Spring 2-2012

Eurydice Program [2012]

University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre

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Department of Theatre presents

Eurydice
A tender love story, in Hell.

By Sarah Ruhl
Directed by Meghan Brodie

February 2-5, 2012
Russell Hall
USM Gorham Campus
USM School of Music Spring 2012 Spotlight Series

Brian Diehl, trombone
The British Invasion: Predominantly British Music...a la carte
Friday, February 3 at 8 p.m.
Corthell Concert Hall, USM Gorham
Robert Lehmann, violin
Sayuri Miyamoto, piano
Friday, March 16 at 8 p.m.
Corthell Concert Hall, USM Gorham

USM Youth Ensembles
Spring Instrumental Concert
Thursday, April 12, at 7 p.m.
Merrill Auditorium, Portland

35th Annual Honors Recital
Saturday, April 14 at 8 p.m.
Corthell Concert Hall, USM Gorham

USM Youth Ensembles
Southern Maine Children's Chorus
Thursday, May 10 at 7 p.m.
Corthell Concert Hall, USM Gorham

Carmina Burana
USM Concert Band and USM Chorale
Peter Martin, conductor
Sunday, April 22 at 3 p.m.
Merrill Auditorium, Portland
Sponsored by HeadInvest; Murray, Plumb & Murray; MacDonald Page & Co LLC; Down East, the Magazine of Maine

Eurydice
By Sarah Ruhl

Director
Costume Design
Lighting Design
Sound Design
Hair & Make-Up

Cast

Meghan Brodie
Katie Foster
Marcus Ingerson
James Futter
Joseph Sibley
Madelyn James
Sage R. Landry
Dalton Kimball
Thomas Campbell
Dolly Constantine
Lake Bellavance
Jacob Cote

EURYDICE is produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.
Director's Note

When I first read Sarah Ruhl's *Eurydice*, I was curious to reimagine the Orpheus and Eurydice myth from Eurydice's perspective. After several readings, I began to realize that Ruhl's play is not just about the tragic love between Orpheus and Eurydice, but is also about Eurydice's love for and devotion to her father. The play beautifully renders this unusual love triangle and depicts Eurydice's struggle to choose between the affection and knowledge her father shares with her and her first love, Orpheus.

We are producing this play as an Actors' Lab-style project: simply and with significant emphasis on actors' processes. This sort of intensive work is possible because of an extended rehearsal period that includes USM's winter break. We rely more heavily on the actors' abilities to tell stories and create images in the absence of a traditional set. But not only is *Eurydice* the first in the Actors' Lab series, it is also a uniquely student-driven and green production (almost nothing new has been purchased and nothing will be thrown out). The actors, designers, stage manager, assistant stage manager, dramaturg, technical director, and crew members are all students and it has been a privilege for me to work with such a talented and committed group of theatre practitioners.

Hell is other people. On roller skates. Invisible trains come and go. Memories are lost in an instant. And love is tragic. I hope audiences enjoy reexperiencing this classic myth and the art of the actors' storytelling. Thank you for joining us as we embark upon this exciting new project.

Best wishes,

Meghan Brodie, Ph.D.

The USM Theatre Department extends its thanks to the USM Women and Gender Studies Program for including *Eurydice* as a part of its Spring programming.
Cast Biographies

Lake Bellavance (Little Stone) is a third year student here at USM. He is enjoying the pursuit of a B.A. in Theatre. This is Lake's second year in the program and he has played the roles of "Jerry Goss" in Bug and the "Cab Driver" in last year's spring show, Harvey. His concentration in the Theatre program is performance and he is looking into becoming a voice artist for cartoons.

Thomas Campbell (A Nasty Interesting Man/Child (Lord of the Underworld) is currently a sophomore Theatre major at the University of Southern Maine, and he is more than pleased to be appearing in his second main stage production. He was last seen as "Mike" in A View From The Bridge, directed by Tom Power. He has also acted in several films locally. He would like to thank our director, Meghan Brodie, and all the cast and crew for their hard work, and he'd like to thank his friends and family for all their support.

Dolly Constantine (Loud Stone) is a Theatre major completing her undergraduate education in Fall 2012. Her most recent performances have been in Dance USM! and A View From The Bridge as "Beatrice." This is her first roller skating performance.

Jacob Cote (Big Stone) is a senior Theatre major here at the University of Southern Maine. He could not be more excited to be working with Meghan Brodie again, as well as this fantastic cast and crew. Past roles at USM include "The Professor" in The Lesson, "Marco" in A View from the Bridge, "Max" in Lend Me a Tenor, "Luka" in The Bear/The Proposal, "The Captain" in Durang's Titanic, and "Tim" in The Distance From Here. This will be his last acting role at the University of Southern Maine, and Jake would just like to thank everyone, faculty, friends, and audiences alike for a truly amazing experience, as well as his family Joey, Valerie, and Luke for their endless support. Love you all.

Madelyn James (Eurydice) 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 recently received an Irene Ryan for her performance in Don't Ask, Don't Tell at USM.

Dalton Kimball (Orpheus) is a sophomore Theatre major who enjoys lighting design as well as acting. He previously performed in The Taming of the Shrew, A View From The Bridge, and Clutter here at USM. This is his second appearance on the main stage. He would like to thank the director, cast, crew, and his mentor, Jeffrey Potter-Watts.

