
Programs 2003-2004 Season

Theatre Programs 2000-2010

Fall 12-2003

Two Original One Act Plays: Ghosting & Goin' to Graceland Program

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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Two Original One-Act Plays

directed by *William Steele & Thomas Power*

Ghosting
by *Michael Thomas Toth*

Goin' to Graceland
by *M. Calien Lewis*

LENT, PASSIONATE YOUTH, RENEWED CREATIVITY, INTENSE CLASSICS, BOLD NEW WORKS, EMERGING TALENT, PASSIONATE YOUTH



ASSICS, BOLD NEW WORKS, EMERGING TALENT, PASSIONATE YOUTH, RENEWED CREATIVITY, INTENSE CLASSICS, BOLD NEW WORK

St. Lawrence Arts and Community Center
76 Congress Street, Portland

Friday, December 5-Saturday, December 13, 2003

Evenings December 5, 6, 9-13 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday matinees December 7 at 5 p.m.



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE

Ghosting

by Michael Thomas Toth

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

William P. Steele
Jacob Walton
Kris Hall
Jenny Brown
Jamie Grant
Chris Gyngell

Cast

Player King
Stage Manager
Beatrice
Gabriella
Cassius

Benjamin Wake
Brian Walsh
Anna Gravl
Rachel Stults
Brian Libby

Setting

The action takes place in an alley outside the Majesty Theater in New York City, 1935.

There will be a fifteen minute intermission.

This performance contains 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.

This play is entered in the Michael Kanin Playwrighting Awards Program and is being considered for the John Cauble Short Play Award.

Goin' to Graceland

by M. Calien Lewis

Director
Scenic Design
Costume Design
Lighting Design
Sound Design

Thomas A. Power
Jacob Walton
Annette Bourque
Jamie Grant
Chris Gyngell

Cast

Sam Fathers
Erin Parker
Charlie Smith
Vicky Cloutier
Jayne Jones
Tom Jones

Wesley Cianchette
Jenny Brown
Chris Gyngell
Ariel Francoeur
Andrea Lopez
Nathan Amadon

Setting

The action takes place in a train heading from Chicago bound for Memphis, Tennessee and Graceland.

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.

This play is entered in the Michael Kanin Playwrighting Awards Program and is being considered for the John Cauble Short Play Award as well as the David Mark Cohen Playwrighting Award.

**Special Thanks
to the Public Theatre and Amor Stylings.**

Director's Notes

Each year students in our playwriting course, taught by Professor Walter Stump, offer their final course efforts to be read and selected for possible productions the following semester. The body of potential scripts comes entirely from that class and usually numbers between 10 and 15 student playwrights. Professor Stump guides students through this effort, and then the directors select the best play, giving it a production with faculty direction, scenic and costume designs and budget support. This is a unique opportunity for an untried and unproduced playwright to have a full scale production of his or her work.

An educational process for our students, this program primarily focuses on teaching students to work with new and untested material while providing the playwright with the opportunity to see what does and does not work.

Some of our former playwrights have gone on to have their work published and to move into exciting graduate programs in the field. Our commitment is to produce the plays coming from Professor Stumps' class with enthusiasm and professionalism.

W.P.S. & T.A.P.

THE PUBLIC THEATRE
Lewiston/Auburn's Professional Theatre

www.thepublictheatre.org

TICKET PRICE:
\$14 Stu/Sr
\$16 Adults

- ★ **RED HERRING** by Michael Hollinger **Oct 10 - 19**
It's "Sam Spade" meets "I Love Lucy" in this hilarious 1950's film noir comedy about marriage and other explosive devices.
- ★ **THE BELLE OF AMHERST** by William Luce **Nov 7 - 16**
Back by popular demand, Ellen Crawford from the hit NBC series *ER* stars in this enchanting one-woman play, based on the life of Emily Dickinson.
- ★ **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS** **Dec 12 @ 8pm, Dec 13 @ 2 & 6 pm, Dec 14 @ 2pm**
An original and delightful adaptation of this classic book starring Michael O'Brien and fiddler Lissa Schneckenberger. A great gift for the whole family!
- ★ **MARVIN'S ROOM** by Scott Mc Pherson **Jan 30 - Feb 8**
When the chips are down, your family will be there - whether you want them or not, in this humorous and touching play about the strength of family ties.
- ★ **ORPHANS** by Lyle Kessler **Mar 19 - 28**
Three orphans form an unforgettable family in a play that will touch the nerves and hearts of all who see it. Contains adult language.
- ★ **PRIVATE LIVES** by Noel Coward **May 7 - 16**
Some old flames just won't go out in this classic comedy about love, second chances and the often fine line between affection and exasperation.

