
Programs 2011-2012 Season

Theatre Programs 2010-2020

Fall 11-2011

Don't Ask, Don't Tell Program [2011]

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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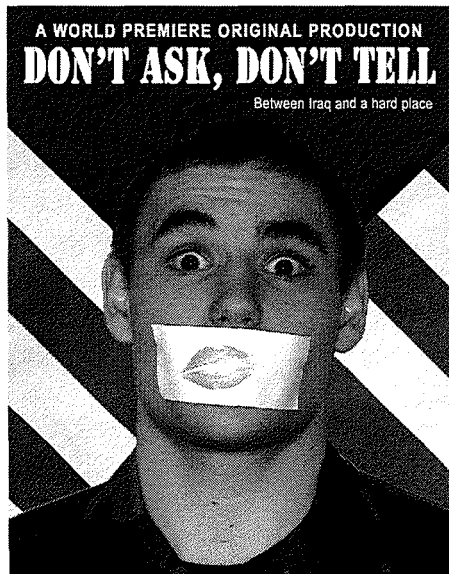
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UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE

Department of Theatre presents



Don't Ask, Don't Tell

Written and Directed by Wil Kilroy

Devised with the Cast

November 10-13, 2011

**The Studio at Portland Stage
25 A Forest Avenue, Portland**

Directors Notes

Having read stories about the travesties that devastated individual lives as a result of the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, I was intrigued with how this policy operated. Then I saw the movie, "Soldier's Girl" which depicted the story of Army private Barry Winchell. It was then that I was inspired to present this information as theatre. Unable to find a script that dealt with the issues, I proposed an original play on the subject to the USM Department of Theatre and with the support of my colleagues I set off on the journey of creation. For audition material I wrote scenes based on real-life incidents and once the cast was in place they all contributed via research and their own personal experiences. We viewed documentaries, had military members attend rehearsals, and conducted personal interviews. After gathering the information and improvising varied scenarios the most poignant ones were chosen and the script was written. Our hope is that this piece may educate, enlighten and perhaps inspire us all to be a bit more understanding and accepting of one another.

Professor Wil Kilroy, Chair
Department of Theatre

Settings

Various times and places

Special Thanks to:

Vladimir Rios, Joel Crowley, Joe Demakis, Caleb Lacy
Matthew Robedee, Cynthia Kane, Gail Makinson, Chris O'Connor,
Sarah Holmes, Cheryl Laz, Julien Murphy, Jamie Lynn, Kane and
Transnet, ThePeabody House, members of the United States Military,
Pratt Abbott Cleaners
and Maine State Music Theatre

Don't Ask, Don't Tell

Written by Wil Kilroy, with the collaboration of the cast

Primary writers for "Home for Good" vignette:

Madelyn James and Anna Halloran

Original guitar song by Will Vile, Nathan LaPointe
and Courtney Pomerleau

Director	Wil Kilroy
Scenic Design	Perry Fertig
Costume Design	Renee Garcia
Lighting, Projections & Sound Design	Shannon Zura
Music Coordinator	Carolyn Glaude

Cast

Casey, Singer	Carolyn Glaude
Ann, Terri, Jennifer Sills	Alice Hofgren
Rebecca, Jordan, Student, Waitress	Madelyn James
Tim, Jon, Barry	Michael Johnson Jr.
James, Ben, Glover	Nathan Daniel Lapointe
Singer	James McDonald
Singer	Kelly Mosher
Laurie, Ensign Graff, Alesha, Marie	Ashley Pettengill
Beth Williams, Lanie, Jodi	Courtney Pomerleau
Stevens, Nat, Higgins, Fisher	Alexi Saliba
Calpernia Addams	Joseph D. Sibley
Narrator, Lunch Lady	Kimberley Stacy
Narrator, Guitar, Drum	William Robert Vile
Jamie, Paula, Barry's Mother	Abigail Worthing

This show contains adult language and situations.

This show runs for 95 minutes.

There will be no intermission.

Audience members are invited to stay for a post-show discussion.

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 and refrain from making distracting noises.

No food or drinks are allowed in the auditorium.

Late arrivals will be seated at the discretion of the house manager.

