

PLAYGRAM

Kutztown University Department of Speech and Theatre presents

RHINOCEROS

by Eugène Ionesco



DIRECTED BY
Michael Kirkland

COSTUMES DESIGNED BY
Johanna Forte

SCENERY AND LIGHTING BY
Robert L. Smith

November 19-24th, 1997

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French Inc.

Department of Speech and Theatre

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Barbara Burgess
John M. Callahan
Karen Connell
Denise Danford
Johanna Forte
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College of Visual and Performing Arts

Kutztown University
Department of Speech and Theatre
Presents

RHINOCEROS

by Eugene Ionesco

Costume Design
Professor Johanna Forte

Stage Manager
Aaron Wexler

Set and Light Design
Professor Robert Lewis Smith

Director
Dr. Michael Kirkland

Kutztown University's Production of *Rhinoceros* is an
Associate entry in the Kennedy Center's American College
Theatre Festival

Photographs and recording devices are prohibited during performance.

There will be one fifteen minute intermission,

Produced in association with Samuel French, Inc.

Cast of Characters (In Order of Appearance)

The Waitress	Krissy Dunkle.
The Grocers Wife	Mary Katherine Anderson
The Housewife	Janna GaNun
Berenger	Jim Perri*
Jean	Jason T. Barnsley
The Grocer	Paul J. Gallo*
The Old Gentlemen	Michael Haber
The Logician	Jonathon Horowitz
The Café Propreitor,	Diana T. Connolly*
Daisy	Angie Williams
Dudard	Ryan Bailey
Botard	Jackie Knox
Mr. Papillon	James P. Jordan
Mrs. Boeuf	Anne Marie Scalies
A Fireman	Jacob Warfel

*Members of Alpha Psi Omega, the national honorary theatre fraternity

Synopsis of Scenes

ACT I

Scene 1 A square in a small French provincial town.

Midday on a Sunday in Summer

Scene 2 The office of a firm of law publications. The following morning.

INTERMISSION

ACT II

Jean's room. The afternoon of the same day.

ACT III

Berenger's room. A few days later.

Time-the present

Director's Note

Eugene Ionesco is recognized as one of the "father's of the avant garde theatre movement" which emerged from the ashes of post-World War II Europe. Like several other dramatists who weathered the destruction of Europe during those dark years between 1936 and 1945, he came away from the experience profoundly affected. The anxiety of living one's life with humanity's thumb poised millimeters above the nuclear button was simply too horrifying to fathom. Perhaps it is easier, in a post-"perestroika" world, to have faith in the fact that humanity might act responsibly enough to ensure its survival. In the post Hiroshima years of the 1940s and 1950s many found little reason to believe in humankind's capacity to act responsibly. Many had seen their hope in humanity die on the battlefields of Europe and Asia or in the Nazi concentration camps. Dramatists such as Ionesco, Samuel Beckett, Jean Genet, and others could not bring themselves to believe that an all-powerful deity could have allowed such carnage to occur. Iptso facto, humanity is on its own—and humanity's track record was not good. To some, the obvious conclusion could only be that humankind was destined to destroy itself. It was the dramatization of this (what some considered to be a totally ridiculous condition) which led critic Martin Esslin to coin the term "Theatre of the Absurd" when referring to the combined efforts of these out-of-the-mainstream dramatists. Realism, which had dominated the stages of twentieth century Europe and America, no longer supplied the answers these mavericks were looking for. For them, Realism was far too enamored with logic, the rational, and phenomenal reality to the exclusion of the irrational, the subconscious, and the nontangibles we as human beings cannot perceive through our five senses —yet universally acknowledge. Ionesco's particular brand of "absurdism" targets the banality of language, the futility of fighting the irrational, and a favorite theme of the Absurdist genre—the abdication of one's responsibilities as a human being in service to a supposed "higher calling." *Rhinoceros* is actually one of Ionesco's more linear plays, exhibiting (on face value) more of a realistic façade than some of his other plays. Yet the darkly humorous metaphor at the center of his play, the rhinoceros, serves as a powerful statement about the dangers of immersing oneself in "massification," when the need to belong supercedes one's responsibility to humankind. Radio personality Rush Limbaugh frequently quips that he "uses absurdity to demonstrate the absurd." Then certainly he, as well as countless other dramatists, comedians, pundits, et al., owe a debt of gratitude to Ionesco whose "rhinoseritis" serves as an absurd, all to real warning to those of us who would abdicate our responsibility to humankind. Ionesco's warning is as timely as ever. We are even as we ecstatically merge into the "herd"-du-jour of our choice.

