

3-2006

Blood Brothers Program

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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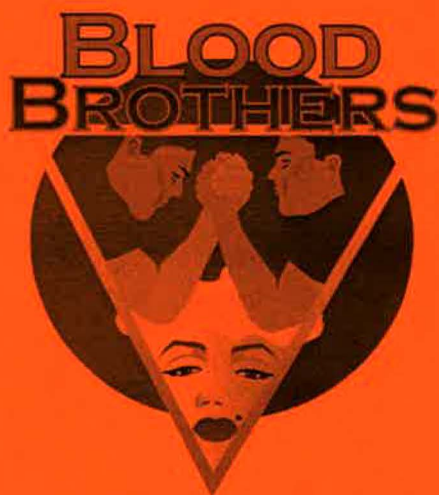
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UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE

Department of Theatre and School of Music present



A Musical
Book, Music and Lyrics
by **Willy Russell**

directed by **Wil Kilroy**
musical director **Edward Reichert**

March 17 to 26, 2006
Main Stage, Russell Hall
USM Gorham Campus

Sponsored by Drs. John and Elizabeth Serrage

A Message from the Theatre Department Chair:

Welcome to the USM Department of Theatre and School of Music's collaborative production of *Blood Brothers*. Tonight's performance highlights a tradition that began over 15 years ago. The collaboration between Theatre and Music began humbly with productions of a musical or opera staged every other year. We now not only collaborate on a fully produced musical theatre production each year, but jointly offer a new major with an emphasis in Musical Theatre Performance. My special thanks to those members of Music and Theatre who have made this an extremely rewarding endeavor over the years.

The USM Department of Theatre continues to boast the most comprehensive theatre program in the state, offering a broad educational foundation in the art and craft of producing and managing theater to nearly 100 Theatre Majors. In addition, students with other majors participate in Theatre classes and performances. In this way they are introduced to theatre skills that relate to a broad spectrum of non-theatre subjects.

Your attendance at our productions is an important facet of the educational process for our students and support for our program. We thank you for your patronage. You may also support our program and students through the sponsorship of a seat here in Russell Hall. Many supporters have done so, and their names are permanently affixed to the seats in their honor. If you are interested in sponsoring a seat, please call the Department of Theatre office at 780-5480 for more information.

Thank you again for being here, and enjoy the show!

Charles S. Kading, Department of Theatre Chair

Director's Note:

Blood Brothers was first produced in Liverpool, where the action of this musical takes place, and then transferred to London, in 1983. The show closed after a short run, but was revived in 1988, and has been playing ever since, currently at The Phoenix Theatre in London's West End. *Blood Brothers* also played Broadway in 1993, and has featured noted performers such as Petula Clark, Carole King, David Cassidy, and Russell Crowe. Author Willy Russell was born just outside Liverpool, and had a career as a ladies hairdresser before becoming a successful writer. Two of his other theatre creations were made into films which you might recognize, *Educating Rita* and *Shirley Valentine*.

Not only does this production provide comedic, dramatic, and musical challenges for our students, but it also revolves around a very contemporary issue, that of the 'haves' vs. the 'have-nots', or simply referred to in the play as class. Can money buy happiness? Can honesty save lives? When does a friendship turned romance become dangerous? Are all superstitions unfounded? Do we all have free will or can fate intervene? Perhaps these characters will provide some answers... or maybe just inspire more questions!

Wil Kilroy, Director

Blood Brothers

by Willy Russell

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French Inc.

Director
Musical Director/Conductor
Choreography
Scenic Design
Costume Design
Lighting Design
Sound Design

Wil Kilroy
Edward Reichert
Janelle LoSciuto
Charles S. Kading
Jodi Ozimek
Brian Hapcic
Ian Carlsen

Cast

Mrs. Johnstone
Narrator
Mickey
Eddie
Mrs. Lyons
Mr. Lyons
Linda
Sammy
Miss Jones
Donna Marie
Ensemble

Alexandra Dietrich
Erik Moody
Jason Edward Cook
Jared M. Poulin
Sara Beth Johnson-Berz
Jeffrey Toombs
Michelle Sawyer
Derrick Jaques
Caitlin Kelty-Huber
Alexis R.D. Handy
Ashley Christy, Joe Coppellotti, Travis M. Grant,
Alexis Handy, Slaney Rose Jordan, Caitlin Kelty-Huber,
Ryan Mack, Ethan Selby

Understudies

Mrs. Johnstone
Narrator, Edward
Mrs. Lyons, Linda
Mr. Lyons
Sammy
Miss Jones
Mickey

Slaney Rose Jordan
Derrick Jaques
Caitlin Kelty-Huber
Travis M. Grant
Joe Coppellotti
Ashley Christy
Jeffrey Toombs

Orchestra

Ben Heller, Dan Burgess, and Edward Reichert, *keyboards*
Mary Vaillancourt, *violin*
Matt Lagarde, *trumpet*
Kyle Hardy, *saxophone*
Andy Robbins, *drums*

Setting

Liverpool, England, 1960's -1980's

There will be a fifteen minute intermission.

