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Stop Kiss

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CELEBRATING THE STRENGTH OF WOMEN

OTTERBEIN SUMMER THEATRE 2001

SEASON SPONSORED BY
OAKLAND NURSERIES

WOMEN WHO STEAL

WRITTEN & DIRECTED
BY CARTER W. LEWIS

JUNE 21 - JULY 7

CENTRAL OHIO
PREMIERE
ALLIUM EQUITY
PRODUCTION

WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION

JULY 12-28

WRITTEN BY AGATHA CHRISTIE

DIRECTED BY ROBERT BEHRENS

STARRING GUEST EQUITY ACTOR ED VAUGHAN

STOP KISSES

AUGUST 2-12 CENTRAL OHIO PREMIERE
DIRECTED BY DENNIS ROMER
WRITTEN BY DIANA SON


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Stop Kiss

By Diana Son

Directed by Dennis Romer

Cast

Callie	Lindsay Chambers
Sara	Elizabeth Harold
George	Jeremy Bobb
Peter	Tom Weaver
Mrs. Winslow/Nurse	Renata Wilson
Detective Cole	Scott Wilson

Production Staff

Artistic Director	Dennis Romer
Producer	John Stefano
Managing Director	Elizabeth Minnich
Scenic Designer & Master Painter	Jenny Hitmar
Lighting Designer	Dana White
Costume Designer	Amy Kaufman
Sound Designer	Steve Sakowski
Stage Manager	Jaclyn Holsey
Assistant Stage Manager	Bryanne Bornstein, Lindsay Brenner
Production Manager/Technical Director	Timothy D. Allwein
Assistant Technical Director	Greg Bell
Assistant Company Manager	Ellen Parke
Props Master	Marisa Keith
Master Carpenter	Kevin J. Lowry
Master Electricians	Kevin J. Lowry, Steve Sakowski
Dramaturg	Taibi Magar
Costume Production Assistant	Elizabeth Carroll
Technical Apprentices	Mike Draper, Tom Draper, Ted Otting
Box Office Assistants	Trent Caldwell, Joe Dallacqua, Jason Marion,
.....	Kate Sanders, Renata Wilson

Produced by special arrangement with DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE, INC.

Biographies

Dennis Romer (Director) is a current member of Actor's Equity Association, Screen Actors' Guild, and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists. He has worked as a stage artist and director in over 100 productions nationwide including the Parker Playhouse, The Kennedy Center, Cleveland Playhouse, Clarence Brown Theatre, Kenley Players, Meadowbrook Theatre, Raft Theatre and Ensemble Studio Theatre in New York City and Los Angeles. He has worked in many guest starring roles in prime time television, created four contract roles on soap operas, and has been seen in over 50 commercials. Favorite summer directing credits include: *The Dresser*, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, *Luv*, and *The Dining Room*. Last summer, Dennis directed *Longevity Abbreviated: For Those Who Don't Have Time*.

Jenny Hitmar (Scenic Designer) is pleased to be returning to her alma mater. During her enrollment, she designed *Pinocchio* for which she was a recipient of the Petie Dodrill award for childrens theatre and the 1998 ACTF award; and *Narnia* for which she was the recipient of the ACTF and Ezekiel Design awards in 1999. Other credits include *Peter Pan* at the Columbus Palace Theatre, and *Babes in Arms* at Surfflight Theatre in Beach Haven, NJ. Currently, she is designing and painting for the theatre and film industries in Atlanta, GA. Jenny freelances throughout the city at MGM Scenic Studios, Center for Puppetry Arts, Scenario, Inc., and the Alliance Theatre. She is preparing to further her career in NYC which has made *Stop Kiss* a particularly personal endeavor. She is blessed with the support of her love, Jeremy, and family. Jenny sends her love to the entire company (and Mooh) for a terrific season.

