Upcoming Attractions
at the School of Drama

El Paso Blue
by Octavio Solis
The Penthouse Theatre
May 27th - June 7th

UW Arts Ticket Office 543-4880

PROGRAM NOTES

Some thoughts of Thornton Wilder

On those who settled in early America: “They all had one thing in common ... Their sense of identity did not derive from their relation to their environment. The meaning which their lives had for them was inner and individual. They did not need to be supported, framed, consolled, by the known, the habitual, the loved - by the ancestral village, town, river, field, horizon; by family, kin, neighbors, church and state; by air, sky, and water that they knew. The independent ... Americans are disconnected. They are exposed to all place and all time. No place nor group nor moment can say to them: We were waiting for you; it is right for you to be here. Place and time are, for them, negative until they act upon them, until they bring them into being ... Home is not an edifice, but an interior and transportable adjustment ... They are disconnected ... they have a relation, but it is to everywhere, to everybody and to always ... it is difficult, but it is exhilarating. It shatters many lives; it inspirits others.”

About this Production

Is this the Heartland?* is made up of three short plays written in the 1930’s, the 1960’s, and the 1990’s, each reflecting a decade earlier. The pieces also take us across country from New Jersey, through the Midwest, and finishing in Southern California.

As I study these plays I am struck by the consistent and instinctual urge of the characters in these plays to connect - to “reach” for one another. It also seems these playwrights reveal the essential futility of such gestures. There can never be communion, only effort towards it. Is this the journey in the landscape of the heart?

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-Bertail, M.L. Geiger, Jack Wolcott

Senior Lecturer: Mark Jenkins, Mark Harrison
Lecturers: Tom Burke, Yuko Kurahashi, Shanga Parker,
Judith Shahn, Terry Donovan Smith, Deborah Trout

PART-TIME FACULTY
David Boushey, Scott Hafso, Catherine Madden,
Karen Omahen, Scott Weldin, Laura Worthen

RETIRED, EMERITUS FACULTY AND FORMER PROGRAM HEADS
John Ashby Conway*, Jack Clay, Betty Comtois, James Crider, Alanson B. Davis, Gregory Falls*, Vanick Galstaun, 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
Kris Bain, marketing and pr manager
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
Kathy Holliday, advisor
Dorothy Kerst, graduate programs
Laurie L. Kunutz, costumer
Cecile Kummerer, computer technician
Scott Perkins, fiscal technician
Anne Stewart, production manager
Joanne Tall, secretary
Rebecca Traber, office assistant
Alan Weldin, scene shop manager
Nanci Vaeth, costumer

* Deceased

Is This the Heartland?
The Happy Journey to Trenton and Camden
By Thornton Wilder

This is the Rill Speaking
By Lanford Wilson

Wasp
by Steve Martin

The Meany Studio
21st Season
49th Production
May 8th - 17th, 1998
The Happy Journey to Trenton and Camden
By Thornton Wilder

MA
Molly Hall

ARTHUR
Ryan Rogers

CAROLINE
Ana Olivo

BULLAH
Sarah Dammann

ELMER
René Millán

STAGE MANAGER
Pace Ebbesen

This is the Rill Speaking
By Lanford Wilson

MOTHER/PEGGY
Ana Olivo

WILLY/Ellis/Earl
Bill Smartt

JUDY/Martha
Robyn Walker

KEITH/Ted/Tom/2nd Farmer
Ryan Rogers

MAYBELLE/Allison
Sarah Dammann

MANNY/WALT/Father/1st Farmer
René Millán

THE COMPANY
(Members of the Professional Actor Training Program)

Sarah Dammann
Pace Ebbesen
Molly Hall
René Millán
Ana Olivo
Ryan Rogers
Bill Smartt
Robyn Walker

Wasp
by Steve Martin

DAD
Pace Ebbesen

SON
René Millán

MOM
Sarah Dammann

SIS
Molly Hall

FEMALE VOICE
Robyn Walker

PREMIER
Bill Smartt

ROGER/CHORMAESTER
Ryan Rogers

PRODUCTION CREDITS
Assistant Director
Nicole Bayer Cochran

Assistant Set Designer
Robert Cochran

Assistant Lighting Designer
Kris Shaw

Running Crew
Laura Adams, Sam Anderson,
Thomas Caldwell, Carmen Goetschius,
Matt Goodnow, Jennifer Ludden,
Jennifer Scott

House Management
Kit Schulte, April Thompson

Production Office Staff
Chazz Rose, Kerry Skalsky

Tickets
UW Arts Ticket Office

Presented by special arrangements with
Dramatists Play Service Inc., and Samuel French, Inc.

RECOMMENDED READING

American Characteristics and Other Essays
edited by Donald Gallup
Harper and Row, New York ©1979

Lanford Wilson: A Casebook
edited by Jackson R. Bryer

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Paola Bellotti, Seattle Children’s Theatre,
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