UPCOMING ATTRACTIONS AT THE SCHOOL OF DRAMA

Scenes and Revelations
by Elan Garonzik
The Penthouse Theatre
February 15 - 26

The Lower Depths
by Maxim Gorky
The Playhouse Theatre
March 8 - 19

SCHOOL OF DRAMA

FACULTY

Executive Director, Sarah Nash Gates

Theory, Sarah Bryant-Bertail
Technical Director, Tom Burke
Design, Robert A. Dahlstrom
Design, William Forrester
Design, M. L. Geiger
Acting, Cory Hansen
Acting Robyn Hunt

Theatre History, Richard Lorenzen
Acting, Steve Pearson
Acting, Judith Shahn
Design, Deb Trout
Directing, M. Burke Walker
Theatre History, Stephen Weeks
Theatre History, Barry Witham
Theatre History, Jack Wolcott

RETIRED AND EMERITUS FACULTY

Jack Clay
M. E. Comtois
James Crider
Vanick Galstaun

Agnes Haaga
Paul Hostetler
Robert Loper
Warren (Tyke) Lounsbury

Geraldine Sik
Jack Sydow
Aurora Valentinetti

PART-TIME FACULTY

David Boushey
Jeff Caldwell
Bob Davidson

Mark Jenkins
Jeffrey Eric Jenkins
Richard Jessup

Catherine Max
Diana Smith
Scott Weldin

STAFF

Stage Technician, Bob Boehler
Master Electrician, Nacho Bravo
Stage Technician, Malcolm Brown
Office Asst., Sue Bruns
Stage Technician, Alex Danilchik
Librarian, Liz Fugate
Costume Shop Mgr., Josie Gardner
Administrator, Arlene Hamilton

Publicist, Denise Jarrett
Graduate Programs, Dorothy Kerst
Costumer, Laurie L. Kurutz
Secretary, Diana Smith
Production Mgr., Anne Stewart
Costumer, Meri Wada
Scene Shop Mgr., Alan Weldin

by
Noël Coward

The Studio Theatre
19th Season
42nd Production
January 25 - February 5
Present Laughter
By Noël Coward

CAST
(in order of appearance)

Daphne Stillington
Miss Erikson
Fred
Monica Reed
Gary Essendine
Liz Essendine
Roland Maule
Henry Lyppiatt
Morris Dixon
Joanna Lyppiatt
Lady Saltburn

VICTORIA BEAVAN*
ERIN NEILL*
DOUG LOCKWOOD*
STEPHANIE STEPHENSON*
ANDREW BOYER*
ERIN McGAUGHAN*
HEATH L. KELTS*
GILLEN MORRISON*
KEVIN A. KING*
TRACY BRYCE*
CHRISTINE BARLEY*

*Member of the Professional Actor Training Program

—There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.—

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
The Group: Seattle’s Multicultural Theater
Seattle Opera, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Intiman Theatre Company,
A Contemporary Theatre

ABOUT THE PROGRAM COVER
A drawing by Edward Burr as printed in A Last Encore,
by Sir Noël Coward with editor John Hadfield
(Little, Brown, and Company, Boston: 1973)

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

What is love? 'Tis not hereafter;
Present mirth hath present laughter;
What's to come is still unsure.
In delay there lies no plenty,
Then come kiss me sweet and twenty;
Youth's a stuff will not endure.
--Shakespeare, Twelfth Night

Noël Coward (1899-1973) was the darling of the British stage for a glittering decade from 1925 to 1935. Playwright, actor, composer of songs, including several enduring melodies, there seemed nothing theatrically he could not do. However, with the Second World War and the theatrical revolution that followed it in the work of Osborne, Wesker, etc. the British theatre was politicized and sobered in a way that almost obliterated Coward's gaiety. As the late John Osborne said, "Mr. Coward had the last of the wine." Two generations later we can agree, yet still enjoy the heady sparkle of his cup, so light, so witty, so skilfully theatrical. As Coward modestly asserted, he had merely a talent to amuse. Thank God for it.

Present Laughter was written, hurriedly as always, just before the War, but had to wait for production until after. The play and its central role was one of Coward's greatest successes and he played it in revivals and in repertory for years. He even played it in Paris in its French version, Joyeux Chagrin. The play offers a larger than life self-portrait of Coward and his relations with his professional entourage. In style, it is based on French farce, and its language displays Coward's characteristic economy and brittleness.