Dana White (Lighting Designer) is Associate Professor of Lighting, Sound and Stage Management at Otterbein College. His work at Otterbein includes lighting for the past several years' Dance Concerts, *West Side Story*, and Sound Design for *Death of a Salesman* and *King Lear*, as well as other projects. He has designed several original productions including the World Premieres of *Raindance* and *Book of Days* (winner of the Grand Prize "Best Play of 1998"), both by Lanford Wilson, and *Matchgirl* with Columbus Dance Theatre. Last summer, he directed *Science Friction*, an original play by Joe Zetlemaier, which was nominated for several awards by the Oakland Press (Detroit) and The Ann Arbor News. Recent projects include *Escanaba in da Moonlight* and *Tropical Pickle* at the historic Gem Theatre in Detroit. Mr. White is an Associate Artist at the Purple Rose Theatre and a member of United Scenic Artists Local 829.

Amy Kaufman (Costume Designer) graduated from Otterbein's theatre department in '98 with a BFA in design/technology. While at Otterbein, she designed costumes for *Emperor's New Clothes* and designed the set for the original play, *Thirst*. For the past three years, Amy has been living in Minneapolis working in various theatres as a Costume Designer, Scenic Painter and crafts person.

Steve Sakowski (Sound Designer/Co-Master Electrician) is a Junior Theatre Design/Tech major from Detroit, MI. He is very excited to be working on sound for this Summer Season. He thanks the Brothers D, the slow kid, Stumpy, M. Kevin and all of his brothers in Pi Beta Sigma.

Jeremy Bobb (George) has been seen in several Otterbein productions; most recently *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* in which he played Freddy the delightfully charming Bartender. He thanks Mom, Dad and Jason for their love.

Bryanne E. Bornstein (Assistant Stage Manager) is a Junior BA Theatre major from Edmonton, Alberta Canada. This is the 10th time that Bryanne has served on a stage management team at Otterbein, her favorites including ASM for *6xIves* and Stage Manager for *Oleanna*. Bryanne sends special gratitude to her family and friends (especially Ellen, Sardonic Scott, CAIRN, Darth Sancho, Shakespeare and JohnCleese). Lastly, Bryanne would like to send her love to the Sasquatch and Horatio the Raptor.

Lindsay Brenner (Stage Management Apprentice) is a Sophomore Design Tech major here at Otterbein. During her freshman year she was an assistant Stage Manager for both *Charlotte's Web* and *Our Country's Good*. Lindsay would like to thank her friends and especially her family for their love and support.

Elizabeth Carroll (Costume Production Assistant) is an International Studies/History double major from Mill Run, Pennsylvania. She is pleased to have been allowed to do OST once again. She sends her love to mom, dad and Frisky. Liz says thank you to Greg, Tim, Jax and Jim- it's been great getting to know you and I'm so going to miss you! Tom, Bryanne, Risa and the rest of the crew- thanks for making me feel like I fit in! Mike – what can I say? P.S. Tom and Jax – Yay Oregon!

Lindsay Chambers (Callie) is a Senior BFA Musical Theatre major with a Dance minor. You might have seen her as Anita in *West Side Story*, Lola in *Damn Yankees*, Aunt Eller in *Oklahoma* and most recently as Janet MacKenzie in the OST production of *Witness for the Prosecution*. Lindsay will also be appearing as Puck in Otterbein's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, this fall.

Tom Draper (Technical Apprentice) is a recent High School graduate who will be starting on the way towards a BFA Design Tech major this fall. He wishes the best to the rest of the cast and crew and would like to thank his parents and Charlie Feeser for their support.

Elizabeth Harold (Sara) is a BFA Musical Theatre Major who is looking forward to her exciting Senior year. She was last seen as Laurey in Otterbein's production of *Oklahoma!* "I would like to thanks my parents and family for their ever-present love and support and to my fiance, Matt, for his love and support and for giving me the best birthday present EVER!"