Artistic Staff Assistants

Assistant Lighting Design	Florence Cooley
Assistant Projections Design	James Futter
Assistant Sound Design	James Futter
Assistant Set Design	Marcus Ingerson
Dramaturg	Sage R. Landry

Production Staff

Stage Manager	Cat Ballou
Assistant Stage Managers	Dalton Kimball, Holly Smith
Technical Director	Perry Fertig
Carpenters	Thomas Cambell, August Delisle, Marcus Ingerson, Dalton Kimball, Sage Landry, Zach McEwen, Angelica Pendleton, Elaine Perkins, Emily Waller, and students from Stagecraft Practicum, Production Management and Theater Workshop.
Costume Director	Heather Leigh Brown
Stitchers	Laura Collard, Allyssa Power, Hannah J. Brown and Costume Practicum
Master Electrician	Florence Cooley
Electricians	Lighting Practicum
Properties Master	Shannon Esslinger

Production Crew

Wardrobe supervisor	Joseph D. Sibley
Wardrobe	Crystal Farrington, Karley Hoffstatter, Elizabeth Kershenbaum
Light Board Operator	Krista Lucht
Sound Board Operator	Megan Towle
Projections Operator	Megan Towle

Administrative Staff

Theatre Promotions Director	Stephen Legawiec
Administrative Assistant	Lil Campbell
Community Outreach Liaison	Emmanuelle Chaulet
Box Office Manager	Karissa Nelsen
House Manager	Matthew Dobson
Graphic Design	Leigh Raposo
Art	Stephen Legawiec

Cast Biographies

Carolyn Glaude (Casey, singer) is a sophomore musical theatre major at USM. She most recently appeared in the USM productions of *The Musical of Musicals* and *The Wild Party*. Carolyn is also currently the vice president of The University of Southern Maine Chamber Singers and toured with them in Spain last spring.

Alice Hofgren (Terri , Ann, Jennifer Sills) is a junior theatre major at USM. *Don't Ask, Don't Tell* is her first experience in creating a script as a group and she is glad to have been able to collaborate with her fellow cast members. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Madelyn James (Rebecca, Jordan, Student, Waitress) is a sophomore theatre major from Nashua, New Hampshire. Her past performance experience includes acting, modeling, martial arts, and circus tricks. She is known for her horror make-up designs. Madelyn's most recent role was 'Bianca Minola' in William Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*.

Mike Johnson Jr. (Tim, Jon, Barry) from Portland is currently a senior theatre major at USM. Past roles include 'Jack' in *An American Werewolf in London* (Freeport Players/ Gaslight Theatre production), 'Norman' in *Moonchildren* (USM production) and 'Francisco' in *The Tempest* (USM production). Mike would like to thank his family and friends for all their love and support.

Nathan Daniel Lapointe (James, Ben, Glover) is a sophomore theatre major, from Van Buren, Maine. Nathan's favorite past role was 'Hortensio,' in SPA's production of *The Taming of the Shrew* and he is very excited to be acting in another production at USM. Nathan has learned many new things from this show and is privileged to be in *Don't Ask, Don't Tell*. He hopes you all enjoy it and that you take something special from this original piece created by Director Wil Kilroy and his student actors.

James McDonald (Singer) is a junior Musical Theater major originally hailing from Ipswich, MA. Previous roles here at USM

include Harlequin, *Triumph of Love* (for which he received an ACTF Irene Ryan nomination); Phil D'Armano, *The Wild Party*; Teddy, *Titanic*; Douglas Panch, *The 25th Annual ... Spelling Bee*. This past summer he could be seen as Ernst in *Spring Awakening* at Maine State Music Theater. A big thank you to my friends and family for all their love and support. Enjoy the show!

Kelly Mosher (Singer) is a senior musical theatre major, from Cape Cod, MA. Past USM credits include Juene/Junita in *The Musical of Musicals*, Hesione in *The Triumph of Love*, Kate in *The Wild Party*, Maria in *Lend Me A Tenor*, Mabel in *The Pajama Game*, and Olive in *Spelling Bee*. Other favorite roles are Roxie in *Chicago*, Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*, and ensemble in MSMT's concert version of *Spring Awakening*. Next semester you will find her in the Main Stage production of *The Drowsy Chaperone* as Ms. Tottendale. Much love to Prof. Kilroy, this wonderful cast, Mom, Dad, and Chapin.

Ashley Pettengill (Laurie, Ensign Graff, Alesha, Marie) is a junior at the University of Southern Maine. This is her first role as a college student. In high school she had several leading roles: 'Russell' in *The Best Man* and 'Gypsy Rose Lee' in the musical production of *Gypsy*. She has also enjoyed playing several minor roles like 'Molly Malloy' in *The Front Page* and a servant in the comedy, *Tom Jones*. Her first ever production which caused her to fall in love with theatre was *The Pirates of Penzance*. She is excited to be a part of this show, which she feels has such a great message for everyone.