Warnings: This show contains gunfire and adult language.

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.

Artistic Staff

Assistant Director	Michele Lee, Calien Lewis
Dramaturg	Gary Thayer
Assistant Choreographer	Derrick Jaques

Production Staff

Stage Manager	Kristin P. Kurz
Assistant Stage Managers	Amy Demas, Joelle Clingerman
Technical Director	Matthew Meeds
Costume Director	Kris Hall
Stitchers	Pheak (Pete) Chreang, Joelle Clingerman, Catherine Goetschius, Slaney Rose Jordan, Kate Law Daniel Lawrence, Michelle Leeman, Jenalee Marsters, Alexis Pappas, Chatfar Rodney, Sarah Saidon, Brooke Woodard, Donald Zaluski and Costume Lab
Master Electrician	Corey Anderson
Properties Supervisor	Heather Crocker
Properties Construction	Heather Crocker, Mara Turlo, Crys Worden

Production Crew

Deck Crew	Joshua Adams, Heather Scammon
Wardrobe Head	Cate Goetschius
Wardrobe	Jennifer Stowbridge, Michael Wayne, Jeff Provencher, Brianna Thivierge
Light Board Operator	Jesse Leighton
Sound Board Operator	Ian Carlsen
Props Run Crew	Natalie Ordway, Kim Drisko
Follow Spot Operators	Jules Michaud, David Johnson

Administrative Staff

Arts Promotions Director	Dennis Kouba
Arts Events Director	Emmanuelle Chaulet
Administrative Assistant	Lil Campbell
Box Office Manager	Heather Green
House Manager	Heather Kincaid, Jason Giacomazzo
Lobby Display	Gary Thayer
Graphic Design	Leigh Raposo
Program	Linnea Bradshaw

Cast Biographies

Alexandra Dietrich - Mrs. Johnstone

Alexandra is a junior musical theatre/music education major from Freeport, ME. Past USM roles include "Eve" in *Children of Eden*, "Asaka" in *Once on This Island*, and "Mrs. Taylor" in *Bat Boy*. Alexandra is also a member of the USM Chamber Singers. Her family gives her unceasing strength and joy, for which she is truly grateful.

Erik Moody - Narrator

Erik is a junior theatre major from Saco, Maine. This is his first musical at USM. Recent stage appearances include USM's *The Good, The Bad and The Wilde*, for which he received a nomination for KCACTF's Irene Ryan acting competition and *The Laramie Project* which toured the KCACTF Festival.

Michelle Sawyer - Linda

Michelle is a sophomore sociology major with a music minor. A pianist and vocalist, she has been studying music since the age of five. She enjoys keeping both music and theatre as important aspects of her life and stays active by teaching and performing. She studies voice with Judith James.

Jason Edward Cook - Mickey

Jason is a senior musical theatre major from Pittsfield, ME. Past USM Shows: *Cabaret*: "M.C." (Irene Ryan), *Bat Boy*: "Bat Boy", *The Laramie Project*, *Songs For A New World*, *Children Of Eden*: "Cain", *november/december*: "Seth" (Irene Ryan), *Company*: "David", *A Midsummer Night's Dream*: "Quince". Favorite Past Shows: *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*: "Hero", *Chicago*, *Mary Sunshine*, *Lost In Yonkers*: "Jay", *Footloose*: "Ren". This year Jason won both the Maine and Boston NATS Musical Theatre Competitions.

Jared M. Poulin - Edward

Jared is a sophomore musical theatre major from Waterville, Maine. Past credits include a Performance Internship at the Maine State Music Theatre, "Skimbleshanks", *Cats*, "Jr. Babcock", *Mame*, "Marine", *Miss Saigon*, "Aladdin", *Disney's Aladdin Jr.*, as well as several performances at USM, including "Adam" in *Children of Eden*, and "Ton-Ton" in *Once on This Island*. Elsewhere he has played "Riff", *West Side Story*, and "Ren", *Footloose*. Much love to his family and friends.

