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Educating Rita

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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OTTERBEIN  SUMMER THEATRE

and Oakland Nursery present...

EDUCATING RITA



by Willy Russell

Directed by Dennis Romer

Scenic design by Rob Johnson

Lighting design by Dana White

Costume design by Mary Beth Robinson

Properties design by Melissa Muguruza

Sound design by Bill Wells

June 19 at 7:30 p.m., June 20, 21, 22 at 8:00 p.m.,
June 23 at 2:00 p.m. and June 26, 27, 28, 29
at 8:00 p.m., June 30 at 2:00 p.m.

Campus Center Theatre

100 W. Home Street
Westerville, OH 43081

Educating Rita is presented through special arrangement with
Samuel French, Inc., 45 West 25th Street, New York, N.Y. 10010.

THE CAST

Frank
Rita

Ed Vaughan
Marianne Timmons

The action takes place in a first-floor room in
a university in the north of England.

There will be one fifteen minute intermission.

BIOGRAPHIES

Ed Vaughan (Frank) has been an actor, director, stage manager, theatre manager, artistic director or producer on over 200 theatrical productions. He is well known to Central Ohio audiences having performed under Actors' Equity contracts at CATCO, Players Theatre of Columbus, Otterbein College, Otterbein Summer Theatre, Grandparents Living Theatre and the Country Dinner Playhouse. A few of his favorite Central Ohio acting roles include: Max in *The Homecoming*, Bobby Gould in *Speed-the-Plow*, and Herbie in *The Loman Family Picnic* at CATCO; Lear in *King Lear*, Nat Moyer in *I'm Not Rappaport*, Father Rivard in *The Runner Stumbles*, Pseudolous in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and Jesse in *A Few Good Men* at Otterbein; and the Stage Manager in *Our Town* for Grandparents Living Theatre. Mr. Vaughan's most enjoyable passions are following his son's military career with the Army and "hanging out" with his seventeen year-old daughter Emily. Mr. Vaughan is an Associate Professor in the Dept. of Theatre and Dance at Otterbein College. *Mr. Vaughan appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association.*

Dennis Romer (Director) Dennis has participated in 21 of the 30 years of Otterbein Summer Theatre as an apprentice, a student company member, an Equity guest artist, a student director, a professional director, assistant managing director, associate artistic director and artistic director for the past six years. Obviously he has been drawn to OST and is grateful for the opportunity to be involved with a summer theatre that has allowed him such a wide range of artistic expression. He would particularly like to thank Charles Dodrill, Ed Vaughan, Fred Thayer and Tod Wilson for their support and guidance.

Rob Johnson (scenic design) is our resident scenic designer in his ninth year at Otterbein College. Rob recently won Ezekial Design Awards for two of his scenic design from last year's season, *Androcles and the Lion* and *Sweet Charity*. The Ezekial is awarded by the Ohio Valley Section of USITT for outstanding design work and includes academic and professional entries from OH, PA and KY. Some of Rob's past set designs include *Picasso Does My Maps*, *A Few Good Men*, *True West*, and *Pippin*. His most recent lighting designs include *Phantom*, *A Chorus Line* and *Six Degrees of Separation* at Otterbein and *Sisters* at CATCO. Rob continues to be at the forefront of computer-aided design and animation. He would like to dedicate his work in memory of his father.

Dana White (lighting design) designed the lighting for *Androcles and the Lion*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *Pippin*, *Top Girls* and *I Hate Hamlet* at Otterbein and *All Night Strut!* at Detroit's restored Gem Theatre. His lighting design for *Pippin* won a finalist Award for the annual Ezekial Awards by the Ohio Valley Section of USITT. He also designed the lighting for the last two year's productions of *A Christmas Carol* for the Purple Rose Theatre and the Michigan Theatre Foundation in Ann Arbor. The Purple Rose Theatre Company is Jeff Daniel's professional Equity company in Chelsea, Mi., where he has lit several original scripts including *Stanton's Garage*, *Possessed*, *The Dracula Musical*, *Tropical Pickle*, *Kuru* and *Hang the Moon*.