Jaclyn Holsey (Stage Manager) is a recent graduate of Otterbein from Allentown, Pennsylvania. She has stage managed many shows at Otterbein including, *Death of a Salesman*, *6xIves*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* and *Women Who Steal*. She sends her love to Mom. Thanks to the cast for being great, and the crew for being wonderful. Hey Bryanne, AHHH! Hey Lindsay B, Nice Horns! Scotty-Scott-Scott: 4.5 out of 7, not bad. To Stickboy and Lizzy Beth: Big hugs for indulging me with my westward trip. I'll miss you all.

Marisa Keith (Props Master) is a Junior Design/Tech major from Gahanna, Ohio. She is excited to be Props Master for her third summer at OST and to be ASM for the first time. Her recent credits include Master Electrician for *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, and Set Designer for Worthington Community Theatre's production of *Love, Sex and the IRS*. She sends love and hugs to her parents, her stage bound sisters and all of her friends.

Kevin J. Lowry (Master Carpenter, Co Master Electrician) is a Sophomore BFA design tech major from Redlands, California. Kevin has previously served as Assistant Master Electrician for *Dance 2001* and *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, as well as Deck Chief for *Charlotte's Web* and Sound Technician for *Oklahoma!* "I would like to thank the cast and crew of OST '01 for this amazing summer. I will always remember this summer, thank you all! Special thanks to Steve, Tim and Bry (for all that you do) as well as 'G' for everything! Hope the show goes well!"

Ted Otting (Surgeon/ Deck Chief) is an Acting Major from Gahanna, OH. He has been both in front and behind the curtain this summer and looks forward to playing The Wall in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* this fall. He would like to thank Ben Davey for being so huggable.

Ellen Parke (Assistant Managing Director) is a Sophomore BA Theatre Management major from Toledo. Ellen would like to thank everyone who made her summer a great experience - especially Elizabeth (for always answering yes to the question: is fun at work possible?), Bryanne (for always making her name a musical experience), her staff (she was happy to not have to be the "mean boss") and Jason (her other half in the box office). She would also like to send love and thanks home to her super cool parents, her brothers, and her friends back in T-town, especially Matthew.

Tom Weaver (Peter) Camp Hill, PA is responsible for giving you Tom Weaver, a junior BFA Musical Theatre major. Most recently, Tom was seen in *Witness for the Prosecution*, although he has appeared in the Otterbein College Theatre productions of *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *Twelfth Night*, *West Side Story*, and *Blood Brothers*. Tom thanks his family for their love and support. Yippee.

Renata Wilson (Mrs. Winslow/Nurse) is a Junior BFA musical theatre major from North Carolina. She has enjoyed performing in many of Otterbein's mainstage productions and is really looking forward to bringing more characters to Otterbein's stage in the upcoming show *Keely and Du*. She would like to send a big thanks and a lot of love to the people to the people responsible for making her who she is: her mother, father and grandparents. Peace and love and Chicklets to her junior 'mates.

Scott D. Wilson (Detective Cole) is a Senior BFA Acting major from Columbus, OH. He has appeared in, among others, *Witness for the Prosecution*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *Our Country's Good*, *Waiting for Godot*, *6Xives*, and *Hay Fever*. He wishes to thank the cast and crew for this wonderful experience, Dennis, Jaclyn on her last show, the ever supportive family, brothers of Pi Beta Sigma, and the irascible Bela Lugosi.

Special Thanks

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Program Notes

Set in present day New York, Callie, a savvy New Yorker, meets Sara, a Midwesterner moving to the city to teach in the Bronx. The two become close friends, soon find themselves becoming closer, and happier, and then it all stops with a kiss. Playwright Diana Son provides a very distinctive canvas on which to paint this story.

She uses a powerful theatrical device of two converging time lines: one of the events leading up to the kiss and the other of the aftermath following the kiss. Intermittently between the "getting to know you" scenes between Callie and Sara, we see the troubling and terrifying scenes following their first kiss. Although an audience member might think he has seen the end of the play and therefore has nothing left to watch, he couldn't be more wrong. This technique of beginning the play with what turns out to be the past and alternating between past and future could be considered confusing, but is actually completely engaging and proves to be the real story.

