

UW SCHOOL OF DRAMA UPCOMING SHOWS

Blithe Spirit by Noël Coward
February 15 - March 1
Penthouse Theatre

Hilarity, chaos and surprises ensue, when Charles invites an eccentric spiritualist into his house.

Our Town by Thornton Wilder
March 1 - 15
Jones Playhouse

This Pulitzer Prize winning masterpiece explores the simple beauty and fragile elegance of ordinary lives, and human connection.

Two Orphans by Adolphe D'Ennery & Eugene Cormon
April 26 - May 10
Meany Studio

Bring your handkerchiefs and weep for the fallen heroine, curse the blows of misfortune and cheer the triumph of good in this melodramatic spectacle of a bygone era.

For ticket information and season brochures,
call The UW Arts Ticket Office at 206-543-4880.
On the web: drama.washington.edu



ABOUT THE UW SCHOOL OF DRAMA MFA DIRECTING PROGRAM

Interaction between actors and directors in rehearsal is a crucial element of a director's professional career. Improvement of a director's ability to relate to actors in this creative crucible is considered extremely important by our faculty. The Directing Lab, in which directing students are observed constantly during the rehearsal of a project, forms the core of the training.

The School of Drama has a wealth of theatrical stages (spaces) in which to work: arena, thrust, black box and end-stage configurations. MFA directing students have the unique opportunity of working in all of these configurations--the greatest staging variety of any school in the nation.

The rigorous training includes work in a range of types and styles of dramatic literature including non-realistic, realistic, classical and contemporary plays. The program emphasizes the development of unique artistic visions and voices. The development of generative and exciting theatre artists is at the core of this emphasis. The overall aim of the program is to provide students with the practical skills necessary to clearly and fully reveal their artistic ideas and which will allow them to be effective collaborators with actors and designers.



Desdemona Chiang
MFA Directing Candidate

DON'T MISS YOUR CUE!

Subscribe today to Cue to Cue, the e-news from the School of Drama. Sign up on our website, it's easy and only takes a minute. You'll receive periodic announcements that will cue you in to upcoming productions, special events and other news from the

School of Drama.

drama.washington.edu/elists/

Join at: drama.washington.edu

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SUPPORT THE SCHOOL OF DRAMA!

To donate to the School of Drama, please make your check payable to UW Foundation/Drama and mail to:

UW School of Drama, Box 353950, Seattle, WA 98195-3950

To give online, go to drama.washington.edu/support/

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BIG LOVE

by Charles L. Mee

directed by Desdemona Chiang*

Scenic Design
Deanna L. Zibello*

Costume Design
Katie Hegarty*

Lighting Design
Lara Wilder*

Sound Design
Matt Davis

Technical Director
Wiley

Dramaturg
Lisa Jackson-Schebetta

Choreographer
Rachel Randall

Production Stage Manager
Bret Torbeck

Stage Manager
Yeojin Chung

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Master Carpenter
Joseph Anthony Loporati

Master Scenic Artist
Jordan Baker

Master Electrician
Dave Hult

Stunt Coordinator
David Yount

Scenic Carpenter
Jinseok Lee

Properties Master
Kristyne A. Hughes

Rappelling Assistant
Martin Dinn

Electrics Crew
Rich Bresnahan
Chia-huei Seetoo
Alex Schmidt
Students of
Drama 212

Scenic Painter
Song Yi Chun

Specialty Prop Design
Jenna Lee Ulrich
Michael Minahan

Fight Captain
Richard Sloniker

Assistant Stage Manager
Laure Yamagawa

Running Crew

Evan Anderson
Kasha Browning
Carolina Ceja
Martin Dinn
Devin Gorham
Jessica Vasquez-Soltero
David Kulcsar
Kelsey Long
Alexei Menedes
Sean Payne

Andrew Nichols
Sean Payne
Jessica Riggs
Ashley Rolph
Jeremy Spektor
Kelly Thoma
Luke Vroman
Henry Vu
Kat Wertzler
Tsun-Yao Yang
Dawn Zumwalt

Asst Costume Designer
Victoria Anderson

Asst Lighting Designer
Tyler Phillips

Costume Crew Trainer
Inci Kangal

Cake Baking
Faith Middleton

*Indicates thesis production in partial fulfillment of a Masters of Fine Arts

CAST

Lydia	Heather Rash*
Thyona	Hannah Franklin*
Olympia	Amanda Zarr*
Bella/Eleanor	Betty Campbell
Piero/Leo	Brian Demar Jones*
Giuliano	Stephen Levall*
Nikos	Richard Sloniker*
Constantine	Jason Sanford*
Oed	Thomas Stroppel*
Brides	Megan Campbell, Claire Dann, Heather Deardorff, Alix Isom, Kate Jensen, Christina Larson, Faith Middleton, Anh Nguyen
Grooms	Zach Badger-Markey, Andy Crooks, Matthew Dela Cruz, Zachary Hewell, Brian Scott Kerrick, Benjamin Lealofi, Luke Sayler, Tyson Strotz

Place: Piero's villa on the southwest coast of Italy.
Outside the terrace, facing the ocean. Sometime today.

The play runs 1 hour and 45 minutes and is performed without an intermission.

* Indicates a member of the Professional Actor Training Program (MFA).

Acknowledgements: Valerie Curtis-Newton, Andrew Tsao, Jon Jory, Scott Hafso, Geoff Korf, Alyson Roux, Paula Bennett, Judy Shahn, Geof Alm, School of Acrobatics & New Circus Arts (SANCA), Intiman Theatre, Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, Charles Picard, Matthew Johnson, and Tom Burke.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Charles Mee's first work was produced in the early 1960's in NYC at La Mama and Café Cino. As he became more involved in anti-Vietnam war activities, his plays, politics and interest in critical history began to merge. Mee left the theatre and dedicated himself - as a "citizen polemicist"-- to writing history books. In 1981/82, Mee returned to writing plays. Informed by both history and the present moment, his role as a playwright, he says, is not to take sides on political topics, but "to remind all of us of the issues that are important in our lives today." *Big Love* was first produced in 1999 at the Actor's Theatre of Louisville. Mee took his inspiration from Aeschylus' *The Suppliant Women* and the dawning of the new millennium. Charles Mee's work is made possible by the support of Richard B. Fisher and Jeanne Donovan Fisher.

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"I believe what the ancient Greeks believed:
that love is not the extra added optional luxury of life,
not the icing on the cake, but that love is the glue of the universe,
that without love the universe falls apart into chaos.
The Greeks talked not just about erotic love--
though they certainly talked about that--but also about romantic
love, love of family, communal love, social love, compassion,
tolerance, forgiveness, empathy--as all related personal and social
virtues on a continuum, essential for civilization to survive.
Their belief is still true."

~ Charles L. Mee

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SUGGESTED READING

For more of Mee's plays, see the (re)making project at:
<http://www.charlesmee.org/>

Charles L. Mee. *A nearly normal life : a memoir*. Boston: Little, Brown and Co. 1999.

Big Love is produced by special arrangement with International Creative Management, Inc.