Mary Beth Robinson (guest costume designer), a 1984 Otterbein graduate, recently received her MFA in costume technology and design from the University of Illinois at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. While at the University of Illinois she taught costume design and technology, beginning costuming and flat patterning. Some of Ms. Robinson's costume design credits include: *Carmen*, Illinois Opera Theatre, Champaign, IL; *Studio Dance II*, Illinois Dance Theatre, Champaign, IL; *Noises Off* and *The Suicide*,

Hilberry Repertory Theatre, Detroit, MI; *Camelot* and *Kiss Me Kate*, Ohio Lyric Theatre, Springfield, OH. Mary Beth is pleased to be part of this 30th anniversary season.

Timothy D. Allwein (technical director) just completed his first year as technical Director for the Department of Theatre and Dance. Tim graduated from The Ohio State University in 1991 with a BFA degree in theatre technology. He spent the summers of '90 and '93 with the Santa Fe Opera. he has held the position of tech director/resident designer for Gallery Players at the Jewish Center and at the Town Theatre in Columbia, SC. Tim is engaged to be married and will tie the knot in August.

Fred L. Smith (assistant technical director) has just completed his fourth year as assistant technical director for the Department of Theatre and Dance. Over the past several seasons he's designed scenery for *Winnie-the-Pooh*, *Cat Among the Pigeons* and *Robin Hood*. Fred is a customer service rep at Schell Scenic Studio and he also serves as scenic and lighting designer at St. Charles Preparatory School where he just completed his 48th production.

Marci Hain (costume shop supervisor) earned her BS degree in Home Economics from The Ohio State University. Prior to joining the Otterbein staff in 1989, Marci was a costume shop manager and designer for Action Costumes, Inc. and Costume Specialists. Local theatrical work has been seen onstage at Players Theatre, gallery Players, Opear Columbus and numerous high schools. She has also built costumes for two seasons at Maine State Music Theatre. Marci has designed costumes for the Otterbein productions of *Night Watch*, *Nunsense II*, *Sherlock's Last Case* and *A Few Good Men*. She also recently served as associate costume designer for *Phantom*.

Wade Beam (assistant stage manager) A senior from Sabina, OH, this is Wade's second tour of duty with OST. After stage managing *To Kill A Mockingbird* in the fall he looks forward to working at the Arena Stage Co. in Washington, DC as a company manager intern. He would like to thank his family for bearing with him through the past four years and to Amy and Mel for everything else.

Kathlyn D. Brandt (master carpenter) is a recent Otterbein graduate. She is pleased to be returning to OST for her third consecutive season. She would like to thank Fred and Tim for everything and she wishes everybody at OC lots of luck.

Tricia Collins (box office assistant) is enjoying her first year as box office girl. She is a SWF, 5' 6", Br/Br, ISO SWM with a PhD and a BMW, ASAP! She's looking forward to her performance in *To Kill A Mockingbird* in the fall. She would like to thank her family, the SDS, her APARTMENT, and all the special people in her life.

Amy Ellenberger (box office/administrative assistant) is a junior BFA performance major from Toledo. This is her first summer with OST. Her past credits include *A Chorus Line* and *Trojan Women*. You can look forward to seeing her as Miss Maudie in *To Kill A Mockingbird* in the fall. Thanks to Chris, the Box Office Babes and Fat ... Wilson.

Michael Foley (stage manager) has served as Otterbein College Theatre's production assistant and as stage manager of last fall's children's show *Robin Hood*. Mike is frantically preparing for his fall internship at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles. He would like to thank Wade for his help, and his mother for her wonderful support.

Marni Kuhn (production manager/master painter) A recent 1996 graduate, her Otterbein credits in the last year include: directing the workshop production of *Three Women*; appearing as Arkhein in *Trojan Women*; and serving as a production assistant for the spring quarter. After this summer season she is hoping to move to New York!

Steven Lhamon (wardrobe master) Steve graduated this spring with a BFA in musical theatre. He was last seen in Otterbein College's production of *Phantom*. He is serving as wardrobe master and will appear in *Charley's Aunt* and *Black Coffee*. He wishes the class of '96 luck as he heads to New York this fall for a new beginning.