Director

Dr. Michael Kirkland

Who's *Who* in the Cast

Mary Katherine Anderson (Grocer's Wife)

Mary Katherine is a sophomore Related Arts Major making her KU Mainstage debut in *Rhinoceros*. She has made several appearances backstage for *Agnes of God*, *The Rivals*, *Big Bad Wolf*, and countless Related Art senior shows. She is also the current secretary for Sunshine Players. Mary Katherine dedicates her performance to her "brother" Adam.

Ryan Bailey (Dudard)

This is Ryan's fifth production at KU where he has appeared in such productions as *Deathwatch*, *Working*, *Assasins*, and the *The Lion in winter*. He is a BFA Related Arts/Theatre Major in his last year (yes, last). He would like to dedicate this performance to anyone that would like it dedicated to them.

Jason Barnsley (Jean)

Jason Barnsley is a junior BA Music/BA Theatre dual major. He hails from Lloydminster, Alberta, Canada, where he performed as Eugene Jerome in Neil Simon's *Broadway Bound*. At KU, Jason was Production Stage Manager for last season's *All My Sons*, and Musical Director for the Sunshine Players' production of *How to Eat Like a Child*. Jason thanks his Mom and Dad, H.R.H., Queen Elizabeth II, Patti, Kate and Dr. E.R.H for their support.

Diana T. Connolly (Café Proprietess)*

Diana is a third year BA Theatre major. She has appeared in such KU Theatre productions as *Working*, *Agnes of God*, *The Rivals* and *Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf*. She is currently treasurer of Drama Club, Sunshine Players, and AUMTO. She dedicates her performance to Mom, Dad, Becki, Erykali Badu and Xena, Warrior Princess.

Krissy Dunkle (Waitress)

Krissy is a junior BA Theatre major making her second appearance in a KU Mainstage production. Her credits include: Peasblossom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and the ensemble of *Short Changed? Depicting Women in Literature*. She also ran crew for *The Rivals* and co-choreographed the Sunshine Players production of *How to Eat Like a Child*. She would like to dedicate this performance to Mom, Dad, and Kate. "I love you, guys!"

Paul J. Gallo (Grocer)*

Paul is a junior BA Theatre major and is happy to be on KU's Mainstage again. If you frequent KU shows, you might remember him as Philostrate in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, or Frank Lubey in *All My Sons*. Earlier this semester, Paul appeared in *Musical Marequades*, a revue by the All University Musical Theatre Organization (AUMTO). Paul wishes to thank everyone out there who has helped him along the way.

Janna GaNun (Housewife)

Although Janna has a significant amount of performance experience, *Rhinoceros* marks her debut on the KU Mainstage. She has performed in such plays as *Oklahoma!* (Laury), *Once Upon A Mattress* (Queen), *Grease* (Rizzo), and *Snow White* (Dopey); *The Island* at Kutztown and directed a children's production. Awards include first place in Varsity Improvisation at Monmouth College Competition. She would like to thank her family for their support, especially this past year.

Michael Haber (Old Gentleman)

Michael Haber is pleased to be back this semester and appearing in his first KU Mainstage production. Most recently he was seen in last semester's Reader's Theatre production of *Short Changed*. He has served as Production Assistant for Allenberry Playhouse under the Equity Membership Candidacy Program. Michael is also a member of the "Barefoot Players" acting troupe and would like to dedicate this show to all of his friends. "Thanks for your love and support."

Jonathon Horowitz (Logician)

Jonathon Horowitz is a freshman at Kutztown University and is appearing for the first time on Mainstage. Some of you may have seen Jonathon as Sky Masterson, Lenny Gantz, or Phillip Lombard. Most recently, he appeared in the winning play for the JW One Act Play Competition, winning “Outstanding Performance by an Actor.” Jonathon would like to thank his family, and the cast and crew of *Rhinoceros*.

James P. Jordan (Papillon)

After a firm dose of therapy, James is finally back on stage. KU audiences may remember him as “Flute, the bellows mender” in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. He would like to dedicate his performance to Andy Kaufman, N02, and 151. Way to go James, you’re a credit to us all!

