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**10-MINUTE PLAY FESTIVAL**

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**THE HOTHOUSE**

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**RADIUM GIRLS**

*MAR. 3-17, THE PLAYHOUSE THEATRE*

**SPRING**

**THORNTON WILDER ONE-ACTS**

*APR. 14-28, THE PENTHOUSE THEATRE*  
**ENRICO IV**

*APRIL 28- MAY 12, THE PLAYHOUSE THEATRE*  
**MARISOL**

*MAY 2-12, ETHNIC CULTURAL THEATRE*  
**AS YOU LIKE IT**

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**Meany Studio Theatre**

**25<sup>th</sup> Season**

**60<sup>th</sup> Production**

**January 27 -February 10, 2002**

# The Importance of Being Earnest

(A Trivial Comedy for Serious People)

By Oscar Wilde

**DIRECTOR** Richard Kuhlman  
**SET DESIGN** Marion Williams  
**COSTUME DESIGN** Heidi Ganser\*  
**LIGHTING DESIGN** Brian Barnett  
**STAGE MANAGER** Miller Freeman  
**TECHNICAL DIRECTOR** Alex Danilchik  
**CREW**

**MASTER CARPENTER** Bob Boehler  
**MASTER ELECTRICIAN** Rich Leibfried  
**ASST. COSTUME DESIGNERS** Susan Mummery, Amy Schumacher  
**STITCHERS** Denise Barry, Imelda Daranciang,  
 Heidi Ganser, Anita Grimes, Ellen  
 King, Amy Laughter, Cynthia  
 Wheaton  
**MILLINERY** Erin Murphy  
**WIGS** Joyce Deggenfelder  
**HOUSE MANAGEMENT** Nicole Baja-Appleby, Michael  
 Thompson, Shane Walter  
**PRODUCTION OFFICE** Amy Boyce, Mark Zufelt  
**TICKETS** UW Arts Ticker Office

\*In partial completion of a Masters of Fine Arts Degree

## SET CONSTRUCTION CREW

Brian Barnett, Ann Bartek, Eric Beauzay, Roxanne Breen,  
 Matthew Smucker, Brian Spradlin, Carrie Whitney, Jennifer Zeyl

## LIGHTING CREW

Robert Aguilar, Galoe Dixon, Jessica Trundy, July Simpson

## COSTUME CONSTRUCTION CREW

Students from the Drama 211 & 291 classes

## RUNNING CREW

Lizabeth Adkisson, Christina Bruce, Susan Mummery, Rachel Ferguson,  
 Brooke Hendricks, Claire Izdepski, Kasi Jones, Nadia Kaboul, Elizabeth  
 Martin, Suzanne Merhej, Stephanie Mitchell, Heather Rogers, Michael  
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 Brady Wright

### About the School of Drama

The School of Drama traces its origins to 1919 when Glenn Hughes joined the faculty of the Department of Dramatic Art, a part of the English Department. Though he came to the UW as a poetry fellow, Hughes soon became determined to create "a first-rate drama school." Hughes led the Department from 1930 to 1961, which became the School of Drama in 1940. For the past 60 years, students, faculty and staff in the School worked to mount a continuous offering of high-quality plays in addition to tending to the demands of the academic curriculum. The School's theatres are extremely busy and always have been, fostering an enthusiastic patronage in Seattle that included civic and social leaders and many community clubs.

The UW School of Drama is one of this country's leading training institutions for theatre artists and scholars. Twenty faculty and eighteen staff members serve over 200 undergraduate majors and 65 graduate students. The School offers a four-year undergraduate liberal arts education, Masters of Fine Arts degrees in acting, design, and directing, plus a PhD in theatre history and criticism. Ten shows are mounted annually at the Penthouse, Playhouse and The Meany Studio Theatres along with various workshops, projects and showcases. Works range from Shakespeare to Arrabal, Euripides to Chekhov, new plays and musicals, as well as contemporary favorites from the likes of Horton Foote, Sarah Daniels and Alice Childress. Well-known alums of stage and screen include Ella Raines, Frances Farmer, Lois Smith, Robert Culp, Patrick Duffy, Jean Smart, Pamela Reed, Kyle MacLachlan, Harry Groener and Richard Karn. Using the firm foundation generated by those who came before, the School of Drama is growing and evolving facing the new millennium with exciting new opportunities and developments.