Melissa Maite Muguruza (properties supervisor) While at Otterbein Melissa has been exposed to all aspects of the theatre; acting, assistant stage managing and ushering. However, *Educating Rita* is her first adventure with props. She will be with OST all summer and looks forward to surviving *The World Goes 'Round*, *Charley's Aunt* and *Black Coffee*. She would like to thank God, her parents, her brother Michael, Brian ("do you need help?") Few, and *anyone* and *everyone* who helped her in any way.

THE PRODUCTION STAFF

Producing Artistic Director	Dennis Romer
Managing Director	Jason W. Morrisette
Business Manager	Tod Wilson
Production Manager	Marni Kuhn
Stage Manager	Michael Paul Foley
Assistant Stage Manager	Wade Beam
Technical Director	Timothy D. Allwein
Assistant Technical Director	Fred L. Smith
Master Carpenter	Kathlyn D. Brandt
Costume Shop Supervisor	Marci Hain
Master Electrician	Peter Nein
Master Painter	Marni Kuhn
Sound Engineer	Bill Wells
Sound/Light Set-up	Dana White
Box Office Assistants	Tricia Collins, Amy Ellenberger

J. W. Morrisette (managing director) returns for his sixth season with OST (that's 42 years in dog years!) After spending a year in the frightening world of children's theatre he plans to start graduate studies in the fall. He wishes to thank Tod "Da' Bulls" Wilson, the Box Office Babes, and the WHOLE OST TROUPE!

Marianne Timmons (Rita) is going into her junior year as a musical theatre major. This marks her first summer at OST. Other Otterbein credits include *Sweet Charity*, *A Chorus Line* and *Phantom*. She will also be appearing in *The World Goes 'Round* in July. She would like to thank her family for their constant support and her friends (you know who you are) for being nifty. SDS!

Bill Wells (sound designer/engineer) Bill is a sophomore design/tech major from Cincinnati, OH. He most recently served as properties master for *Picasso Does My Maps*. This is Bill's first season with OST.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Latecomers' Policy: The House Manager may seat latecomers only during times which minimize disruption of the play. The management accepts no responsibility for inconvenience to latecomers and can make no adjustment because of it.

Fire Notice: The exit indicated by a red light nearest to your seat is the shortest route to the street. In the event of fire or other emergency please walk to that exit.

Group Sales: Groups of 25 or more people are eligible for special group rates. For more information call 614/823-1709.

Cameras and Recording Devices: The use of recording equipment and the taking of photographs during a performance are strictly prohibited.

Restrooms and Telephones: Restrooms, telephones and drinking fountains are located upstairs opposite the main entrance of the Campus Center.

Administrative Office

614/823-1709

Monday through Friday 9:30-5:00 p.m.

Box Office

614/823-1109

Monday through Saturday 1:00-

5:00 p.m., 6:00-8:30 p.m.

and 1:00-2:30 p.m. on Sundays



*This program printed on
100% recycled paper.*

THE PATRONS

The Otterbein Summer Theatre, Company, Staff and Guest Artists gratefully acknowledge the following individuals and families that have contributed to our 30th anniversary patron fund drive. To date, almost \$7,000 has been contributed. Without this generous support we would find it difficult to exist.

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FEATURED PLAYER (\$50 to \$99)

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Special Thanks:

Brian Few, Robin & Meghan Davis, Lisa Davis, Paul, Laura Lee &
 Carrie Hickfang, the Beam family, and Joanne Van Sant

Otterbein Summer Theatre A Look Back...

The Columbus area in 1967 was an intensely competitive theatre scene with thousands of spectators flocking to see eight to ten "star" productions by Kenley Players at Veterans Memorial, and to the Playhouse-on-the-Green professional stock company to see eight to ten shows in an arena style tent theatre. Ohio State University Stadium was known for its "town and gown" arena stage at Gate 10, while Denison University Summer Theatre produced eight to ten student shows. Most sold out regularly. The newcomer on that scene, Otterbein Summer Theatre is happy to celebrate its 30th anniversary as the longest running summer theatre in central Ohio.