Courtney Pomerleau (Beth Williams, Lanie, Jodi) is very excited to be returning to the stage after a several year hiatus. A 2008 graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, she spent the following two and a half years living between Spanish Harlem and Brooklyn, where she studied Film Production and learned fluent Spanish. She is working to complete her Bachelor's in Theatre from USM.

Alexi Saliba (Stevens, Nat, Higgins, Fisher) is a sophomore from Pennington, New Jersey. He has dramatically become a part of the arts community through acting, dance, music and writing. He is a

dedicated theatre arts major who strives to be a part of it as much as possible. His main focus has always been acting. His most memorable performance was 'Peter' in *Bug*.

Joseph D. Sibley (Calpernia Addams) is a sophomore theatre major from Boothbay Harbor, ME. He previously performed 'Sam Himmelstein' in *The Wild Party* at USM. Joseph is currently the wardrobe supervisor for the 2011-2012 USM main stage season. He is also currently assistant costume designing *White Christmas* at Portland Players and *Eurydice* at USM. He is thrilled to be making his main stage premiere at USM with *Don't Ask, Don't Tell*.

Kimberley Stacy (Narrator, Lunch Lady) is a junior theatre major from Lyndonville, Vermont. This is her first USM show. Past roles include 'Little Red Riding Hood' in *Wolf Song* performed with the Poets of Maine, and 'Polly Benish' in *Play On!* performed in Vermont. She also toured with Kingdom County Productions doing a comedy tour in Vermont. She would like to thank her family and friends for the amazing support.

William Robert Vile (Narrator) is a super senior theatre major from Dixmont, ME. *Don't Ask, Don't Tell* is the first show Will has been in since high school. He is proud to be a part of such an important cause, and is looking forward to opening people's minds.

Abigail Worthing (Jammie, Paula, Barry's Mother) Abbey is a fourth year theatre student at the University of Southern Maine, and is thrilled to be appearing on the main stage again! She could most recently be seen here at USM as Baptista in the SPA production of *The Taming of the Shrew*. Favorite past roles include Mayzie LaBird in *Seussical the Musical*, Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and The Fortune Teller in *Side Show*. Thanks to Wil for another inspiring experience and to her family for all their support! Enjoy the show!

Artistic Staff Biographies

Wil Kilroy (Director)

Wil is part of the acting/directing faculty and Department of Theatre Chair here at USM. As a co-founder of the National Michael Chekhov Association, he teaches workshops around the country, including intensives at the University of Texas, Arlington, with previous teaching in London and Greece. Wil has been honored by the Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival for his direction of the productions *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Everything Sprite*, (also chosen for performance in NYC), and *Purple Breasts* - also presented in Washington, D.C. for the National Breast Cancer Coalition. Locally Wil's directing ranges from *The Rocky Horror Show* for Portland Players, to *Annie Get Your Gun* for Lyric Theatre. Annually Wil has worked as an actor for new play development with the Association for Theatre in Higher Education, and has performed in numerous other productions including the Maine Playwrights Festival, the American Irish Repertory's *The Poor of Portland*, the musical *Pulp Alley* for New York's West Bank Theatre, Philip in the Hollywood premiere of *Hotel Universe*, the daytime serials *All My Children* and *As the World Turns*, an alien on *Babylon 5*, and annually as an alumni guest artist playing Dr. Coppelius in *Coppelia* for the State Ballet of RI. Wil has also popped up on recent commercials as a doctor, a generous husband and a 'colorful' bank customer. In the summer, Wil is the Director of the USM Theatre Academy, a week-long acting intensive for ages 13-18. Wil has been a recipient of a Kennedy Center scholarship, two Kennedy Center Bronze Medallions, the Moss Hart Award, MEA's Human and Civil Rights Award, and USM's Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award. Wil has been Chair of the Kennedy Center's regional festival, the New England Theatre Conference and coordinator for the Educational Theatre Association Maine conference. Wil studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Art and the National Shakespeare Conservatory in New York, and holds theatre degrees from the University of Rhode Island and the University of Illinois, with recent training at the Arizona Laboratory for Movement Research.

Perry Fertig (Scenic Designer & Technical Director)

In addition to his work at USM, Perry recently served as Technical Director for PORTopera's *La Fille du Regiment* and *Hansel and Gretel*. Before moving back to Maine, he was working in Philadelphia for Ursinus College, the Philadelphia Live Arts Festival, and the Philadelphia Theatre Company. Occasionally, he works as a Flying Director for Foy Invention Enterprises, flying people for shows such as *Peter Pan*, *Wizard of Oz* and *The Nutcracker*.

