

Director's Notes

I first read *The Hothouse* nearly 20 years ago and have been patiently waiting for the opportunity to work on it ever since. It is one of the funniest plays I have ever read. It is also one of the most inscrutable and unsettling. Set in a government-run mental institution, it offers a fascinating glimpse of an institutional bureaucracy that has long since ceased serving its humanitarian mission and devolved, as so many bureaucracies do, into an end unto itself. We never even meet the patients. We only see the staff, a highly questionable lot whose humdrum daily routine is occasionally relieved by back-biting, sexual intrigue, murder plots and plenty of alcohol. Most of us have worked for a Mr. Roote at one point or another. I know that I have.

Upcoming School of Drama Productions:

WINTER

Radium Girls

Mar. 6-17

SPRING

Thornton Wilder One-Acts

Apr. 17-28

Enrico IV

May 1-12

Marisol

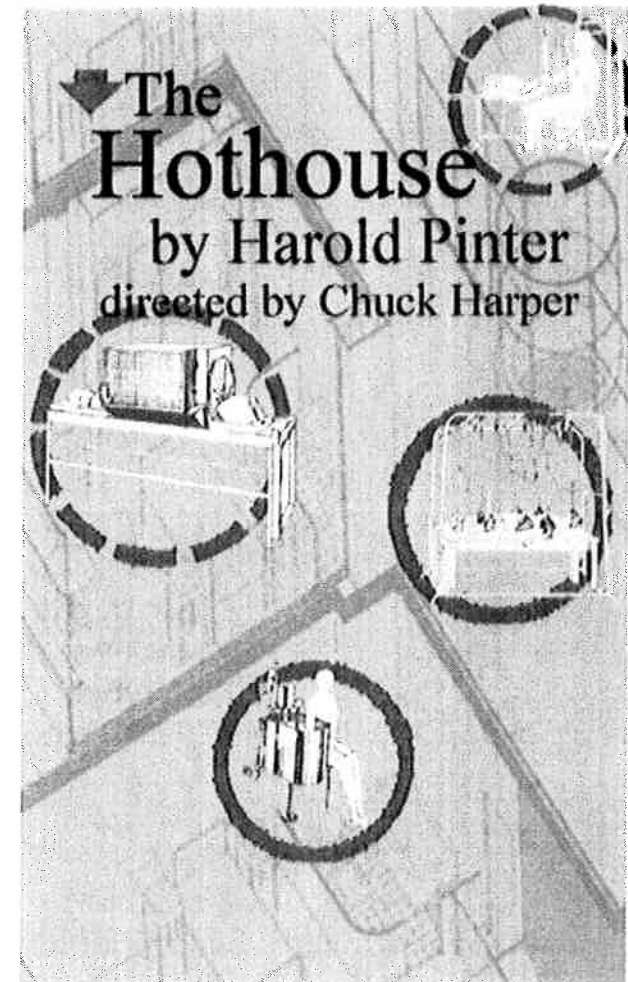
May 2-12

As You Like It

May 17-25

The Phantom Lady

May 29-June 9



UW Arts Ticket Office
4001 University Way N.E.
Seattle, WA 98105
(206) 543-4880

Hutchinson Hall Rm. 201
February 21-March 3, 2002

The Hothouse

by Harold Pinter

Director Chuck Harper
Costume Design Jennie Proby
Lighting Design and Crew Robert Aguilar
Sara Barnes
Jennie Proby
Michael Rotman-Koenen
Matt Starritt
Dirk Sanders
Erika Stoll
Stage Managers Lindsay Scola
Caitlin Shields

CREW

Dialect Coach Judith Shahn
House Management Nicole Baja-Appleby
Shane Walter
Production GSAs Matthew Arbour
Ariel Bowlby
Amy Boyce
Mark Zufelt

Running Crew

Aaron Chang, Amy Craven, Aaron Heinzen, Kwang Ho,
Erin Paynter, Richard Reade, Paul Ritums, Barbara Suiter,
Josh Tsang

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatist Play Service, Inc.



The School of Drama is proud to be a member of Theatre Puget Sound.

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Roote	Marc Kenison*
Gibbs	Elliott Williams*
Lamb	Darrick Clayton*
Miss Cutts	Catherine Ingman*
Lush	Joseph Yang*
Tubb	Jon Martin
Lobb	Len Childers*

**Member of the Professional Actor Training Program*

Act 1

Christmas Morning

Act 2

Christmas Night

About the Author

Harold Pinter is known for his so-called comedies of menace. He is also noted for his unique use of dialogue, which exposes his characters' alienation from each other and explores the layers of meaning produced by pauses and silence. His plays include *The Birthday Party* (1958), *The Lover* (1963), *The Homecoming* (1965), *Old Times* (1971), *No Man's Land* (1975), *Betrayal* (1979), and *Moonlight* (1993). His screenplays include *The Go-Between* (1971), *The French Lieutenant's Woman* (1981), *The Handmaid's Tale* (1990), and *The Trial* (1993). *The Hothouse* was written in 1958 and first produced in 1979.

Recommended Reading

Conversations with Harold Pinter by Harold Pinter and Mel Gussow, Grove Press, August 1996

The Life and Work of Harold Pinter by Michael Billington, Faber & Faber, November 2001