Jackie Knox (Botard)

Jackie Knox, a BFA Related Arts Theatre and Visual Art major, is in her fourth year at KU. This is her mainstage debut. Previous credits include make-up crew for *All My Sons*, and Thelma in *‘nightMother*, a Related Arts performance last spring. She is dedicating her performance to her mother.

James K. Perri (Berenger)*

James is a senior BFA Theatre student. He has appeared in such KU Mainstage productions as *Working* and *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. Other credits include John Hinckley Jr. in *Assassins* and Chandler in *Shivaree*. He has also worked at Muhlenberg Summer Theatre appearing in *Street* and *Oliver!* He dedicates this performance to his brother Frank and thanks his parents for their love and support over the years.

Anne Marie Scalies (Mrs. Boef)*

Anne Marie has been here forever. She is a BA Theatre major who is no stranger to the KU Theatre program. KU credits are too numerous to mention. She is president of the Sunshine Players and a member of Alpha Psi Omega, the All University Musical Theatre Organization (AUMTO),

and the KU Drama Club. She is also recipient of the Artistically Talented Student Tuition Waiver and Speech and Theatre scholarship. “Schuykill Hall Is Together.”

Jacob Warfel (Fireman)

Jacob Warfel is a freshman theatre major from the Pocono Mountains. Previous acting credits include *Of Mice and Men* and *Death of a Salesman*. ‘Nuff said!

Angie Williams (Daisy)

Angie is a Related Arts major currently in her junior year. Although she has an extensive music/theatre background, *Rhinoceros* marks her KU mainstage debut. Angie also performs as the singer for the KU Jazz Band and as a freelance vocalist in the area. She would like to dedicate her performance to her grandmother as thanks for always encouraging her endeavors.

Artistic Staff

Michael Kirkland (Director)*

Professor Kirkland is now in his third year with the KU Department of Speech and Theatre where he teaches such subjects as acting, directing, voice and movement, and stage combat. Previous KU Mainstage productions include the *A “Cajun” Midsummer Night’s Dream* and Sheridan’s *The Rivals*. Last Spring he also served as Visiting Guest Director and fight choreographer for Lafayette College’s production of *Othello*. Last Summer he appeared as an Equity Guest Artist in the Berks Festival Theatre production of *Man of La Mancha*. He also is an accomplished fight director certified as an instructor with the Society of American Fight Directors—having won their coveted Best Advanced Actor/Combat and Best Fight Scene Awards at the SAFD’s National Workshop in 1990. Local audiences will have seen professor Kirkland’s fights staged for the KU productions of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* and *The Rivals*. He is married to his High school sweetheart, actress Candi Kirkland and has two daughters, Alexis (13) and Bronwyn (4).

Johanna Forte (Costume Designer)

Johanna is an Assistant Professor of Theatre in her eleventh year at KU. Originally from Michigan, Professor Forte came to Kutztown with a wide range of professional experiences, including designing at Meadow Brook Theatre, SUNY @ Purchase, two years as resident costumer at Allentown's PA Stage Company, as well as assisting New York-based costume designers. Professor Forte has been recognized by the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival for her costume designs for *Crimes of the Heart*, *Assassins*, *The Lion in Winter*, and *All My Sons*. She is faculty advisor for the Sunshine Players. She resides in Bowers, Pa with actor/director husband Randall and their two children, Melina and Byron.

Sally Gilmore (Make-up, Wig/Hair Designer)

Sally is a sophomore theatre major at KU where she has worked as Hair Designer for *Working*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Rivals*, and *All My Sons*. She is a graduate of Empire Beauty School in Reading, and is a licensed Cosmetology teacher. She taught at Empire Beauty Schools in Allentown and Easton and worked as a hairstylist for Holiday Hair. When not working on theatre productions, Sally works in the Office of Human Diversity at KU as a secretary. She resides in Mertztown, with her husband Michael, and their three children, Angie, Mark, and Aimee.

Robert Lewis Smith (Scenic and Lighting Design)

Professor Smith joins the theatre faculty at Kutztown University with specialization in design and production. He has spent thirty years teaching and designing for academic theatres from New York to Virginia and from Maryland to Washington. In addition to the academic theatre, he has designed extensively for the professional theatre as an All Category member of United Scenic Artists LU 829, the exclusive union for professional designers. He has just come to us from the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre in Missouri where he designed Tennessee Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Other professional theatres include AMAS Musical Theatre, The New Dramatist, Westbath Theatre (all in New York City), Syracuse Repertory Theatre, A Contemporary Theatre, Theatre Center Philadelphia, Jersey Lyric Opera, and New Jersey Ballet.

