Upcoming Attractions at the School of Drama

**The Caucasian Chalk Circle**
By Bertolt Brecht
The Playhouse Theatre, May 1–11

**Alchemy of Desire / Dead Man’s Blues**
By Caridad Svich
The Penthouse Theatre, May 22–June 2

**UW Arts Tickets 543-4880**

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**Director's Notes**

Courtship and 1918 are two of a nine play cycle called The Orphan’s Home by Horton Foote. These plays deal autobigraphically with Foote’s own family in the Gulf Coast Texas town of Wharton, a little county seat just south of Houston. Foote’s fictional name for this community is Harrison, Texas. Horace and Elizabeth are Foote’s parents, Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn his maternal grandparents, etc. The baby born at the end of 1918 is the playwright himself.

The general title of the cycle, The Orphan’s Home, is derived from a poem by Marianne Moore, in which she says we all live an orphan’s home, all seeking our own parents, all trying to get home again. The plays also deal with the human condition, with the problem of survival in the face of disease, madness, war and death. By year’s end in 1918, 11½ million people had been killed in the war and 20 million more had been killed in a horrendous world wide flu epidemic. Horace asks, “How can human beings stand all that comes to them? How can they?” To this Mrs. Vaughn simply replies, “You just stand it. You keep going.” This sweet sad human journey is sustained in Foote by the all-embracing love of Divine grace, his “tender mercies”, to use the title of Foote’s Academy Award movie script.

Now nearing his eighth decade, Foote is clearly one of our great stage writers. He began by writing television dramas in the early 1950’s. (Does anyone remember when TV dramas were performed live in New York?) When TV moved to Los Angeles, Foote moved to rural New Hampshire, where he raised his family. He wrote constantly, sometimes Hollywood scripts, like the Oscar winning To Kill A Mockingbird. Finally, in recent years we have really discovered his extraordinary talent for the stage. Last year he won the Pulitzer Prize for his drama, The Young Man From Atlanta.

Foote’s plays are much too quiet for razzle-dazzle commercial success. But for the simple poetry of everyday life, he has no peers.

—J.C.

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**School of Drama**

**Executive Director**
Sarah Nash Gates

**Faculty**

Professors Robert Dahlstrom, Barry Witham
Associate Professors Robyn Hunt, Steve Pearson, William Forrester
Assistant Professors Sarah Bryant-Bertall, M.L. Geiger,
Sara K. Schneider, Jack Wolcott
Senior Lecturer M. Burke Walker
Lecturers Tom Burke, Judith Shahn, Deborah Trout

**Part-Time Faculty**

David Boushey, Jeff Caldwell, Bob Davidson, Mark Jenkins,
Jeffrey Eric Jenkins, Richard Jessup, Jon Klein,
Catherine Madden, Karen Onahen, Shanga Parker, Scott Weldon

**Retired, Emeritus Faculty and Former Program Heads**

John Ashby Conway*, Jack Clay, Betty Comtois, James Crider,
Alamo B. Davis, Gregory Falls, Vanick Gaia, Robert Gray,
Agnes Haaga, Donal (Dan) Harrington*, Robert Hobbs,
Paul Hostetler, Glenn Hughes*, Robert Loper, Warren Loundsbury,
Michael Quinn*, Duncan Ross*, Geraldine Siks, Jack Sydow,
Aurora Valentinetti

**Staff**

Bob Boehler, stage technician
Nacho Bravo, master electrician
Malcolm Brown, stage technician
Sue Bruns, office assistant
Alex Danilchik, stage technician
Josie Gardner, costume shop manager
Arlene Hamilton, administrator
Denise Jarrett, publicist
Dorothy Kerst, graduate programs
Laurie L. Kurutz, costumer
Cecile Kummerer, computer technician
Anne Stewart, production manager
Joanne Tall, secretary
Meri Wada, costumes
Alan Weldin, scene shop manager
Thomas Zorich, fiscal technician

*Deceased

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By Horton Foote

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**UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON**

**SCHOOL OF DRAMA**

**Meany Studio Theatre**

19th Season
44th Production
May 2 - 12, 1996
COURTSHIP 
CAST 
The action takes place on the front porch and parlour of the Vaughn House in Harrison, Texas 1918

Elizabeth
Laura
Mrs. Vaughn
Aunt Lucy
Aunt Sarah
Mr. Vaughn
Horace
Steve

Annie McAdams*
Jolene Hjerleid*
Hedda Sjogren*
Melissa Mascara*
Wendy Saver*
John Abramson*
Scott Capehart*
Dean Parvis*

1918 
CAST 
The action takes place at the bungalow of Horace and Elizabeth in Harrison, Texas 1918

Sam
Horace
Woman in Cemetery
Brother
Elizabeth
Bessie
Mrs. Vaughn
Mr. Vaughn
Iurma Sue
Dr. Greene
Gladys Maude
Mrs. Boone
Boy

James Turner, Jr.
Mark Schwörter*
Joann Rozbroj
Matthew Montelongo*
Michelle Sprinkles*
Melissa Mascara*
Hedda Sjogren*
Patrick Dinsley*
Paige Perrone
Dean Parvis*
Amala Rozbroj
Wendy Saver*
Brian West

COURTSHIP and 1918 
By Horton Foote 
Directed by Jack Clay

Set Design: Kim Cooper 
Costume Design: Sarah Nash Gates 
Lighting Design: James Nash 
Sound Design: Charles Harper 
Technical Director: Tom Burke 
Dialect Coach: Judith Shahn 
Stage Manager: Kerry Skalsky

There will be one fifteen minute intermission between The Plays
$ There will be a pause between Acts One and Two of 1918

Acknowledgments 
Cobbler to the School of Drama 
Swanson Shoe Repair—2305 North 45th St. 
Seattle Repertory Theatre, Intiman Theatre Company, 
A Contemporary Theatre, Seattle Opera

*Member of the Professional Actor Training Program

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service Inc.

Production Credits
Assistant Stage Manager: Adam Mooney
Production Electrician: Jay Venzke
Assistant Lighting Designer: Beau Bridgewater
Assistant Costume Designers: Karen E. Aguix, Joe Galvan
Frog Master: Jon Gleon
Fianist: Jeff Caldwell
Set Construction: Evan M. Alexander, Anthony Balducci, 
Chris Balducci, Derek Baylor, 
Kim Cooper, Chris Leliano, 
Daniel Gonzalez, Sanjeev Haas, 
Joel Peterson, Don Taylor, Jay Venzke, 
Drama 210 Students
Costume Construction: Cynthia Abbott, Katie Harrold, 
Veronica Larran, Christy Scoggins, 
211 and 291 Students
Running Crew: Aimée Pettenger, Dorian Miller, 
Joel Peterson, Jesse Pournon, 
Holly Risin, Bridget St. John, 
David Simonsen, Mindi Stoffel, 
Heather Wellons, Cynthia Wheaton
Production Office Staff: Rachel Katz, Kerry Skalsky
House Management: Maria Cason, Kelli Summers
Tickets: UW Arts Tickets

Recommended Reading
On Valentine’s Day by Samuel G. Freedman 

Horton Foote’s Three Trips to Bountiful 
Edited by Barbara Moore and David G. Yellin. 
Dallas: Southern Methodist University Press, c1993