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 Shackleford, 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

Adjunct Faculty

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

STUPID F***ING BIRD

by Aaron Posner, sort of adapted from
The Seagull by Anton Chekhov

Presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York

Stage Manager
Victoria J. Morales

Scenic Design
Cliff Simon

Lighting Design
Kelly Allison

Costume Design
Phoebe Miller

Sound Design
Sean Allan Doyle

Voice Coach
Marlene Johnson

Directed by Dennis McLernon

Opening Night: Wednesday, November 11, 2015, 7:30 p.m.

*Stupid F***ing Bird* contains strong language and adult themes. A gunshot sound effect will be used in this production.

CAST

Con.....Russell E. Alexander, II
Emma.....Carron Clem
Trig.....Calvin Nielsen
Nina.....Alex Ingram
Sorn.....Joseph Baude
Mash.....Alora King
Dev.....Seth Burgess

Setting & time: right here, right now.

The play will be performed with two fifteen minute intermissions.

Director's comments on producing SFB at UAB:

Theatre, like many arts and philosophies, deals with the big questions of life, love, and existence. Why are we here? What is the meaning of my life? What is love? And the big one we all face: Who am I?

For me the Theatre is a place to explore those questions in a way that has the greatest opportunity for immediacy and identification on the most personal level with our audiences.

My belief is that we go to the theatre to be in the presence of how these questions of life are being tackled by people very much like ourselves. We go to see the choices of others and to empathize with consequences as well as the triumphs of their actions.

Anton Chekhov is able to do this in his plays and short stories. But in 2014 at the Woolly Mammoth Theatre in Washington D.C. I saw a modern re-invention of one of Chekhov's most famous plays: *The Seagull*. This re-invention was the play we are producing: *Stupid F@#\$ing Bird*. The title itself is a deconstruction but very much an homage to Chekhov's masterpiece.

SFB is a reimagining by the playwright and director Aaron Posner that literally and figuratively explores an important challenge leveled by Chekhov at the theatre world: "We need new forms!" Essentially we need to change HOW we tell the stories worth telling!

SFB is a play that possesses profound transformational potential and power. It remains faithful to the exploration of Chekhov's complicated themes of art, personal existence,

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.....Bliss Bailey, Aaron Duncan, Emily Harris,
John Kennedy, Ben Lundy, Jessica Mathews, Holly Morgan
Electrics Assistants.....Bliss Bailey, Elliot Johnson, Noah Parsons, Rachel Walsh
Costume Assistants.....Noah Duffy, Emily Harris, Phoebe Miller,
Kenya Mims, Victoria J. Morales, Lauren Seale
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

Director's comments, continued...

and the vicissitudes love, while bringing a cutting edge modernistic sensibility and sense of humor to the telling.

The result is a work of art that is compellingly timely as well as being universal in its timelessness. It explores the pain of love honestly while giving a wink and a nod to the absurdity of life. One exchange typifies this modern sensibility:

Dev: Try loving something more than your self! I'm just sayin'.
It does something to you. Something worthwhile.

Con: Oh for God's sake! Are you kidding me!
I love almost everything better than myself!

The opportunity for student actors to work and collaborate on such an edgy new piece is wildly beneficial. First of all it is currently being produced in all of the major professional regional theatres. Graduates will be familiar with what is artistically current.

More importantly it provides young actors the opportunity to speak with an authentic voice of their own generation, expressing urgent thoughts, beliefs, and anxieties about their own identifiable circumstances. And this kind of artistic ownership adds indomitable power and purpose to their experience.

