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Programs 2006-2007 Season

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Fall 10-2006

## Equus Program

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTHERN MAINE

*Department of Theatre presents*



**Written by  
Peter Shaffer**

**October 6 - 15, 2006**

**Main Stage, Russell Hall  
USM Gorham Campus**

## Director's Note

Peter Shaffer is arguably one of the greatest living playwrights. His play *Equus* has won several awards in England and in the United States, including a Tony Award for Best Play. Critic Walter Kerr called the play "remarkable; it is powerfully close to reanimating the spirit of mystery that makes the stage a place of breathless discovery."

I have long been fascinated by this play and once had a chance to talk about it with Shaffer. The playwright graduated from Cambridge University reading History. He was well aware of the writings of anthropologist James Frazer and Joseph Campbell and was fascinated with the ancient gods and their influence on humanity. He felt modern society had dismissed the gods of old as irrelevant. His principle character Dysart says:

DYSART: There's a sea...where Gods used to go to battle

ALAN: What Gods?

DYSART: The old ones. Before they died.

ALAN: Gods don't die.

DYSART: Yes, they do.

Similar to Nietzsche's concept of the Apollonian and Dionysian aspects of our personalities or Jung's theory of the Racial Unconscious, Shaffer believed a part of us still yearned to understand the primal urges common to us all. In *Equus* the question is posed: Do we ignore the free flowing passionate soul lurking deep within our psyche or do we give ourselves up to the intellectual sterility of modern life? Dysart is faced with the dilemma of "curing" a passionate god-worshipping Alan Strang and making him a normal member of society, or allowing the boy to remain in contact with the gods of old. The more Dysart probes into Alan's psyche, the more he realizes his own need to understand his own passion. He does chase the spirits from Strang only to find himself possessed by them. He does not like what he sees. Modern man, he decides, is waging a war against the gods of old by trying to exorcise them from our thinking and educational cannon. If we do this, as *Equus* seems to suggest, we do it at our own peril.

## Equus by Peter Shaffer

Director  
Choreography  
Rhythmic Design  
Scenic Design  
Costume Design  
Media Design/Guest Artist  
Lighting Design  
Sound Design  
Horse Costume Design

Walter Stump  
Kate Caouette  
John Coons  
Brian Hapcic  
Jodi Ozimek  
Raphael DiLuzio  
Brian Hapcic  
Erik Moody  
Kate Law

## Cast in order of appearance:

Martin Dysart  
Alan Strang  
Nugget  
Nurse  
Hesther Salomon  
Dora Strang  
Frank Strang  
Harry Dalton  
Jill Mason  
1st Horse  
2nd Horse/Horsemen  
3rd Horse  
4th Horse  
5th Horse  
6th Horse

John Coons  
Ian Carlsen  
Brianna Thiviege  
Kate Caouette  
Mia Perron  
Mary Bastoni  
Jeffrey Toombs  
Dan Goldstein  
Autumn Rose  
Ryan Nash  
Jesse Leighton  
Gary Thayer  
Jessica Savory  
Casey Turner  
Lindsey Higgins

## Setting

The time is the present, the place is a small rural town.

*There will be a fifteen minute intermission.*

**Warning: This show is for mature audiences only. This production contains nudity and mature subject matter. Strobe lights and tobacco-free cigarettes will also be used in this production.**

*Please, no photos are allowed during the performance.  
Also please turn off beepers and phones as a courtesy to the actors and other audience members.*

## A Special Thanks to:

*Richard and Cris Mitchell for the tack used,  
Zippy the Horse, Accent Dry Cleaners, Mark Law,  
Marie Prescott, Melissa O'Brien & Polly Carmichael  
Produced by Special Arrangement with Samuel French Inc.*

## Artistic Staff

Assistant Scenic Design  
Assistant Costume Design  
Assistant Lighting Design  
Assistant Sound Design

Michele Lee  
Hillary Sproul  
Nick Cyr  
Colin Whitely

## Production Staff

Production Stage Manager  
Stage Manager  
Assistant Stage Managers  
Technical Director  
Charge Artist  
Carpenters  
Costume Director  
Stitchers

Kristin P. Kurz  
Bob Wilcox  
Liza Bonnell, Jess Cicero  
Mathew T. Meeds  
Charles S. Kading  
Stage Craft Practicum  
Kris Hall

Mary Bastoni, Rachel Benner, Joe Bearer,  
Jessica Bernier, Emily Carter, Meredith Davis,  
Cate Goetschius, Kate Law, Daniel Lawrence,  
Sammy Mills, Amber Rogals, Johnathan Rogers,  
Desiray Roy, Lorraine Rudolph, Hillary Sproul,  
Gwen Tatro, Ann Wittman