By 1967, the College recognized growing success and more theatre students by changing the name to the Department of Speech and Theatre. To Dr. Charles W. Dodrill, summer theatre founder, starting an arena style summer theatre with a 21-member student stock company doing five shows in seven weeks seemed like a natural progression. Beginning with the use of "professional guest stars" in 1962, the winter season was attracting a larger audience and quality productions were receiving critical media attention. President Lynn Turner supported this venture with the objective of "bringing public attention to the College through a quality summer theatre program." So plans were made and soon the Campus Center basement had a summer theatre arena seating over 300.

Plays selected for the first season were *The Fantasticks*, *Rhinoceros*, *Dark at the Top of the Stairs*, *Take Her She's Mine* and *The Philadelphia Story*. Individual ticket prices were \$1.50 and season tickets were \$5.00 or \$6.50. Success was immediate with 405 season tickets and an audience of 5,499 (over 80% of capacity). In 1973 children's theatre was added with a production of *The Mirrorman*. Attendance the first decade was over 65,000, while attendance during the 30-year period is almost 200,000.

Otterbein Summer Theatre has presented 136 major productions from 1967 through 1996. Musicals were presented 24 of the 30 seasons. Five productions were presented from 1967-86 (100 shows), plus 12 children's theatre plays from 1973-85. From 1987 through 1995 the format change to three or four shows, with 32 shows in this period. Several plays have had revivals, including three productions each of *The Fantasticks*, *Harvey*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, and this season's *Charley's Aunt*. Ten other plays and musicals have also had revivals, including *Ah, Wilderness!*, *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*, *Baby*, *A Thurber Carnival*, *Bus Stop*, *Move Over*, *Mrs. Markham*, *Not Now, Darling*, *You Can't Take It With You* and *See How They Run*.

The student companies often appeared in five consecutive shows during a seven week period, a process that emulated

professional stock theatres. Actors frequently rehearsed two plays a day while performing another at night. They also helped build scenery, make costumes and clean the theatre while learning lines. Company members were housed in college dorms with meals in the college dining room.

For the first several years Dr. Charles W. Dodrill produced and managed the company while directing three shows each summer. Scenery, lighting and technical direction were by Professor Fred J. Thayer (who also directed occasionally). Petie Dodrill designed costumes and directed the children's theatre productions. The pressure of producing a five to six show winter season, plus the summer schedule, soon required additional directorial and design staff, and the use of guest professional actors began in 1974.

Depending upon the season, the average number of participating students in each summer company varied from 20 to 30, so over 750 students have been involved in this 30 year period. Directors, designers and management personnel varied with each season from eight to twenty faculty and guest professionals. In all, over 1,000 artists (students, guests, faculty and staff) have contributed their time and talent in making Otterbein Summer Theatre the longest continuous-running summer theatre operation in Central Ohio. Let's hope the next 30 years will be just as memorable!

—Dr. Charles W. Dodrill

.....

"THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND" and 'ROUND and 'ROUND!

Otterbein alum, Dee Hoty will not be appearing in our upcoming production of *The World Goes 'Round*. She has been offered a co-starring role in a new play featuring Jeremy Irons and Faith Prince. If successful, the play should land her on Broadway once again. Because this is a great career move for her, we released her from her contract and allowed her to pursue this wonderful opportunity. She will still come to Otterbein to perform a benefit concert (*Direct from the Rainbow Room*) on Monday, July 8. Tickets are still available for this special fundraising performance. Please contact the Box Office at 823-1109 for more information about this event.

We are extremely pleased to announce that veteran performer Danette Cuming will replace Ms. Hoty in *The World Goes 'Round*. In addition to being Dee's understudy for the Broadway production of *The Will Rogers Follies*, Ms. Cuming has performed in the national tours of *The Will Rogers Follies*, *Into the Woods* and *Stop the World I Want to Get Off*. Danette is a trouper in the truest sense...she agreed to do the role on a Friday, flew in on a Monday and began rehearsing on a Tuesday. We are truly lucky to have her and we're positive you'll enjoy her work!