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Season Underwriters: Sun Journal, WMTW/KISS 99.9, The Wolf, Platz Associates, WOXO, WTME, WCNN, WHOM, NEA

USM School of Music

2003-2004

Faculty Concert Series

Friday evenings, 8 p.m.
Corthell Concert Hall
USM Gorham campus

October 3

The Fry Street Quartet
features the music of composer

J. Mark Scarce

Sponsored by Gorham Savings Bank

October 31

The French Saxophone

Timothy O'Dell,

alto and soprano saxophones

Judith Hunt Quimby, piano

Sponsored by RBC/Dain Raucher

November 21

Five Canticles of Benjamin Britten

Bruce Fithian, tenor, and friends

Sponsored by ARAMARK

February 27

In the Autumn of their Years

Neil Boyer, oboe, and friends

Sponsored by FILENE'S

April 2

USM Jazz!

Ryan Parker, piano, and friends

Sponsored by Key Bank

April 23

Music of Sergei Prokofiev
and Cesar Franck

Robert Lehmann, violin

Laura Kargul, piano

Sponsored by

Saco & Biddeford Savings Institution

Reservations are recommended.

Box office: (207) 780-5555

Tickets: \$10 for general public / \$7 for seniors,

USM faculty and staff / \$5 for students.

Visit our Web site at www.usm.maine.edu/music



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE



UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MAINE

Don't miss our exciting 2003-04 season!

February 12-15

The Glass Menagerie

by Tennessee Williams

a staged reading

directed by William Steele & Thomas Power

March 12-21

Company

music/lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

book by George Furth

directed by Wil Kilroy

musical direction by Ed Reichert

choreography by Raymond Marc Dumont

A collaboration with the School of Music

April 29-May 2

Dance USM!

directed by Maria Tzianabos

Main Stage, Russell Hall

USM Gorham Campus

unless otherwise noted

Tuesday-Saturday performances, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday performances, 5:00 p.m.

*For reservations and information or access inquiries, call
780-5151, TTY 780-5646*

Tickets: \$10 general public, \$7 seniors,

\$5 students & USM faculty and staff

Company (musical): \$12 general public,

\$9 seniors & USM faculty and staff, \$5 students

Visit our website:

www.usm.maine.edu/theater

Cast Biographies

Nathan Amadon - Tom Jones, *Goin' to Graceland*

This is Nathan's second show at USM. After six years off stage he is glad to be back and working with a wonderful group of writers, directors, actors and Elvis impersonators.

Jenny Brown - Erin Parker, *Goin' to Graceland*; Assistant Costume Design, *Ghosting*

Jenny is a freshman theatre major from Houlton, ME. She has acted in many dramatic and musical productions including *Bye, Bye Birdie* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. In high school, she adapted and directed the One-Act Play and designed set and costumes. She won an award for Best Production at Festival and won an award for the role of "Martha" in *The Children's Hour*. She would like to thank Philip for his love and support and making everything beautiful and interesting

Wesley Cianchette - Sam Fathers, *Goin' to Graceland*

Wes Cianchette is a theatre major from Baltimore, MD. He's been acting since the age of ten. Some of his previous shows include *Shakuntala*, *Cabaret*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *Ten Little Indians*, *Clue the Musical* and even the *Vagina Monologues*. When not on stage, Wes is off making documentaries and feature films. He hopes to be in Hollywood in the near future.