Derrick Jaques - Sammy

Derrick is a sophomore musical theatre major from Windham. Productions at USM include "Daniel" in *Once on This Island*, "Adam" in *Children of Eden* and a slave in *The Magic Flute*. Other favorite roles include "Jesus" in *Godspell* and "Linus" in *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*.

Jeffrey Toombs - Mr. Lyons

Jeffrey is a freshman theatre major at USM from Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Last semester he appeared as Maj. Petkoff in *Arms and the Man*, for which he was an alternate for the 2006 KCACTF Irene Ryan Competition. Jeffrey also works as an electrician and carpenter for various USM Department of Theatre productions.

Alexis R. D. Handy - Donna Marie

Alexis, a sophomore musical theatre major is delighted to be performing her second main stage show. She was seen last year in *The Magic Flute* and most recently in *By Rodgers!* at the School of Music. Favorite roles include "Andrea" in *Once on This Island* and a Hot Box Girl in *Guys and Dolls*.

Sara Johnson-Berz - Mrs. Lyons

Sara is a senior musical theatre major from Limestone, Maine, "The County" She performed recently in PORTopera's *Carmen* at Merrill Auditorium. Sara has also appeared in USM's *By Rodgers!* (musical theatre review), *The Magic Flute*, *Children of Eden*, *Company*, *Bat Boy*, *Trial By Jury*, *Carrie* (staged reading), and *Songs For A New World*. She would like to thank her family, friends, and boyfriend Matt for all their love and support.

Slaney Rose Jordan - Ensemble

Slaney, a sophomore, musical theatre major, was most recently seen in USM's production of *How I Learned to Drive*, in which she played the Female Greek Chorus. Past roles outside of USM include "Pitti-Sing" in *The Mikado*, "Gladys" in *The Pajama Game*, "Addaperle" in *The Wiz*, "Gloria" in *The Mouse That Roared*, and "Lorraine Sheldon" in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*.

Travis M. Grant - Ensemble

Travis is a freshman theatre major from Waldoboro, ME. His previous roles include: "Schmendiman", *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*; Featured Soloist *Mr. Melodysmaker*; "Lamaar", *Godspell*; "Benny Southstreet", *Guys & Dolls*, "Sid", *The Pajama Game*, "Tin Man", *The Wizard of Oz*; (Waldo Theatre), "Warbucks," *Annie*; *The Laramie Project* (State Premiere) (Girl Power Productions). Costume Design for: USM SPA, Waldo Theatre, Duke University / CSC, Epic Theater Center of NY.

Ashley Christy - Ensemble

Ashley is a freshman musical theatre major. She has been in many shows, playing many roles, since she was a young child ranging from *The Velveteen Rabbit* to "Mrs. Walker" in *Tommy*. Performing has always been one of the most important things in her life. She is excited to be here at USM, working with these talented students and for this opportunity to better learn her craft.

Ryan Mack - Ensemble

Ryan is a freshman from Houlton, ME. This is Ryan's first main stage show at USM. He is a musical theatre major seen earlier this semester in *By Rodgers!*

Ethan Selby - Ensemble

Ethan, a freshman theatre major, has been on stage since he was a newsboy at age nine in the production *Working*. He acted for nine years at Andy's Summer Playhouse in Wilton, NH, and all four years at Convai High. As a freshman at USM he played various roles in *Under Milkwood* and "Son" in *WASP*. He is ecstatic to be in the ensemble of *Blood Brothers*.

Director's Biography

Wil Kilroy is currently a theatre professor at the University of Southern Maine, and director of the Michael Chekhov Theatre Institute for actors and teachers, and the USM Theatre Academy for 13-18 year olds. As an actor Wil has appeared in a variety of local roles including Snowy Eagle in *Tammy and Billy-Bob's Wedding*, which he co-created and directed, Michael in *Tony 'N Tina's Wedding*, Hucklebee in *The Fantasticks*, and numerous other roles in theatres from New York to California, including this summer's *The Last Meal* in San Francisco. For TV he's appeared for *Norway Savings Bank*, *Maine Tax Amnesty*, "Release HD", and *Vivarex*, with other appearances including an alien on *Babylon 5*.

Credits as a director range from *The Boys Next Door* to *Nunsense* to *Cabaret*, and recently he assisted Broadway director Glenn Casale on an L.A. production of *Into the Woods*. Wil's productions of *The Laramie Project*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Everything Sprite*, and *Purple Breasts* were chosen for competition in the Kennedy Center's New England festivals, with *Sprite* also chosen for performance at New York's Village Gate and *Purple Breasts* chosen to perform in Washington, D.C. for the National Breast Cancer Conference.