Dennis McLernon, Director

Staff for this Production

Assistant Stage Managers.....Bliss Bailey, Noah Parsons
Properties Design..... J. Marc Quattlebaum
Assistant Scenic Design.....Olivia Skillern
Student Technical Director.....Jessica L. Mathews
Scenery/Lighting Construction/Electrics.....Lucas Bradley, Diamond Carson,
Ashley Cobb, Caylin Cobb, Noah Duffy,
Aaron Duncan, Diego Faulkner, Nole Jones, John Kennedy,
Kenya Mims, Katherine Montgomery, Hannah Mueller,
Rita Pearson-Daley, Olivia Skillern, Alyse Rosenblatt,
Abby Tueckmantel, Kevin Wehby, Royzell Walker, Wesley Wright
Scenic Painters.....Merideth Busby, Taylor Dole, Aurelie King,
Bethany Maldon, Olivia Skillern
Scenery/Properties Running Crew..... Aaron Duncan, Irina Seale, Spencer Webb
Costume/Craft Construction.....Chandler Champion, Jessica Chess, Addie Counts,
Victoria Cruz, Lindsey Culver, McKenzie Donaldson, Chandler Jimmerson,
Madi March, Sarah Mathews, Elyse Whitt, Jennifer Beard, Seth Burgess,
Nole Jones, Melanie Miranda, Jessica L. Mathews, Cara Matzke,
Perry McKee, Brandon McLemore, Mark Nelson, Ella Smitherman,
Dressers.....Ebony Booker, Lindsey Culver, Bethany Maldon
Properties ConstructionNicole Slaski, Cameron Snider
Light Board Operator.....Ben Lundy
Sound Board Operator.....Kayli Porter
Cover/Poster Design.....Cliff Simon

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

Created and moderated by Lee Shackelford

Stupid Fing Bird* Production Biographies**

Kelly Allison (Lighting Design)

Home Town: Litchfield, MN

Education: BFA-Stephens College, MFA-University of Minnesota.

Recent Production Work: Lighting Design: *Avenue Q*, *Urinetown: The Musical*, *Big Love*, *Charley's Aunt*, *Macbeth*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Eurydice*, *Scenes from an Execution* (UAB.)

Russell E. Alexander II (Con)

Home Town: Montgomery, AL

Education: Booker T. Washington Magnet High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *The Wiz* (Red Mountain Theatre Company,) *2015 Shakespeare Touring Company*, *Avenue Q*, *Clybourne Park*, *2013 & 2014 Cabaret Touring Company*, *Urinetown: The Musical*, *Big Love*, *Bat Boy: The Musical* (UAB.)

Bliss Bailey (Assistant Stage Manager)

Home Town: Tuscaloosa, AL

Education: Paul W. Bryant High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *2015 Shakespeare Touring Company*, *Clybourne Park*, *10th*, *11th* and *12th Annual Festival of Ten Minute Plays*, *Twelfth Night*; or, *What You Will*, *Don't Trifle With Love* (UAB.) *Bar Mitzvah Boy*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Steel Magnolias* (Paul W. Bryant High School.)

Joseph Baude (Sorn)

Home Town: Arab, AL

Education: Arab High School, Northeast Alabama Community College

Recent Production Work: Acting: *2015 Alice In Wonderland Touring Company*, *Avenue Q*, *Clybourne Park*, *2014 Kids on the Block Touring Company* (UAB,) *Blood Brothers*, *The Mousetrap* (NACC,) *Pippin*, *H2\$* (AHS.) Student Director: *Les Misérables* (NACC.)

Seth Burgess (Dev)

Home Town: Warrior, AL

Education: Corner High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Peter and the Starcatcher* (City Equity Theatre,) *2015 Shakespeare Touring Company*, *Avenue Q*, *Clybourne Park* (UAB,) *Children of Eden*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Grotesque Playground Injuries* (Corner HS.)

Stupid Fing Bird* Production Biographies, continued**

Carron Clem (Emma)

Home Town: Decatur, AL

Education: Edison College (A.S.)

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Women of War*, *2014 Shakespeare Touring Company*, *11th Annual Festival of Ten Minute Plays* (UAB), *Mr. Marmalade* (Theatre Downtown,) *Clybourne Park* (Birmingham Festival Theatre), *The Miracle Worker*, *Steel Magnolias* (Covered Bridge Players.) Assistant Stage Management: *In The Next Room* (or, *The Vibrator Play*) (UAB.) Directing: *Driving Miss Daisy*, *The Foreigner* (Covered Bridge Players.) Assistant Directing: *She Kills Monsters* (Theatre Downtown.)

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

Home Town: Alexandria, VA

Education: BA Theatre Arts Lehigh University

Recent Production Work: Sound Design: *Dancing at Lughnasa* (UAB,) *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.)