Visit us on the web at <http://ascc.artsci.washington.edu/drama!>

#### Support UW School of Drama Scholarships

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### *The Persons of the Play*

*In Order of Appearance*

*Lane, Algernon's butler*

*Algernon Moncrieff*

*John Worthing, J.P*

*Hon. Gwendolyn Fairfax*

*Lady Bracknell*

*Cecily Cardew*

*Miss Prism, her governess*

*Rev. Canon Chasable, D.D.*

*Merriman, a French maid*

*Sam Wilson*

*Tim Johnson\**

*Glenn Seven  
Allen\**

*Jachyn Williams\**

*Jenny Mercein\**

*Bridie*

*Harrington\**

*Jennifer Gillespie\**

*Scott Giguere\**

*Nikki Przasnyski*

*\* Member of the Professional Actor Training Program*

### *The Scenes of the Play:*

#### *Act I*

*Algernon Moncrieff's flat in Half Moon Street, West*

#### *Act II*

*The gardens at the Manor House, Woolton*

*Time – 1895*

*There will be one fifteen-minute intermission*

### *SPECIAL THANKS*

*A Contemporary Theatre, Intiman Theatre, Seattle  
Children's Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre, The  
Seattle Opera*

## About the Playwright

*The Importance of Being Earnest* opened, appropriately, on Valentine's Day, 1895, at the St. James Theatre in London. Although the city was engulfed in a blizzard, all of fashionable London was out in force for this opening, one of the social events of the season. In tribute to Wilde's trademark eccentric fashion style, many of the gentlemen sported lily-of-the-valley in their lapel. The playwright stood backstage for the performance, sporting the same lily-of-the-valley in his own lapel. The crowd of Victorian high-society ladies and gentleman watched as Wilde's play exposed the masks and mores of their upper-crust world with an elegance and wit that seduced them, as it seduces us today.

Oscar Wilde was born in Ireland in 1854. As a young man, with a consuming desire to make himself famous, Wilde moved to London to set about doing just that. Despite his Irish, middle-class upbringing and thinly veiled homosexuality, he penetrated Victorian high-society and his extreme wit and lavishly flamboyant style made him the most sought after guest among the London jet-set he called "the beautiful people."

Oscar Wilde continued to have success with his novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, a series of children's books, poetry, and plays like *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *Salome*. However, a libel suit he filed against his lover's father, the Marquis of Queensbury, backfired. Queensbury was acquitted and Wilde, soon thereafter, imprisoned for two years' hard labor for sodomy. When he emerged from prison, Wilde's characteristic confidence and style were broken; he wandered around Europe living off the generosity of friends and hotel managers until his death from meningitis in 1900.

**"I hope that you will enjoy my 'trivial' play. It is written by a butterfly for butterflies."**

- From a letter to Arthur L. Humphreys  
from Oscar Wilde

## Recommended Reading

*Oscar Wilde: A Certain Genius* / Barbara Belford / Random House / October 2000

*Gross Indecency: Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* / Moises Kaufmann / Vintage Books / February 1998



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

## School of Drama

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sarah Nash Gates

### FACULTY

#### Professors

Robert Dahlstrom, Jon Jory,  
Steve Pearson, Barry Witham

#### Associate Professors

Sarah Bryant-Bertail, William Forrester,  
Mary Louise Geiger, Robyn Hunt,  
Mark Jenkins

#### Assistant Professors

Valerie Curtis-Newton,  
Catherine Madden, Odai Johnson,  
Shanga Parker, Tina Redd

#### Senior Lecturers

Mark Harrison, Judith Shahn

#### Lecturers

Jerry Collum, Deborah Trout

#### Artist-in-Residence

Peter Maradudin

### PART-TIME FACULTY

Geoff Alm, Scott Hafso, Melissa  
Kerber, Peter Kyle, Stephanie Skura,  
Leslie Swackhamer, Teresa Thuman  
Scott Weldin, Laura Worthen

### RETIRED, EMERITUS FACULTY & 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 Lounsbury\*, Michael Quinn\*,  
Duncan Ross\*, Geraldine Siks,  
Jack Sydow, Aurora Valentinetti,  
Jack Wolcott

\*Deceased

### STAFF

Kris Bain, *marketing and pr manager*  
Jordan Baker, *stage technician*  
Bob Boehler, *stage technician*  
Sue Bruns, *graduate program*  
Jenny Crook, *computer technician*  
Alex Danilchik, *stage technician*  
Josie Gardner, *costume shop*  
*manager*  
Arlene Hamilton, *administrator*  
Andrea Johnson, *costumer*  
Laurie L. Kurutz, *costumer*  
Rich Leibfried, *master electrician*  
Jennifer Lavy, *development director*  
Dena Petersen, *fiscal technician*  
Anne Stewart, *general manager*  
Joanne Tall, *secretary*  
Michael Thompson, *assistant to the*  
*general manager*  
Rebecca Traber, *office assistant*  
Alan Weldin, *scene shop manager*

**The School of Drama extends a warm welcome to members of the President's Club, who are joining us for the February 1 performance of *The Importance of Being Earnest***