This creative structure came from a life-changing episode in Son's life. She was 18 and a freshman in college returning home for Christmas vacation when she saw her mother: "she said 'Hi.' I said 'Hi' and she had a stroke. My life and the loves of everyone in my family changed in that moment. I am quite aware of the contrast between how you assume things are one moment, and how they can utterly, irrevocably change in the next."

Stop Kiss is about loving, and the consequences of loving; both heartwarming and heartbreaking. It's a very funny play that raises all sorts of not so funny questions that we all want to ask: What is the price of love? How much do we risk our personal safety for the sake of speaking the truth? What happens when we decide to open our hearts completely to another person? Is homosexual love really all that different? Taking risks, both personal and emotional is at the center of Son's deceptively simple play. And it is gratifying to almost everyone and most theatre companies in all aspects.

Her plays have been produced at Actors Theatre of Louisville; Ensemble Studio Theatre; La Jolla Playhouse; The Joseph Papp Public Theatre/New York Shakespeare Festival; the Mark Taper Forum; Soho Repertory Theatre and countless small and regional theatres eager to perform such powerful plays as *Stop Kiss*. She is a graduate of New York University's dramatic literature program and lives in New York with her husband. Son very recently quit her job as a staff writer for the NBC-TV show "The West Wing."

She is continuing to teach playwriting, working on a new play, as well as a screenplay for *Stop Kiss*. The play met Off-Broadway with great success and wonderful reviews. It was nominated for an Outer Critics' Circle Award and a Drama League Award. Diana Son also received a 1999 Media Award for GLAAD (Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) for outstanding New York Theatre Production.

Despite its many acclaims as a trophy against the war of homophobia, or a piece for the rights of gays and lesbians, or a representation for the effects of gay-bashing, or a "riveting play meant to fight all ignorance;" it is, at its heart, a love story. In a society where homosexuals are portrayed stereotypically in entertainment as being comedic (think "Will and Grace"), overtly sexual, attention seekers, or paraders of their sexuality, the greatest part of Son's writing is that though they may be lesbians, they are, most truthfully, undying in love with each other. The tragedy that results from that one kiss is presented to us in every other scene, but the final beat of the play is the most important.

Inarguably, the final beat is: love wins.

--Taibi Magar

Otterbein Summer Theatre

(Campus Center Theatre)

Latecomer's 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 do not run - walk to that exit.

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

Restrooms and Telephones - The restrooms and telephones are located upstairs and to the left.

Administrative Office

614/823-1657

M-F 8:30 am - 4 pm

Box Office

614/823-1109

T-Sat 12:00 - 8 pm

Mailing Address

100 W. Home St. in

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For more program information see our website @ WWW.otterbein.edu/dept/THR/

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Joanne Van Sant

Office of Institutional Advancement

Otterbein College

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OTTERBEIN *Summer* THEATRE



Otterbein Summer Theatre is the oldest summer theatre in Central Ohio. Since 1967 we have been committed to professional level performances. Our company is comprised of students from our nationally recognized professional training program and occasional guest artists. We are proud of our history and appreciate your support throughout the years. **Please tell a friend about OST!**

Women Who Steal

Written & Directed by Carter W. Lewis

June 21	7:30 pm	June 27-30	8:00 pm
June 22, 23	8:00 pm	July 1	2:00 pm
June 24	2:00 pm	July 5-7	8:00 pm

Witness for the Prosecution

By Agatha Christie

July 12	7:30 pm	July 18-21	8:00 pm
July 13, 14	8:00 pm	July 22	2:00 pm
July 15	2:00 pm	July 25-28	8:00 pm

Stop Kiss

By Diana Son

August 2	7:30 pm	August 8-11	8:00 pm
August 3, 4	8:00 pm	August 12	2:00 pm
August 5	2:00 pm & 8:00 pm		