Alex Ingram (Nina)

Home Town: Birmingham, AL

Education: Spain Park High School; Transfer from The University of Alabama

Recent Production Work: Acting: *2015 Kids on the Block Touring Company*, *Clybourne Park*, *11th* and *12th Annual Festival of Ten Minute Plays*, *Twelfth Night*; or, *What You Will* (UAB.) *Jedem das Seine*, *Will and Whimsy*, *Susification of Romeo and Juliet*, *A Binding Commitment*, *The Crucible*, *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind*, *Elephant's Graveyard*, *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. (Spain Park HS)

Marlene Johnson (Voice Coach)

Home Town: Allentown, PA

Education: MFA, Virginia Commonwealth University

Recent Production Work: Vocal Coach: *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *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.)

Stupid Fing Bird* Production Biographies**

Alora King (Mash)

Home Town: Boonsboro, MD

Education: Boonsboro High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *In The Next Room (or, The Vibrator Play,)* *Clybourne Park, Urinetown: The Musical, Big Love, Batboy: The Musical, Troy Women, Macbeth, Caucasian Chalk Circle, Gruesome Playground Injuries (UAB.)* Pianist/Arrangement/Musical Direction: *12th Annual Festival of Ten Minute Plays, 2012 & 2013 Cabaret Touring Company, Sea of Love (UAB.)*

Dennis McLernon (Director)

Home Town: Seattle, WA

Education: M.E. Auburn University, M.F.A., University of Alabama

Recent Production Work: Directing: *Clybourne Park, Rabbit Hole, Charley's Aunt, Macbeth, Postcards to J. Bird, We Three, The Miser (UAB.)* Acting: *Urinetown: The Musical, Big Love, Proof, Eurydice (UAB.)*

Phoebe Miller (Costume Design)

Home Town: Birmingham, AL

Education: Spain Park High School

Recent Production Work: Assistant Stage Management – *Clybourne Park, Urinetown: The Musical (UAB.)* Costume and Makeup Running Crew: *Twelfth Night (UAB.)*

Victoria J. Morales (Stage Manager)

Home Town: Priceville, AL; Originally San Jose, CA

Education: Priceville High School

Recent Production Work: Stage Management: *The Gingerbread Boy* (Birmingham Children's Theatre) *In The Next Room (or, The Vibrator Play,)* *Clybourne Park, Rabbit Hole, 10th Annual Festival of Ten Minute Plays (UAB.)* Assistant Stage Management: *Big Love, Bat Boy: The Musical (UAB.)* Crew: *Charley's Aunt, Don't Trifle with Love (UAB.)* Light Board Operator: *Peter and the Starcatcher* (City Equity Theatre.)

Calvin Nielsen (Trigorin)

Home Town: Budapest, HU and Vestavia, AL

Education: Vestavia High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *In The Next Room (or, The Vibrator Play,)* *Clybourne Park, 2014 Shakespeare Touring Company, Rabbit Hole, Big Love, 2013 Kids on The Block Touring Company, Charley's Aunt, Don't Trifle With Love, 10th and 11th Annual Festival of Ten Minute Plays (UAB.)* *Pride and Prejudice, Senior One Acts* (Vestavia High.)

Noah Parsons (Assistant Stage Manager)

Home Town: Pell City, AL

Education: Pell City High School

Recent Production Work: Stage Management: *The Butterfly Effect (Staged Reading,)* *2014 Freshman Showcase.* Assistant Stage Management: *Avenue Q (UAB,)* *Footloose* (Pell City HS.) Acting: *12th Annual Festival of Ten Minute Plays (UAB,)* *Into the Woods, Arsenic and Old Lace* (Pell City HS.)

Stupid Fing Bird* Production Biographies**

J. Marc Quattlebaum (Properties Design)

Home Town: Lexington, SC

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

Recent Production Work: Properties Design: *Dancing at Lughnasa, 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.)*

Cliff Simon (Scenic Design)

Home Town: New York, NY

Education: MFA, University of Texas at Austin

Recent Production Work: Scenic Design: *Tommy, Les Misérables, One Night With Janice Joplin, 33 Variations* (Zach Theatre, Austin). *Miss Saigon, Grease, Full Monty* (Riverside Theatre, Vero Beach.) *Grease* (Walnut Street, Philadelphia.) *Avenue Q, Women of War, Clybourne Park, Urinetown: The Musical, Twelfth Night; or What You Will, Big Love, Charley's Aunt, Proof* (UAB.)

Theatre UAB is a proud member of..



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