Shannon Zura (Lighting, Projections and Sound Designer)

Shannon Zura recently designed the Sound for Portland Stage Company's production of *The 39 Steps* and the lights for *The Gin Game*, the set and sound for InterAct Theatre Company's *Black Pearl Sings*, the lights and sound for Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble's production of *Leading Ladies*, and the lights for Opera House Arts' *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Additional design credits include the sound and lights for InterAct Theatre Company's productions of *Kiss of the Spider Woman* and *American Sublime* and the sound for Philadelphia Shakespeare Theatre's *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *The Taming of the Shrew*. Shannon holds an MFA in Lighting Design from Temple University and is currently an Assistant Professor of Theatre at the University of Southern Maine.

Renee Garcia (Costume Designer)

Renee Garcia is a Lecturer in costume design at the University of Southern Maine and has had the pleasure of designing costumes for *A View from the Bridge*, *Triumph of Love*, *Betrayal* and *Lend Me a Tenor* at USM. Additional design credits include *Two Gentlemen of Verona* and *Romeo and Juliet* at the Riverside Theatre Shakespeare Festival, *Green Whales* at the Unicorn Theatre, *In Spite of Thunder: The Macbeth Project* at the Coterie Theatre, *Nadya* at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, and both *What the Bellhop Saw* and *Working* at Florida School of the Arts. She was the production designer for the independent film *Burning Man*, which premiered at the Brooklyn Academy of Music as part of BAMcinemaFest 2011. Picked to participate in the 2011 National Design Portfolio Review, the 2010 USITT Young Designer's Forum as well as the 2010 Merritt Awards

and Design Expo, her work has been exhibited along with the most promising young designers from across the country. Renee holds an MFA in costume design and technology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Heather Leigh Brown (Costume Director) holds a BS Western Michigan University, and a MFA U of I Urbana-Champaign. Prior to working at USM, Heather was the resident Costume Designer for Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She has worked on costumes for The Old Globe Theatres, Glimmerglass Opera, American Players Theatre and the Dorset Theatre Festival. She sometimes can be found writing/devising new work for the theatre.

Gat Ballou (Stage Manager) is a senior theatre major with a passion for theatre and a penchant for stage management. Recent productions she has stage managed include *Fafalo*, *Killer Joe*, *Triumph of Love*, and *Lend Me a Tenor*. She sends her love to her family, and wishes the cast and crew a phenomenal run for her final show at USM.

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USM Theatre Students and Faculty Shine

USM Theatre students have distinguished themselves with theatre companies throughout New England, such as Portland Stage Company, Maine State Music Theatre, The Public Theatre, The Children's Theatre of Maine, Good Theater, Mad Horse Theatre, Add Verb Productions, The Company of Girls, the Two Lights Theatre Ensemble, Maine Playwright Festival, and AIRE Theatre. Many of our alumni go on to perform off and on Broadway, and in L.A. or N.Y.C.

Emmy Award-winning actor Tony Shalhoub (*Monk*) and award-winning playwright and screenwriter Lynn Sieffert are USM theatre graduates, as is Kurt Ela, who recently appeared in *All About Steve* with Sandra Bullock.

Our professional faculty directors and designers work at some of the best regional theaters in the country such as those mentioned above, as well as The Walnut Street Theatre, The Alabama Shakespeare Festival, The Alley Theatre in Houston, North Shore Music Theatre, and The Seattle Repertory Theatre.

USM students and faculty have worked in several films and TV series including *Empire Falls*, *Hotel Universe*, Stephen King's *Pet Sematary* and *Graveyard Shift*, *Mermaids*, *All the Vermeers in New York*, *Sundowning* and *All My Children*.

Your support for our productions and program will ensure that we can continue presenting vibrant theatrical performances in the community as well as fulfill our educational mission:

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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.



See all the magic behind the curtain!

Join us for the USM Department of Theatre 1st Annual Open House, a free event providing a sneak peek of how theatre happens.

USM Theatre Open House

Thursday, November 17, 2011

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Russell Hall

USM Gorham Campus

See all the magic behind the curtain and discover the secrets of creating costumes, scenery, stage make-up and more.

Then grab a cookie and a glass of cider for a fun hour of mingling with the actors, dancers and directors of our upcoming shows.

To RSVP for this event, please email theatrebo@usm.maine.edu or call 207-780-5151.

