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### Black Comedy

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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# In the Spotlight

OTTERBEIN  
*Summer*  
THEATRE  
2004

Directed by Ed Vaughan

Anton  
in  
*Show Business*

a comedy by Jane Martin

June 17 - 26

Directed by David Caldwell

*Forever*  
a musical comedy  
PLAID

July 8 - 25

Directed by Doreen Dunn

BLACK  
COMEDY

A FARCE BY PETER SHAFFER

July 29 - August 8

Campus Center Theatre

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# Black Comedy

By Peter Shaffer

Stage Direction by Doreen Dunn

Scenic Design by Dan Gray

Costume Design by Ruth Boyd

Light Design by Rob Johnson

Sound Design by Matt Christian

## CAST

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Brindsley Miller .....	David Beukema
Carol Melkett .....	Megan Ward
Miss Furnival .....	Christina Kirk
Colonel Melkett .....	Lucas Adams
Harold Gorringer .....	David Shane
Shuppanzigh .....	Rob Hille
Clea .....	Geneva Hyman
Georg Bamburger .....	Elliot France

## PRODUCTION STAFF

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Artistic Director .....	Dennis Romer
Producer .....	John Stefano
Audience Services Director .....	Elizabeth Saltzgeber
Stage Manager .....	Christina Hodges
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Alex Myers
Technical Director .....	Rich Uhrick
Assistant Technical Director .....	Travis Gilmore
Costume Shop Supervisor .....	Marci Hain
Master Carpenter .....	Marybeth Cave
Master Painter .....	Corinne Betz
Master Electrician .....	Elliot France
Props Master .....	Nichole McClintock
Wardrobe Master .....	Emily Buch
Movement Coach .....	Melinda Murphy
Light Board Operator .....	Chase Molden
Sound Board Operator .....	Jessica Jackson
Front of House Manager .....	Tiffany Rollins
Box Office Assistants .....	Erin Hood, Jessica Sedlock, Erin Snyder

Produced by special arrangement by Samuel French, Inc.
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# BIOGRAPHIES

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**Doreen Dunn** (Director) has directed many OST productions, including such favorites as *Hay Fever*, *Something's Afoot*, *The Mousetrap*, *Nurse*, *How The Other Half Lives*, *Blithe Spirit*, *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum*, and *Closer Than Ever*. Other credits span the globe from New York to Paris to Edinburgh and range from original musicals to Chekov and Kabuki. A graduate of Northwestern University, Doreen has also won two Ohio Arts Council Playwrighting Fellowships and is the author of the upcoming *Ugly Duckling* +2 for Otterbein's fall season.

**Dan Gray** (Scenic Designer) is the Resident Scenic Designer, Associate Professor and Head of Design/Tech at the OSU Department of Theatre. He happily returns to Otterbein to share some *Black Comedy*. Previous designs at Otterbein include his award winning *Phantom*, *Blithe Spirit* and *Hay Fever*. Dan has also designed productions at numerous regional theatres including The George Street Playhouse, Capital Rep, Players Theatre Columbus, the Delaware Theatre Company and The Human Race Theatre. He continues to design for many Central Ohio companies including CATCO, BalletMet, Columbus Opera, Red Herring, The Dayton Ballet, The Columbus Symphony, Pro Musica Chamber Orchestra and The Columbus Zoo.

**Ruth Boyd** (Costume Designer) has costumed extensively in professional, community, collegiate and children's theater. A frequent guest artist at Otterbein College Theatre, she most recently costumed our production of *A View from the Bridge*. Ruth is resident costume designer at Phoenix Theatre Circle in Columbus and recently completed *Follow the Drinking Gourd*. She has costumed for Ohio University at Lancaster, Red Herring Theatre Company and Actors' Summer Theatre. She has degrees from Marshall University and The Ohio State University, and has studied theater at Kent State University.

**Marcia Hain** (Co-Costume Designer/Costume Shop Supervisor) has been a member of the Otterbein Theatre Tech Staff since 1989. She runs the costume shop full time and has also designed for the productions of *Forever Plaid*, *The Music Man*, *Schoolhouse Rock*, *Lies!*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *A Guy, A Girl and Gershwin*, *Blithe Spirit*, *The Secret Garden*, *Oklahoma*, *Hay Fever*, *Dance 2000*, *Pinocchio*, *How The Other Half Lives*, *Once Upon A Mattress*, *1776*, *A Few Good Men*, and *Sherlock's Last Case*. She also served as Associate Designer for *Phantom*. Ms. Hain has an extensive background in Home Economics as well as commercial costuming and free-lance design and construction.

**Rob Johnson** (Lighting Designer) joined the faculty 16 years ago and is now a full professor in the Department of Theatre & Dance at Otterbein College. He teaches theatrical design, scene painting, lighting technology, scenic rendering, and computer graphics. This past season he designed the settings for *The Music Man*, *The Butter & Egg Man*, as well as lighting for *Broadway Babies* and the inaugural production at the new Central High School in Westerville, *Jabberwock*. Rob will be designing sets for the opening production at The Contemporary American Theatre Company (CATCO) this fall, *Unde Vanya*, and will be taking a sabbatical this fall to explore the latest software for scenic design, lighting design, and animation.