Wil has been the recipient of a Kennedy Center scholarship and a bronze medallion, the Moss Hart Award, an MEA Award, and USM's Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award. He studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Art, Michael Chekhov Studio, and National Shakespeare Conservatory in New York, and holds theatre degrees from the University of Rhode Island and the University of Illinois.

Artistic Staff Biographies**Edward Reichert - musical director**

Edward is a member of the Artist Faculty in the School of Music where he works as the musical theater vocal coach. His USM credits include: *By Rodgers!*, *Children Of Eden*, *Bat Boy*, *Songs For A New World*, *Company* and *Cabaret*. He's looking forward to directing *URINETOWN: The Musical* in Russell Hall next spring. Regional/Stock credits: Walnut Street Theatre, North

Shore Music Theatre, Ogunquit Playhouse, Portland Stage Company, Seacoast Repertory Theatre, Maine State Music Theatre and Florida Repertory Theatre. As a member of Actors' Equity, he has appeared opposite Lucie Arnaz and Rosemary Prince in productions of *Master Class*. He has guest directed, taught or performed at CSU (Sacramento), SUNY (Purchase), PACE University (Lincoln Center), The Aaron Copland School of Music (Queens College/CUNY) and St. Joseph's College. He has returned as a vocal coach to UNH (Durham) this semester, where his production of *Blood Brothers* was a Semi-Finalist entry in the New England ACTF competition 5 years ago. Upcoming: *Nunsensations!* (Stoneham Theatre) *Grease* (Kansas City Starlight Theater) and *Cinderella* (NSMT).

Charles S. Kading - Scenic Designer

Charles has taught design and stagecraft at USM for 25 years. His professional credits include *Titanic*, *Hans Christian Andersen*, *Ragtime*, and *Scarlet Pimpernel* for Maine State Music Theatre; *Big River*, *My Fair Lady*, *She Loves Me*, *Cabaret*, and *Annie* for Philadelphia's Walnut Street Theater; *Noises Off!* and *Blithe Spirit* at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival. He worked extensively at The Alley Theater in Houston where his credits include the US premiere of Alan Ayckbourne's *Henceforward*. Charles has also designed scenery for the Seattle Repertory Theatre, Intiman Theatre, Cabaret Repertory Theatre and Portland Stage. He is currently chair of the Theatre Department.

Jodi Ozimek - Costume Designer

Jodi is an Assistant Professor of Theatre at the University of Southern Maine. Select USM credits include: *The Magic Flute*, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, *The Laramie Project*, *Shakuntala*, and *Company*. Other credits include *Gypsy* (Texas Star Theatre), *The Ugly Duckling* (Add Verb Productions), *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Side Man*, and *Candida* (Purdue University), *Lobby Hero* (Portland Stage Company), *Deathtrap* (Lewiston Public Theatre). Upcoming costume designs are *South Pacific* (Maine State Musical Theatre) and *Enchanted April* (The Good Theatre) She received her B.A. in theatre from Michigan State University and her M.F.A. in costume design from Purdue University.

Brian Hapcic - Lighting Designer

Brian Hapcic joined the faculty at USM last year, relocating from a position at the University of Southern Mississippi. He holds a BA in English from Ohio University, and an MFA in Design and Technology from the University of Montana. His specialties are lighting and sound.

Janelle LoSciuto - Choreographer

Janelle, of Windham, Maine, is a senior musical theater and voice performance major at USM. Last spring she appeared in the main stage production of Mozart's *Magic Flute* as the first spirit. This past summer Janelle was an intern at PORTopera and appeared in their production of *Carmen* at

Merrill auditorium. Janelle also teaches musical theater voice and dance at Southern Maine Academy of Music and Dance and Center Stage for the performing Arts. Her favorite musical theater roles include "Ariel" in *Footloose*, "Maria" in *West Side Story*, "Ann" in *1940s Radio Hour*, and "Philia" in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. This May, Janelle will be playing the role of Louise in Portland Players production of *Gypsy*.

Kris Hall - Costume Director

Kris is happy to be part of a fourth season as Costume Shop Director. She has recently designed costumes for the Lewiston Public Theater and Maine State Music Theatre. She is currently pursuing an MFA in Studio Art at Maine College of Art. Also, Kris's costume designs can be seen in the film *Mr. Barrington*, now available at your local video store.

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 Effects of Gamma Rays on Man-In-the-Moon Marigolds*, and for last fall's *The Good, The Bad and the Wilde*.

