



SCHOOL OF DRAMA  
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

# £ o o t

WRITTEN BY JOE ORTON

DIRECTED BY SEAN RYAN

DECEMBER 2 - 13, 2015  
MEANY STUDIO THEATRE

# LOOT

written by **JOE ORTON**

directed by **SEAN RYAN\***

*Scenic Design*  
Jennifer Lupton<sup>^</sup>

*Costume Design*  
Isabel Martin

*Lighting Design*  
Kenrick Fischer\*

*Sound Design*  
Brenna Smith

*Dialect Coach*  
Judith Shahn<sup>o</sup>

\* Member of the Master of Fine Arts program  
<sup>^</sup>Alumnus/Alumna of UW Drama  
<sup>o</sup>Faculty of UW Drama

*Technical Director*  
Justin Roberts

*Stage Manager*  
Nina Williams

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*Prop Master*  
Andrea Bush<sup>^</sup>

*Asst. Lighting Designer*  
Matthew Webb

*Sound Board Operator*  
Anna Saephan

*Running Crew*  
Alex Askerov  
Andrew Forrest  
Brynne Henry  
Kayleah Lewis  
Austin Payne  
Andrew Shin

*Assistant Director*  
Madeleine Stevenson

*Sound Technician*  
Avril Martinez

*Light Board Operator*  
Sylvia Kowalski

*Asst. Stage Manager*  
Malie Fujii

*Fight Choreographers*  
Rudy Roushdi\*  
Zach Virden\*

*Costume Crew*  
Emily Bush  
Hannah Knapp-Jenkins  
Melissa Marquez  
Erica Ream  
Mari Reed

*Photographer*  
Mike Hipple

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Monica Gonzalez  
Rayna Mumbower

*Shop Assistant*  
Denis Hartnett

*Special Thanks:* 5th Avenue Theatre, ACT Theatre, Book-It Repertory Theatre, Intiman Theatre, Seattle Children's Theatre, Seattle Opera, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Theatre Puget Sound, UW Student Technology Fee, Village Theatre.

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## CAST

*In order of appearance.*

*\*member of the Professional Actor Training Program (PATP)*

*McLeavy*..... John Murray

*Nurse Fay*..... Jess Moss\*

*Hal*..... Zach Virden\*

*Dennis*..... Rudy Roushdi\*

*Truscott*..... Skye Edwards\*

*Undertaker/Meadows*..... Nathan Wornian

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**The year is 1965. London, England**

**Act One: A room in McLeavy's house. Afternoon.**

**15 minute intermission.**

**Act Two: A room in McLeavy's house.**

*Loot* runs approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes, including a 15 minute intermission.

*"Like all great satirists, Joe Orton was a realist. He was prepared to speak the unspeakable; and this gave his plays their joy and danger." -John Lahr*

*Loot* is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French Inc.



## ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Sean Ryan has produced, directed, and devised theater and interdisciplinary performance in Seattle and the Pacific Northwest since 1998. In recent years, Ryan was instrumental in re-establishing the Seattle Fringe Festival and launching Gay City Arts—Gay City's commitment to presenting challenging, dynamic, and excellent queer art including theatre, music, dance, film, spoken word, literary, and visual arts. His directed work has been presented by Under the RADAR at the Public Theater (NYC), Helena Theater Company (MT), Teatro Frida Kahlo (CA), and in Seattle at On the Boards, Youth Theater Northwest, Gay City Arts, the Seattle Fringe Festival, and the Central District Forum for Arts and Ideas. Plays include: *The Birds Flew In* by Yussef El Guindi; *Are You There Frida It's Me Xioci* by Nilki Benitez; *August: Osage County* by Tracy Letts; *(IN)STABILITY* by Paul Budraitis; *Lucy's Lamb* by Okanomodé Soulchilde; *Another You* by Allen Johnson (check out at ontheboards.tv), the West Coast Premiere of *Crave* by Sarah Kane, among others. Prior to pursuing his MFA, he was the Regional Programs Director at On the Boards managing 12 Minutes Max and producing the NW New Works Festival for ten years.

## ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Joe Orton had a brief literary career that lasted from 1963–1967 until his untimely death by the hands of his lover, Kenneth Halliwell, on August 9, 1967. In the span of these four years Orton became an international sensation as a playwright beginning with *The Ruffian on the Stairs*, *Entertaining Mr. Sloane*, *The Good and Faithful Servant*, *The Erpingham Camp*, and *What the Butler Saw* (produced posthumously). *Loot*, with a successful run on the West End and in New York, won the Evening Standard Award for Best Play of 1966.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When I was young I used to sit at my grandfather's feet watching British television farces like *The Benny Hill Show*, *Fawlty Towers*, and *Keeping up Appearances*. The two of us would laugh for hours. There weren't many other times I heard my grandfather laugh with such abandon. When reading *Loot* for the first time, I experienced moments of uninhibited laughter while trying to quietly read at a coffee shop; I was instantly transported to my grandparent's living room. So, this production is, in part, an homage to my late grandfather—very much the eternal paternalist like Mr. McLeavy: a loving family man who was very Catholic, who never questioned the rules of his faith or those in authority, and who was heavily resistant to change. Now, some 30 years later, I am (sometimes unwillingly) stepping into those shoes of accepting change around me, "keeping abreast of the times," if you will. There are times I wish I was still the innocent of the world. However, placing my livelihood in the Church, toeing the party line, speaking in platitudes, and only believing what I am told to think stifles the progress I want to embody and encourage within myself and my community. *Loot*'s themes of paternalism, police perversion of justice, and corruption around money absolutely ring true now, but what really cuts to the core is Orton's rallying cry to not be complacent. We must stand by our own liberated choices and not be "an insufferable apologist of the status quo." I hope you enjoy the brazen, unapologetic glee of Joe Orton. Thanks for joining us and I will see you on the other side.

-Sean Ryan

## UPCOMING IN WINTER QUARTER

### *The Tale of the Heike*

by Phillip Kan Gotanda & Yussef El Guindi  
New play workshop in partnership with ACT Theatre  
Jan 22–24, Penthouse Theatre

### Lost & Founded: Bathhouse Theatre

Free reading series  
Jan 25, 7:30 PM, Meany Studio Theatre

### BA Slot (Show TBA)

produced by the BA Council  
Jan 28–31, Cabaret Theatre

### The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

presented by the UW Musical Theater Program  
music & lyrics by William Finn; book by Rachel Sheinkin; conceived by Rebecca Feldman  
directed by Brandon Ivie  
musical direction by Jordyn Meeker  
Jan 27 thru Feb 7, Jones Playhouse

### Lost & Founded: NW Asian American Theatre

Free reading series  
Feb 8, 7:30 PM, Meany Studio Theatre

### Revisiting the New-ness of "New Drama"

Performing Arts Lecture, Free  
Feb 16, 7:30 PM, Jones Playhouse

## CONTACT US

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**Facebook:** UWDRAMA

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UW Arts Ticket Office  
1313 NE 41st St  
206.543.4880

## AUDIENCE SURVEY

Let us know what you thought! Take our brief survey at <http://bit.ly/loot-survey>

## RESOURCE GUIDE:

<http://guides.lib.uw.edu/schoolofdramaproductions/loot>

## RECOMMENDED READING:

*Prick Up Your Ears, The Biography of Joe Orton* by John Lahr (1978)  
*Krazy Days* by Micky Fawcett (2013)  
*Comedy in Space, Time and the Imagination* by Paul H Grawe (1983)



The University of Washington School of Drama develops innovative and courageous artists and scholars poised to be the creative leaders of tomorrow. Our dynamic, award-winning faculty is dedicated to enabling each student to reach their full potential and our alumni are advancing the artistic conversation through innovative and diverse work across the globe.

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*Executive Director*, Todd London

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