Ariel S. Francoeur - Vicky Cloutier, *Goin' to Graceland*

Ariel is a senior theatre major from Orwell, VT. She has recently appeared as "Malcolm" in *MacBeth* and Persephone in *Heroine's Journey*. Last semester, she made her directorial debut at USM with *Machinal*. Thanks to Kate, Michael, and Mom

Anna Gravel - Beatrice, *Ghosting*

Anna is a senior theatre major from Houlton, ME. She was last seen as the Third Witch in "*The Scottish Play*." She is excited for this chance to work with Bill and Tom and she would like to thank her family & friends for their love and support. (Special thanks to her adopted family for running so many lines)

Chris Gyngell - Charlie Smith, *Goin' to Graceland*; Sound Design

Fresh off of stage managing SPA's production of "*The Scottish Play*," Chris is happy to perform in his second mainstage role. Look for him in *Romeo & Juliet* at the Children's Theatre of Maine, and keep an eye out for a staged reading of his original one-act *End of the World*, *Missouri* in the Russell Hall Lab Theater in February. Thanks to family and friends.

Brian Libby - Cassius, *Ghosting*

A native of Portland, Brian was in SPA's production of *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* last year. He is currently a non-matriculated student with an undeclared major. Brian's past credits include *The American Dream*, *Charley's Aunt* and *Arsenic and Old Lace*.

Andrea Lopez - Jayne Jones, *Goin' to Graceland*

Andrea is a theatre major from Berlin, NH. She has been acting since kindergarten, performing in school plays and community theatre. Her college credits include *Somewhere in Between*, *Wait Until Dark*, *Camino Real*, *A View From the Bridge*, and most recently, "*The Scottish Play*". Thanks to family and friends for their support.

Rachel Stults - Gabriella, *Ghosting*

Rachel is a junior theatre major. This is her first main stage acting role although she has worked on other USM productions. Her experience includes costume designing, directing and Assistant Stage Managing "*The Scottish Play*." She has also worked as crew and performed in SPA's Ten-Minute-Play Festival last spring. She would like to thank her family and everyone involved in this production.

Brian Walsh - Stage Manager, *Ghosting*

This is Brian's fourth year at USM and his second mainstage role. Previously he has been seen in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (with current castmate Brian Libby) and "*The Scottish Play*" for SPA and he worked with Tom & Bill on *A View From the Bridge*. He is very pleased to be working with these directors again. Thanks to Bill and April and much love and thanks to Kristen.

Artistic Staff Biographies

Director, *Ghosting* - William Steele

William Steele, associate professor of theatre, has been teaching acting, directing, journalistic drama criticism and speech at the University of Southern Maine since 1967. Professor Steele is a member of the Screen Actor's Guild, Dramatists Guild and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists. He is the author of four books on theatre, an award-winning playwright, and an actor of national reputation. Recently, along with Professor Power, he directed a staged reading of *A View From the Bridge*.

Director, *Goin' to Graceland* - Thomas A. Power

Thomas A. Power, associate professor of theatre, teaches acting and directing at the University of Southern Maine and has been writing and producing for many years. A playwright and lyricist, Power has written many plays performed professionally. He collaborated with Kurt Vonnegut Jr. in a rewrite of one of Mr. Vonnegut's plays. Winner of the 1990 Moss Hart Award for his play script, *Grannia*, Power also publishes regular reviews in Maine's largest newspaper. Professor Power is a member of the Dramatists Guild. Recently, along with Professor Steele, he directed a staged reading of *A View From the Bridge*.

Playwright, *Ghosting* - Michael Thomas Toth

Michael is a senior theatre major here at USM. He just finished directing a production of "*The Scottish Play*" for SPA. You may also have seen him as "Ibrim" in Two Lights Theatre Ensemble's production of *La Promise*, and "Lord Byron" in *Camino Real*. This is his first foray into playwrighting.

Playwright, Goin' to Graceland - M. Calien Lewis

Calien is one of the theatre department's retreats. Her theatrical experience consisted of the lighting tech for *The Littlest Angel* in 6th grade, member of the Trio, *Anything Goes* in 12th grade, and pit band for the Iroquoise Amphitheatre in college. She thanks everyone involved for this opportunity.

Set Design - Jacob Walton

Jacob is a senior theatre major at USM. This is his second time designing on the main stage. He assisted Chuck Kading last spring on *Cabaret*. This is his first complete main stage design. His design credits to date are *MacBeth* and *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*.