Crew Biographies

Michele Lee - Assistant Director

Michele is a sophomore theatre major and this is her first time as Assistant Director. She has previously performed in two main stage shows: *Lysistrata* and *The Good, The Bad, and The Wilde* (Irene Ryan alternate). Other credits include performances at The Stage at Spring Point, Portland Stage Company, The Children's Theatre of Maine, and The Studio Theatre, as well as local voice-overs, commercials, and an independent film.

Calien Lewis - Assistant Director

Calien Lewis 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 *Going to Graceland*. She served as dramaturg for USM's *The Magic Flute* and *Arms and the Man*, and lecturer for PORTopera's *Carmen*.

Gary A. Thayer - Dramaturg

Gary, of Newcastle, ME, is a third year transfer student from the University of Maine at Farmington, but is delighted with his transition to USM and his chance to try his hand at dramaturgy.

Kristin Kurz - Stage Manager

Kristin is a junior theatre major focusing in stage management. Her past credits include, *How I Learned to Drive*, *All My Sons*, *november/december*, *Once on this Island* and *South Pacific*. She was a stage manager for the 2006 KACTF Irene Ryan competition in Massachusetts.

Amy Demas - Assistant Stage Manager

Amy is a sophomore theatre major, concentrating in theatre design, from Kingston, Massachusetts. She has been involved in theatre both as an actress and crew member for most of her life. Past crew credits include: dresser for *Lysistrata* and light board operator for *The Good, The Bad, and the Wilde*. She is thrilled to be assistant stage managing *Blood Brothers* and would like to thank her friends, family, and professors for their endless support.

Joelle Clingerman - Assistant Stage Manager

Joelle is a sophomore theatre major from Orono, Maine. Her past productions have been; *How I Learned to Drive* and *The Good The Bad and The Wilde*. She will be a featured costume designer for *Dance USM!* this season.

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~ \$150 per seat. ~

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**USM Department
of Theatre**

Winter/Spring 2006 Shows

February 16-19

One Acts

written by USM student playwrights
directed by Assunta Kent

7:30 p.m., Feb. 16, 17, and 18
5 p.m., Feb. 19

March 17-26

Blood Brothers

by Willy Russell

directed by Wil Kilroy
musical director Edward Reichert

Collaboration with the School of Music

7:30 p.m., March 17, 18, 23, 24, 25
5 p.m., March 19, 22, and 26

*Winner of the Olivier Award for Best
Musical in London*

April 27-April 30, 2006

Dance USM!

directed by Maria Tzianabos

7:30 p.m., April 27, 28, and 29
5 p.m., April 30

Original, colorful, energetic

**Tickets on sale one month before
each show.**

\$12 general; \$5 students;

\$8 senior citizens/USM faculty/staff

Season passes \$35

Musical Blood Brothers: \$15 general;
\$10 senior citizens/USM faculty/staff;
\$5 students

Reservations: 780-5151

Russell Hall, USM Gorham campus



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE

Mark your Calendars!

2005-2006

USM Faculty Concert Series

Corthell Hall, Gorham campus*

September 30

Stolen Jewels

Thomas Parchman, Ardith Keel, Allison Hale,
and Chris Lewis

Sponsored by Gorham Savings Bank

October 28

The French Connection

David Goulet and Aaron Robinson

Sponsored by RBC/Dain Rauscher

November 18

Follow the Lieder

Christina Astrachan, Bruce Fithian,
and Beaumont Glass

Sponsored by Filene's

November 29

**Joyous Sounds for a
Festive Season**

The USM Chamber Singers
conducted by Robert Russell;
Immanuel Baptist Church, Portland
Sponsored by Time Warner Cable of Maine

December 2

Home for the Holidays

USM School of Music's gala scholarship benefit;

Brooks Student Center, Gorham

Sponsored by Portland Volvo and Portland Subaru

January 27

Jazz Guitar and Tuba!

Gary Wittner and Howard Johnson

Sponsored by KeyBank

March 10

West Coast Jazz

Chris Oberholtzer, Trent Austin, Bill Street,
Ryan Parker, Gary Wittner, Broniek Suchanek,
and Les Harris, Jr.

Sponsored by ARAMARK

April 21

A Spring Travelogue

William Rounds

Sponsored by Northeast Delta Dental

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* All concerts held at Corthell Hall unless otherwise noted



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE



**The Kennedy Center American College
Theater Festival™**

XXXIX

**Presented and Produced by
The John F. Kennedy Center for the
Performing Arts**

Supported in Part by
**The Kennedy Center Corporate Fund
The US Department of Education
Delta Airlines**

**The National Committee for the
Performing Arts**

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, 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.