Master Electrician  
Electricians  
Properties Supervisor  
Properties Construction

Nick Cyr  
Lighting Practicum  
Calien Lewis  
Alex Kopack, Brady Kuech,  
Monica Morrison, Ryan Nash

## Production Crew

Deck Crew  
Wardrobe  
Light Board Operator  
Sound Board Operator  
Video Operator

Brian Haris  
Alison Berry, Janelle Losciuto, Michal-Lynne Merriol  
Courtney True  
Holly Nash  
Steph Smith

## Administrative Staff

Executive Director, Public Affairs  
Arts Events Director  
Administrative Assistant  
Administrative Interim Assistant  
Graphic Design  
Box Office Managers  
House Manager  
Program  
Proof Reader

Bob Caswell  
Emmanuelle Chaulet  
Lil Campbell  
Shirley Turgeon  
Leigh Raposo, Jake MacGillivray  
Ashleigh St. Pierre, Heather Green  
Maia Turlo  
Linnea Bradshaw  
Jack Fossett

## Artistic Staff Biographies

### Dr. Walter Stump - Director

Walter Stump has directed over 120 productions on educational, community and professional levels. He has directed shows in several states, countries and major cities including New York, London and Paris. He has been honored by USM with the Distinguished Scholar in the Performing Arts Award and by the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival. His USM production of the original musical *Gynt* was performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. KC/ACTF also awarded him its Gold Medal for Excellence. He was the former Chair of the New England Region of that organization and later became The Chair of Chairs on a national level. Dr. Stump was named a member of the KC/ACTF national adjudication team. He has been honored by the National Forensics Association for his contributions to Intercollegiate Forensics. Dr. Stump has been a member of the faculty of the International Readers Theatre Institute for several years and in 2005 was appointed Director of the organization. He is a prize winning playwright. His plays have been produced at the University and Community level with productions in Maine, Louisiana, California and Nevada. His play, *Cactus Charlie's Saloon*, was performed by professional actors at the prestigious Neighborhood Playhouse in New York City in a sponsored stage reading. Walter Stump has written two books on theatre history and several articles. An active theatre historian, he is considered an expert in English theatrical censorship and has written articles on ancient Greek theatre. He has traveled extensively in Greece and has submitted requests for excavations at the ancient theatre of Argos.

### Raphael DiLuzio - Media Designer/Guest Artist

Born in 1960 on the coast of California and beginning formal studies of art at the age of nine, Raphael earned a BFA in painting from CSU Long Beach and an MFA from Cornell and the University of Pennsylvania. Diluzio began working with digital technology for creative expression in the 90's, later developing digital time-based projected painting. He is currently a Professor of New Media at the University of Maine at Orono.

### Brian Hapcic - Scenic / Lighting Designer

Brian is a Professor of Lighting and Sound Design at The University of Southern Maine. He holds a BA in English from Ohio University, and a MFA in Design and Technology from The University of Montana. Recent production credits include work with Maine State Music Theatre and The Montana Repertory Theatre.

### Jodi Ozimek - Costume Designer

Jodi is an Assistant Professor of Theatre at the University of Southern Maine. Select USM credits include: *Blood Brothers*, *Arms and the Man*, *The Magic Flute*, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, *The*

*Laramie Project*, *Shakuntala*, and *Company*. Other select credits include *Lobby Hero* (Portland Stage Company), *South Pacific* (Maine State Music Theatre), *Gypsy* (Texas Star Theatre), *Enchanted April* (The Good Theatre) and *The Ugly Duckling* (Add Verb Productions). Jodi served as assistant costume designer for American Players Theatre in Spring Green, Wisconsin on *Cymbeline*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Cherry Orchard* and *Hamlet*. She received her B.A. in theatre from Michigan State University and her M.F.A. in costume design from Purdue University.

**Erik Moody - Sound Designer**

Erik is a senior hailing from Saco. He sound designed *November/December* in the Fall of '04, *How I Learned to Drive* in the Fall of '05, and *A Night of David Ives* in the Spring of '06 here at USM

**Kris Hall - Costume Shop Director**

Kris is returning for her fifth season in the costume shop after a summer in residence at the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. This spring, a costume she designed was featured at the Maine College of Art graduation ceremony (worn by MECA president Bill Dill). This fall, she has designed costumes for the season opening production of *The Nerd* at the Public Theatre in Lewiston, and has a sculpture in the show *The Inspired Hand III* at USM Lewiston-Auburn College Atrium Gallery. Kris received her BA from USM, and an MFA in Studio Art from Maine College of Art.