Lighting Design - Jamie Grant

U.S.M.: *The Effects of Gamma Rays on Man-In-The-Moon Marigolds, Life in the Late 20th, We All Fall Down, Student Written One Acts, Characters and Space*. Good Theater: *Little Me, Shirley Valentine, The Big Picture, Baby, Loot*. The Originals: *Eleemosynary, Nunsense 2*. Mad Horse Theater: *Suburban Motel*. Resident Designer for the Portland Ballet. He has also designed for Choreographers Tere O'Connor, Kevin Wynn, Chris Elam, Diane Coburn-Bruning, Lisa Hicks, and Nancy Salmon.

Costume Design, Ghosting;**Costume Shop Supervisor- Kris Hall**

Kris is glad to be back for the '03-'04 season. Last June she costumed the local independent film *Mr. Barrington*. This summer she worked in Sanford on an episode of *While You Were Out* for the Learning Channel. Look for her work later this month in the *Nutcracker Burlesque*, for which she built the costume of the Sugar Plum Fairy. She has also recently started an art sewing business in her home called *Sew What!*

Costume Design, Goin' to Graceland - Annette L. Bourque

Annette brings her professional design talents to USM for the first time with "Graceland". She has worked on many productions for various theatres including The Public Theatre in Lewiston and Maine State Music Theatre in Brunswick. She is also a professional props and multimedia designer, and set dresser. She is an award winning choreographer and performer having recently received the Irene Ryan Award nomination for her role as "Beatrice" in USM's *The Effects of Gamma Rays on Man-In-The-Moon Marigolds*. Annette just finished working with Ellen Crawford, of television's ER, as her personal assistant, as well as Assistant Stage Manager for The Public Theatre's production of *The Belle of Amherst*. She is a fourth year student at USM. Major thanks to Jodi and Kris Hall for their support

Technical Director - Matthew Meeds

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 Centre Stage. Most recently he designed the set for this year's production of *The Effects of Gamma Rays on Man-In-the-Moon Marigolds*.

Stage Manager - Lindsey Higgins

Lindsey is a junior theatre major from Presque Isle, ME. Previous stage credits include *Camino Real, We All Fall Down* and SPA's production of "The Scottish Play." Although she was Assistant Stage Manager for *Machinal* last spring, this is Lindsey's first time being a full-fledged Stage Manager. She would like to thank Tom and Bill and the entire cast for their patience and their support

Assistant Stage Manager - Kate Law

Kate is a sophomore at USM, and a slave to the theatre. She has performed in the SPA production of *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* and has also been involved with costumes for many main stage shows. Kate is very excited to be stepping into a new position behind the scenes.

Production Staff

Stage Manager	Lindsey Higgins
Assistant Stage Manager	Kate Law
Technical Director	Matthew Meeds
Carpenters	Jacob Walton, Michael Toth, Michaela Wirth, Brandon Glen
Costume Shop Supervisor	Kris Hall
Stitchers	Corey Anderson, Jenny Brown, Emily Carter, Ariel Francoeur, Carrie Goodwin, Anna Gravl, Lis Janes, Kate Law, Jules Michaud, Jill Shapleigh, Reanna St. Pierre and the Costume Lab
Properties Supervisor	David Ciampa, Casey Pratt
Properties Construction	Erin Whitworth, Nate Greene, Rachel Garfield, Michaela Wirth, Wes Cianchette, Chris Gyngell

Production Crew

Deck Crew	Michelle Stephen, Daniel Goldstein, Tim Sheridan
Wardrobe	Reanna St. Pierre, Jane Parise, Jesse Pilgrim
Light Board Operator	Michaela Wirth
Sound Board Operator	Corey Anderson

Administrative Staff

Arts Promotions Director	Mary Snell
Arts Events Director	Emmanuelle Chaulet
Administrative Assistant	Lil Campbell
Box Office Manager	Cody Holyoke
House Manager	Kristen Steller
Graphic Design	Patrick Corey



The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival-
XXXVI

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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, 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 2004.

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.