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Spring 2-1992

Juno and the Paycock Program [1992]

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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Juno

and

the Paycock

by Sean O'Casey

THE ACTORS

ADAM CROCKER: Adam is a nineteen year old freshman who just transferred from UMA. Says Adam, "I've been an actor most of my natural life. I became a college theatre major. Born in Callhune County, Alabama, and raised around the world. I've seen a lot and done more, but still managed to keep my sense of humor intact."

MICHELE DESCHAMBAULT: A sophomore at USM, Michele is originally from Sanford, ME but now resides in Portland with her four roommates and her cat Sunshine. This is her first show at USM, and she looks forward to many more.

KIM FLETCHER: Kim graduates this May from USM and plans to go on to graduate school in the fall in Theatre Administration. She wishes to thank her two young daughters for their patience and support while realizing her dream of completing school.

BEN GOODRIDGE: Ben is a sophomore English major interested in all aspects of the theatre, from writing to acting. He has written several unpublished works. This is Ben's first acting role at USM.

JEREMY HERSOM: Twenty years old and presently a freshman at USM, Jeremy hopes this performance will be followed by many others.

ED MAYNARD: Ed is from Saco, and a graduate of Thornton Academy. He is now a sophomore at USM and trying his luck at his first acting performance.

JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK

BY SEAN O'CASEY

DIRECTED BY THOMAS A. POWER

FEATURING:

"Captain" Boyle.....	Geary Smith
Juno Boyle.....	Kim Fletcher
Johnny Boyle.....	Ed Maynard
Mary Boyle.....	Michele Deschambault
"Joxer" Daly.....	Iain Odin
Mrs. Maisie Madigan.....	Heather Simones
"Needle" Nugent.....	Sean Woolford
Mrs. Tancred.....	Heather Sellars
Jerry Devine.....	Jeremy Hersom
Charlie Bentham.....	Ed Waterhouse
An irregular mobilizer.....	Doug Murphy
1st irregular.....	Doug Murphy
2nd irregular.....	Ed Waterhouse
Coal Block Vendor.....	Ed Waterhouse
1st furniture removal man.....	Adam Crocker
2nd furniture removal man.....	Ben Goodrich
Neighbor.....	Teresa Roof

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT I

The living apartment of a two-room tenancy of the Boyle family, in a Dublin tenement house, 1922.

ACT II

A few days later.

ACT III

Two months later.

DESIGN STAFF

Set Design.....Charles Kading
Costume Design.....Susan Picinich
Light Design.....Fred Fauver
Poster Design.....Ann Valentine

TECHNICAL STAFF

Technical Director.....Fred Fauver
Stage Manager.....Anya Zulawnik
Scene Shop Coordinator.....Eleanor Houghton
Costume Shop Supervisor.....Christenia Kinne
Prop Construction.....Tom Rodman
Set Construction.....Stagecraft Labs
Costume Construction.....Costume Labs

PRODUCTION STAFF

Wardrobe.....Jody Nichols
Light Board Operator.....Carol Wilson
Sound Board Operator.....Tim Flavin
Stage Crew.....Melissa Carelli

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

USM Media Relations; the Irish American Club; Marion Killian and Brenda Miley for help with accents.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be two ten minute intermissions. Refreshments will be available for sale in the lobby.

Director's Notes

Juno and the Paycock was produced in 1924 and set in a Dublin tenement. This is among O'Casey's finest dramas and perhaps his most popular one. In 1959 Mark Blitzstein made it into a musical. The play is set in the period of the destructive struggle that terrorized newly independent Ireland.

Although the play stands alone as a statement of the powerful will of a woman to hold a family together during desperate times, it may help us to have a broader sense of what a poor Dublin family of 1922 might have had for political and social realities.

Following the ill-fated Irish rebellion of 1916, the defeated patriots of Ireland continued to resist British rule, culminating in a declaration of allegiance to the Republican ideal and the founding of Dail Eireann, the Irish Constituent Assembly, which proclaimed the Republic once again in 1919.

England countered this move and the "Black and Tans" waged war upon the Irish people. Finally, in 1921, the world's attention was drawn to these events in Ireland and the voice of reason began to reach out.

In June of 1921 a "Home Rule Bill" was passed in London that was proposed to the new Irish government to end the hostilities. The treaty was seen by some as a means to end the terrible blood-shed of the "Black and Tans," but unfortunately it split the new Irish nation into "Free Staters" and "Republicans," setting the stage for the characters of the play.

The "Free Staters" voted in a slight majority to accept the proposed treaty, allowing for such things as Free

State representatives who would swear allegiance to the King of England, a British Governor General as the chief officer, and Britain's retention of strategic harbors in Ireland. The Republicans were strongly opposed to such demands on their hard won freedom.

The ratification of this treaty on January 7, 1922 signaled the beginning of Civil War. In June the Free States' Troops opened fire on their ex-comrades, the Republicans, in Dublin. After days of bitter fighting, the Republicans were forced to their knees and into prison. Fighting continued between the two warring factions until May of 1923 when Eamon de Valera, the Republican leader, called on the remnant of the Republicans to cease fire.

In O'Casey's play, the Boyle family struggles to survive in a city where neighbor kills neighbor and petty differences do not evaporate, even in death. Juno prays for deliverance from this daily crisis, and believes she sees escape in the form of a family inheritance. She is driven back to reality by the stupidity and greed of her fellow man.

-----Thomas A. Power

DOUG MURPHY: "This is my long awaited debut at USM---although I think I was the only one waiting for it."

IAIN ODLIN: Iain is a newcomer to Maine, but he has over a decade of theatre experience in Washington.

TERESA ROOFF: Teresa is a first year Theatre major who acted in L'L ABNER and CAROUSEL. She has acted in some short scenes from Shakespeare and performed technical duties.

HEATHER SELLARS: This is Heather's first show and she is very excited about it!

HEATHER SIMONES: Heather, an eccentric young actress whose favorite role was a screaming apparition, has plans to further her career. She now resides in the quaint village of North Berwick, where her primary entertainment is watching the factory workers make a frantic dash to their cars.

GEARY SMITH: This is Geary's ninth and final performance on the Russell Square stage. He has loved his time in this theatre and is looking forward to new stages to come.

ED WATERHOUSE: A resident of Scarborough, Ed is a junior who is changing his major to Communications. **JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK** is his first theatrical production. His other interests include weight-lifting and volleyball.

SEAN WOOLFORD: After working backstage for the past year on Russell Square productions, Sean decided to make himself visible to the audience for a change. Nugent is his first role at USM after appearing elsewhere in **GREASE**, **PLAY IT AGAIN SAM**, **OLIVER** and **OKLAHOMA!**-- hopefully, it won't be his last.

**Presented by the USM Theatre Department
at Russell Hall on the USM Gorham Campus**

Evening Performances: February 7, 8, 12, 13, 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Matinee Performances: February 8 at 3:00 p.m. and February 9 at 5:00 p.m.

Ticket Prices: \$4.00 Students; \$6.00 Faculty, Staff and Senior Citizens; \$7.00 Public

For ticket reservations and information call: 780-5483 *(MC/VISA Welcome on all orders over \$10.00)*