**Matt Meeds - Technical Director**

Matthew Meeds joined the Department in September of 2000. Matthew came to us from the local theatre community where he has worked at the Mad Horse Theatre, the Public Theatre, and the Theatre at Monmouth, as well as "away" theaters such as George Street Playhouse in NJ, Syracuse Stage, and Pennsylvania Center Stage. Most recently he designed the set for the production of *The Effects of Gamma Rays on Man-In-the-Moon Marigolds*.

**Kristin P. Kurz - Production Stage Manager**

Kristin Kurz is a senior theatre major, concentrating in stage management. Her credits include: *The Second Annual Chester Horn Short Play Festival* (Medicine Show Theatre NY, NY), *Blood Brothers* (USM Main Stage), KCACTF Irene Ryan Competition, *How I Learned To Drive* (USM St. Lawrence), *All My Sons* (Schoolhouse), *November/December* (USM St. Lawrence), USM's *Ten Minute Play Festival* 2004-2006, *Once On This Island* (USM Black Box), and *South Pacific* (Spring Lake Theatre, NJ). She is the Production Manager for USM's season, while also stage managing *The Servant of Two Masters* and *Urinetown*, in the spring.

**Calien Lewis - Properties Supervisor**

Calien grew up in Louisville, Kentucky. Writing credits include: *The Rape of the Locked*, a script adapted from other sources; scripts produced at USM, *Scat Song*, a ten-minute play presented by SPA and *Goin' to Graceland*. She served as dramaturg for USM's *The Magic Flute*, and *Arms and the Man*, assistant director for *Blood Brothers*, and lecturer for PORTopera's *Carmen* and *Don Giovanni*.

**Cast Biographies**

**Mary Bastoni - Dora Strang**

Mary is a junior music performance major from Fryeburg, Maine and studies voice with Ellen Chickering. Recent theatrical experiences include: "Shirley Valentine" in *Shirley Valentine* at M&D Productions Summer 2006, "Queen of the Night" in the *Magic Flute* at USM, Spring 2005, "Maggie" in *Dancing at Lughnesa*, Resort Players at The Eastern Slope Playhouse 2004, "Cigarette Girl/Town person" in *Carmen*, PortOpera summer 2005, and directing the Summer Musical Theatre Workshops at the Schoolhouse Arts Center and Denmark Arts Center. Mary is interested in composition and is a member of the composers ensemble and a yoga instructor.

**Kate Caouette - Nurse**

Kate is a senior in the USM theatre department. Her previous credits include the role of a chorus woman in Euripedes' *Medea* at the University of Maine at Farmington and "Raina Petkoff" in last fall's USM production of George Bernard Shaw's *Arms and the Man*, for which she received a 2006 KCACTF Irene Ryan nomination. She is delighted to be working with such a talented cast and crew and would like to thank her family and friends for all of their continued support.

**Ian Carlsen - Alan Strang**

Ian is a junior theater major. Past shows at USM include the title role in *Lysistrata*., *Six Characters in Search of an Author* "Ian Carlsen", and *The Shape of Things* "Adam". Shows elsewhere include: *The Cripple of Innishman* "Cripple Billy", *The Playboy of the Western World* "Shawn Keogh", *Titus Andronicus* "Demitrius", *Our Town* "George Gibbs" and *Twelfth Night* "Malvolio".



**John Coons - Martin Dysart**

John, of Corinna, Maine, is a senior music education/classical performance major at USM. His past roles include "George Antrobus" in *Skin of our Teeth* and "Monostatos" in USM's production of Mozart's *The Magic Flute*. This summer, he was named as one of the Maine Emerging Artists with the Portland Opera and played the role of "Calandrino" in their production of *L'Oca del Cairo*.

**Daniel Goldstein - Harry Dalton**

Daniel, of Nashua, NH, is a senior theatre major focusing on directing. He assistant directed the spring's *Student Written One-Acts*, assistant stage managed *How I Learned to Drive* and *The Magic Flute* and last performed at USM in *Six Characters in Search of an Author*. He hopes to soon direct again minus the "assistant" part

**Lindsey Higgins - Horse**

Lindsey is a graduating theatre major focusing primarily on directing. Past credits include direction of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and the student written *End of the World, Missouri*. She acted in such shows as *Macbeth* and *Camino Real*. Thank you to all involved.