Aaron Wexler (Stage Manager)

- Aaron likes to think he's a junior BA Theatre major, but really he's an escaped lunatic with an abnormal fondness for cheese. He **has** appeared on stage in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as Peter Quince, *The Rivals* as Sir Anthony Absolute, *Wiley and the Hairyman* as Narrator 2, and *Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf* as the Wolf. He also worked behind the scenes in last semester's *All My Sons* as Thor, God of Thunder. Aaron would like to thank Chet Cole, and wishes him well in California.



KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY
Department of Speech and Theatre
in cooperation with the
Department of Music

presents

OLYMPUS ON MY MIND

A Classical Greek Musical for Today

Book & Lyrics by
Barry Harman

Music by
Grant Suriale

Musical Director
Dr. Dennis Williams

Directed & Choreographed by
Dr. Eugene R. Huber

WEDNESDAY - MONDAY, APRIL 22-27, 1998
Rickenbach Theatre

AUDITIONS:

January 25 & 26, 1998

Call Backs: **January 27, 1998**

Artistic Staff

Director Dr. Michael Kirkland*
 Costume Design Professor Johanna Forte
 Scenic and Lighting Design Professor Robert Lewis Smith
 Stage Manager Aaron Wexler
 Make-up, Wig/Hair Designer Sally Gilmore

**Member of Alpha Psi Omega, the national honorary theatre fraternity*

Production Staff

Shop Assistants Craig Traverson
 Robert Gill
 Master Electrician Craig Traverson
 Electric crew Peter Bandonis
 Brett Shutter
 Jason T. Barnsley
 Board operator Jasane Castro
 Prop Head
 Prop procurement Joe Ganun
 Stuart Lee
 Prop running Phil Horrocks
 Scenery Construction and Painting Adrian DiGiovanni
 George Fedor
 Paul J. Gallo
 Joe Ganun
 Michael Haber
 Shawn Heifert
 Melisa Jones
 Karen Luukesh
 Jim Perry
 Robert Price
 Scenery Shifting Todd Detwiller
 House Manager Russel McAndrew
 Assistants to the Costume Designer Adrienne Hauf
 Tina Ferrera

Make-Up Designer Kevin Koniewicz
 Hair Stylist Sally Gilmore
 Make-Up/Costume Running Crew Kate Lonergan
 Shawn Heifert
 Costume Shop Crew Amy Johnson
 Jackie Knox
 Tracy Black
 Sarah Dooley
 Liz Magno &
 various students
 Masks

The saga of a Pennsylvania
 town consumed by an
 underground mine fire.

Centralia

A new play written by Dr. Deryl B. Johnson

8:00 PM April 2,3,4,5,6 1998

Schaeffer Little Theatre

Tickets are \$5 each and available
 at KU's information desk in the
 Student Union Building.

For more information: 610-683-4018

Presented by Kutztown University's
 Department of Speech & Theatre



Sunshine Players
Fall Children's Theatre Production

The Trial of Goldilocks

Director
Tina Ferrera

In the Schaeffer Auditorium Little Theatre
Performances:

December 6 – 7, 1997

Show times will be at 2, 4, and 7 p.m.

Reservations are required.

For ticket information call **683-4570**

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Director, Cast, and Production Staff gratefully acknowledge the following individuals for their guidance and or assistance. Without them production would not have been possible:

Ms. Karen DeJarnett, KU Public Relations Dept.

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Mr. Art Planer, KU Print Shop

Mr. John Landis, Communication Design Dept.

Mr. Reno Unger, Speech & Theatre Dept.

Ms. Lynette Breininger, KU SUB Service Desk/Tickets

Mr. Terry Hahn, Student Graphics Design Artist

Mr. Jeremy Schmoyer, Student Publicity Director

THE KENNEDY CENTER AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATER FESTIVAL XXX

Presented and Produced by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

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The National Committee for the Performing Arts

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KUACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in KUACTF programs involving awards, scholarships, and special grants for actors, playwrights, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KUACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KUACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, in the spring of 1998.

Last year more than 900 productions and 18,000 students participated in the American College Theater Festival nationwide. By entering this production, our department is sharing in the KUACTF goals to help college theater grow and to focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.