Sage R. Landry (Eurydice's Father) is a junior Theatre major from Midcoast Maine. He is thrilled to be working with Dr. Meghan Brodie and the rest of his fellow cast members. Previous USM credits include "Louis" in Miller's A View From The Bridge, "Jerry" in Pinter's Betrayal, "Inook" in Beissel's Inook and the Sun and "Al" in Anderson's Tea & Sympathy. He is, as always, thrilled and humbled to be working with USM's Theatre Department.

Artistic and Production Staff Biographies

Meghan Brodie (Director) is a Lecturer in the Department of Theatre. She most recently directed Add Verb Productions' Performances from the Out & Allied Project and Airswimming at USM. She is currently working on coordinating and directing the USM premiere of [Un]Spoken Maine, a series of student-written pieces about sexual expression, communication, and safety. Meghan holds a Ph.D. from Cornell University.

Marcus Ingerson (Stage Manager/Lighting Designer) originally from Millinocket, is a senior Theatre major with an emphasis in design. This is his first time on the main stage as the Stage Manager and the Lighting Designer. Past design credits include lighting design for The Lesson, sound design for USM's production of Harvey, sound design for Bug, and lighting design for Titanic, for which he received the "Best Lighting Design" award from SPA (Student Performing Artists).
**Katie Foster (Costume Design)** is a third year Theatre major at USM. She is thrilled to be working with Dr. Brodie on her first main stage costume design. Other recent designs include costumes for *The Lesson* (SPA Production) and *Beauty and the Beast* (Intern Show; Maine State Music Theatre) and hair and makeup for *Harvey* (USM Theatre) and *Lend Me a Tenor* (asst. design; USM Theatre). Katie wants to thank Meghan and Heather for all their support, along with her loving family and friends.

**James Futter (Sound Design)** is an Industrial Technology major who does theatre for a hobby. This is his second year at USM and doing volunteer work in Theatre. James helps with the technical side of the productions doing lights and sound mainly. He recently assisted with the projections and sound for USM's *Don't Ask, Don't Tell* at Portland Stage Company and did a lighting design for *Dance USM!*

**Alice Hofgren (Dramaturg/Assistant Stage Manager)** is a junior Theatre major at USM and is excited to be working as both ASM and dramaturg on *Eurydice*. She would like to thank her family for all their support.

**Scott Leland (Technical Director)** is a senior USM Theatre major with a focus in technical direction and a secondary focus in sound design. Scott has worked on *Lend Me a Tenor, Betrayal, Airswimming, Triumph of Love,* and *Taming of the Shrew*. Sound Design credits include *Two Rooms* (University of Maine Farmington), *A Christmas Carol* (Sandy River Players), and *The Lesson* (USM). He worked as a Properties Apprentice for Maine State Music Theatre this past summer. This upcoming spring he will be doing the sound design for SPA's *Steel Magnolias* directed by Abigail Worthing. Thank you Meghan and Perry for this wonderful opportunity!

**Shannon Zura (Lighting and Sound Design Faculty)**

Shannon Zura recently designed the sound for Portland Stage Company's production 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.

**Perry Fertig (Staff 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 Enterprises, flying people for shows such as *Peter Pan, Wizard of Oz,* and *The Nutcracker*.

**Heather Leigh Brown (Costume Director)** holds a BS from Western Michigan University, and an MFA from 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 Theatre, Glimmerglass Opera, American Players Theatre and the Dorset Theatre Festival. She sometimes can be found writing/devising new work for the theatre.

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If you enjoyed *Eurydice*, please join us next season for Sarah Ruhl’s adaptation of Virginia Woolf’s classic novel, *Orlando*, directed by Meghan Brodie, Ph.D.

**Orlando**
April 19-28 2013

A romp through centuries of gender-bending adventures.

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 on and off Broadway, and in L.A. and Chicago.

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, and InterAct Theatre Co. in Philadelphia, The Alabama Shakespeare Festival, The Alley Theatre in Houston, North Shore Music Theatre, Delaware Theatre Company, The Seattle Repertory Theatre, and New Georges in NYC.

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*, *Chocolat*, *Sundowning*, and *All My Children*.

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For their Support for Eurydice:
Many thanks to Happy Wheels for generously lending us roller skates, Janette Hough-Fertig for teaching the cast and crew to skate with grace, Charles D'Entremont for donating the water pump to us, Lori Arsenault for sharing her skating photos with us, Jolynn Bryant and Lily Libby for feeding the cast and crew, Amy Mussman at Maine State Music Theatre for generous assistance with costumes, and Perry Fertig and Shannon Zura for their much appreciated production assistance and support.

For their Support for Dance USM!
Vanessa Beyland, Tess Ulrey Carragher, Janette Hough-Fertig, Wendy E. Getchell

For their support for Don't Ask, Don't Tell:
The Department of Theatre extends thanks to the USM Women and Gender Studies program, The USM Board of Student Organizations, and the USM Center for Sexualities and Gender Diversity for their support of our productions.

For their support for The Theatre Open House
The USM Office of Advancement, USM Alumni Relations
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And all our Season Flex Pass Holders!

Thanks to the generous assistance from these individuals and organizations, and to people like you, our audience, we are able to present quality and inspiring live productions.

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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.
October 7-18
A View From The Bridge
by Arthur Miller

November 10-13
Don't Ask, Don't Tell
an original devised production

December 8-11
Dance USM!

February 2-5: Actors' LabSeries
Eurydice
by Sarah Ruhl

March 9-18: A Musical
The Drowsy Chaperone
Book by Bob Martin and Don McKellar
Music and Lyrics by Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison

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