**Jesse Leighton - Horse**

This is Jesse's first Main Stage performance, and he's thrilled to be here. Theatre patrons might have also seen him recently as "Paul" in *Paul and His Mom* for Acorn Productions, and the nefarious "Chiron" in *Titus Andronicus* for Two Lights Theatre Ensemble.

**Ryan Nash - Horse**

Ryan is a freshman at The University of Southern Maine. *Equus* will be his first performance here. He has performed in other shows such as *Our Town*, *Les Miserables*, *The Madwoman of Challiot*, and many more. He can also be seen in the late October performance of *Titanic* and *Dance USM!* in December.

**Mia Perron - Hesther Salomon**

Mia is a senior(ish) theatre major from Windham, Maine. She takes pride in participating in all aspects of theatre, including writing the Main Stage One-Act, *Layers of Love*; stage managing SPA's *A Night of David Ives*; costume designing for *Dance USM!* as well as acting as "Li'l Bit" in *How I Learned to Drive*, "Myhrinna" in *Lysistrata* (Irene Ryan Nomination) and "Kim" in *Purple Breasts* (2nd Cast Two Lights). Mia would like to thank her family and friends for their love and support.

**Autum Rose - Jill Mason**

Autumn is currently a junior theatre major at USM. Past USM roles include "Step daughter" in main stage production of *Six Characters in Search of an Author* and "Helena" in SPA's production of

*A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She would like to thank the cast and crew who created such an amazing experience.

**Jessica Savory - Horse/Trooper**

Jessica, from Methuen, Massachusetts, is a junior theater major with a business minor. With USM: *Six Characters in Search of an Author* (deck crew), *The Magic Flute* (deck crew), *Lysistrata* "Female Slave", *Fantasies Come True* "Deidre", *The Good, The Bad, & The Wilde* (ASM), *Arms and the Man* (head of prop design and construction), *Love and (Just Romance)* "Lillian" (understudy), *Dance USM!* (stage manager) *Dance USM!* winter (choreographer, dancer) *A Coming of Age Tale With Food* "Brussel Sprout". With Portland Players: *Annie* "Annette", "Woman 3/4", "Perkins", "Dancer", "Chorus", "Boylan Sister" (understudy).

**Gary A Thayer - Horse**

Gary is a 4th year theatre major. Last year he transferred from the university of Maine at Farmington where he performed in shows such as *The Fantasicks*, *House of Blue Leaves*, and *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. This is his first on stage performance here at USM.

**Brianna Thiviege - Nugget**

Brianna is a theatre major at USM. This is her Sophomore year.

**Jeffrey Toombs - Frank Strang.**

Jeffrey is a sophomore theatre major from Cape Cod, Massachusetts. This is his third appearance on the USM Main Stage following his performances as "Mr. Lyons" in *Blood Brothers* this past spring and "Major Petkoff" in *Arms and the Man* last fall. Jeffrey also enjoys working for the USM Department of Theatre as a carpenter and electrician.

**Casey Turner - Horse**

Casey got her start in theatre seven years ago at the Oddfellow Theatre in her home town of Buckfield, Maine. Casey apprenticed with theater owner and local performer, Michael Miclon, for four years. From there she's worked at the Celebration Barn Theater as Head Technician and at the Theater at Monmouth as the House Manager/Volunteer Coordinator. Casey is ecstatic to be back on stage in her sophomore year at USM.

**Production Staff****Nick Cyr - Assistant Lighting Design**

Nick is a Junior theatre major at the University of Southern Maine. He was recently seen on stage in SPA's 2006 production of *A Night with David Ives*, in which he received the KCACTF Irene Ryan nomination. Last spring he was one of the co-lighting designers for *Dance USM!*, and is very excited for this opportunity to design again. He would like

to thank his family and friends for their continued support.

**Kate Law - Horse Head Designer/Construction**

Kate is a senior Theater major graduating in the spring. This is her second main stage design, and is glad to be working with the department once again. Her prior design credits include, *How I Learned to Drive*, *A Night with David Ives*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Shape of Things*, and several *Dance USM!* productions. She would like to thank her Mom and Dad for all their love and support.

**Hillary Sproul - Assistant Costume Design**

Hillary is a junior media studies major, with a minor in theatre. This is her first production as a costume design assistant at USM. She has worked in the costume shop for the past two years, constructing costumes for productions such as *Dance USM!* and *Arms and the Man*. Hillary is looking forward to designing for the upcoming *Dance USM!* production in December.

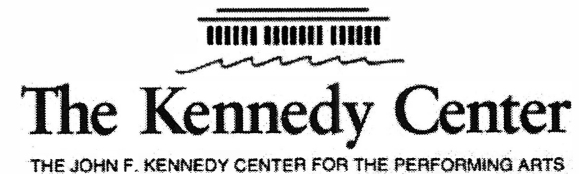
**Michele Lee - Assistant Scenic Design**

Michele is a junior theatre major at USM and this is her first time as assistant scenic designer. Michele has primarily focused on acting throughout her career and has appeared in numerous professional productions, most recently as "Rosalind" in *As You Like It*, "Susan" in *Purple Breasts*, and in an off-off Broadway festival this past summer. She has also appeared onstage at USM in *Lysistrata* and *The Good, The Bad The Wilde*, as well as assistant directing *Blood Brothers*. Michele would like to thank Brian for his wonderful guidance and opportunity to design.

**Colin Whitely - Assistant Sound Design**

Colin is a sophomore theatre major at USM. This is his first time working with sound design and he hopes to continue working in sound design as well as acting for the rest of his college career.

*Please visit our website:*  
[www.usm.maine.edu/theatre](http://www.usm.maine.edu/theatre)



The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival  
XXXIX

sponsored in part by

Stephen and Christine Schwarzman  
The Kennedy Center Corporate Fund  
U.S. Department of Education  
The National Committee for the Performing Arts  
and Dr. and Mrs. Gerald McNichols

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 2007.

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.

# USM Theatre

2006-2007 Season

**October 6-15** *For mature audiences*  
**Equus**

by Peter Shaffer; Walter Stump, director

**November 10-19**

**The Servant of Two Masters**

by Carlos Goldoni; Wil Kilroy, director

**December 14-17** Annual Concert

**Dance USM!**

Maria Tzianabos, artistic director

**February 15-18**

One act plays by student playwrights

**Human at Heart** by Stacy Ann Strang

**Heavenly Match** by Jack Fossett

Assunta Kent, director

**March 16-25** *Reservations required*

**URINETOWN: The Musical**

book/lyrics by Greg Kotis

music/lyrics by Mark Hollman

Edward Reichert, director

**April 20-29** *For mature audiences*

**The Mandrake**

by Niccolo Machiavelli

William Steele, director

Saint Lawrence Arts and Community

Center, 76 Congress Street, Portland

**Russell Hall, USM Gorham campus**  
unless otherwise noted

Shows at 7:30 p.m., except Wednesday  
and Sunday 5 p.m. matinees

**Box Office: 780-5151.** Tickets on sale  
one month before each show.

\$12 general; \$5 students; \$8 senior citizens/USM faculty/staff

**URINETOWN:**

\$15 / \$10 / \$5

Season pass \$35

6 shows



UNIVERSITY OF  
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## USM School of Music Fall 2006 50th Anniversary Concerts and Special Events

Corthell Concert Hall, Gorham Campus  
unless otherwise noted

**Complete Brandenburg Concertos**

• Friday, September 29, 7:00 p.m.

Rockport Opera House, Rockport

*Sponsored by Down East Magazine*

• Sunday October 1, 2 p.m.,

Abromson C.E. Center, Portland campus

*Sponsored by Maxine L. Wright*

**USM Concert Band at Homecoming**

• Saturday, September 30, 1 p.m.

*Sponsored by Aramark*

**Laura Kargul in Concert**

• Friday, October 13, 8 p.m.

*Sponsored by Gorham Savings Bank*

• Sunday, October 15, 3 p.m.

*Sponsored by Gateway Mastering Studio*

• Friday, October 20, 8 pm.

*Benefit for breast cancer research*

**Titanic: The Musical**

• Friday-Sunday, October 27-29

*Sponsored by Saco & Biddeford Savings Institution*

**Quartet for the End of Time**

• Friday, November 3, 8 p.m.

*Sponsored by Dahlia and Arthur Handman*

**USM Youth Ensembles**

• Wednesday, November 15, 7:30 p.m.

Merrill Auditorium, Portland

*Sponsored by IDEXX*

**Joyous Sounds for a Festive Season**

• Tuesday, November 28, 7:30 p.m.

*Sponsored by Time Warner Cable*

**So. Maine Symphony Orchestra**

• Saturday, November 4, 8 p.m.

*Sponsored by Norway Savings Bank*

**Annual Holiday Scholarship Gala**

• Friday, December 1, 6-10 p.m.

Abromson C. E. Center, Portland

Reservations: 780-5003

*Sponsored by Portland Volvo and*

*Portland Saab*

**Box office 780-5555**

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