**Corinne Betz** (Master Painter) is a Design/Technology student originally from South Bend, IN. Previous Otterbein credits include Wardrobe Master for *The Butter and Egg Man*, Master Painter for *Broadway Babies*, Props Master for *Medea*, and Assistant Set Designer for *The Music Man*. She would like to thank her mom, dad, sister, and Chad for all their love and support.

**David Beukema** (Brindsley), originally from Minneapolis, MN, graduated in June with a BFA in Acting. On the Otterbein stage, he has appeared in *Medea*, *Betty's Summer Vacation*, *Art*, *Blithe Spirit* (Nomination-Best Actor-Central Ohio Theatre Critic's Poll), *The Laramie Project*, *Scapino*, *Boy Gets Girl*, *The Mikado* (Irene Ryan Nomination), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *For Whom The Southern Bell Tolls*, *The Problem*, and directed *The Universal Language*. David is moving to New York immediately following this show, and wishes to thank everyone who made his time at Otterbein so amazing. "Thanks for the memory."

**Marybeth Cave** (Master Carpenter) is a Junior BFA Design/Technology major from North Olmstead, OH. This is her second year working with OST and she is glad to be back. Her most recent credits include Master Electrician for *The Music Man* and Assistant Props Master for *Medea*. She would like to thank her family and friends for their support, especially her mother.

**Elliot France** (Georg Bamburger) is now a Senior here at Otterbein and is enjoying his third summer theatre season. Over the past three years, he has served such positions as Stage Manager, Assistant Lighting Designer, Props Master, Master Carpenter, Master Electrician, and Wardrobe Master. Surprisingly, he has also performed the roles of He in *Here We Are*, as well as acting in directing scenes here at Otterbein. Elliot would like to thank his parents for their unparalleled support, and he always would like to make a shout out to his best pal, Monkey. "Thanks for being there for me when I've needed you the most over these past six months."

**Travis Gilmore** (Assistant Technical Director) from Weybridge, Vermont, is a Junior BFA Design/Technology major. He attended the University of Vermont for two years and worked as a stage hand and carpenter for The Royal Tyler Theater. His first year at Otterbein, he worked as Deck Chief/Master Carpenter for *Broadway Babies* and Assistant Sound Operator for *The Music Man*. He would like to thank his parents and sisters for their encouragement, and his brethren of the nation's oldest and finest local fraternity, Pi Beta Sigma.

**Rob Hille** (Shuppanzigh) Starting in September, Rob will be a Senior in the BFA acting program with a minor in English here at Otterbein. This is Rob's second production working with Doreen, his first being *The Secret Garden* in which he played a wall. Recent credits include Rosencrantz in the Actor's Theatre of Columbus production of *Hamlet*, the Deputy in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, Garcin in *No Exit*, and the Conductor/Constable in *The Music Man*. Rob would like to thank his family, friends, and the brothers of Pi Beta Sigma for the unconditional love and support. He would like to dedicate this performance to his German ancestors, who are undoubtedly rolling in their graves.

**Christina Hodges** (Stage Manager) is now a Junior BFA Design Technology student from Dublin, OH. Past Otterbein credits include Stage Manager for OST 04's *Anton in Show Business* as well as ASM for a number of shows here at Otterbein. She would like to thank the cast and crew and especially her mom for always being there.

**Matt Christian** (Sound Designer) is in his second year here with Otterbein Summer Theatre. His previous credits include Sound Designer for *The Music Man*, *Medea*, and *Betty's Summer Vacation* as well as Sound Engineer for *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and Assistant Technical Director for *A View From the Bridge*. Matt would like to give thanks to Melissa, his fine brethren of Pi Beta Sigma, and his cohort in crime (we got hollywoo).

**Christina Kirk** (Miss Furnival) is a Full Professor at Otterbein College. Some of her favorite Otterbein productions include directing *Arcadia* and *Yerma* and acting in her most recent project, *Medea*. At Otterbein Summer Theatre she has directed *Proposals*, *Sylvia*, and *Art*. She is thrilled to be performing for OST again, having previously performed in *Hay Fever* a few years ago, also under Doreen Dunn's accomplished directing. With an MFA in directing from Columbia University and a BFA in acting from the University of Illinois, her Off-Broadway directing credits include *The Living Theatre* and *New Dramatists*. She has acted at the Nebraska Repertory Theatre, Illinois Repertory Theatre and received a Joseph Jefferson citation for Shozo Sato's *Kabuki Medea*. More recent acting credits include *Three Tall Women* and *The Importance of Being Earnest* at CATCO. Her husband Tim Veach and children Judson and Maggie are also all performers working with Columbus Dance Theatre.

**Melinda Murphy** (Movement Coach) teaches Alexander Technique and Feldenkrais Method® in the Otterbein Theatre and Dance Department, with application to movement, voice, characterization, singing and dance. Melinda is one of the few teachers trained in both methods; she combines them in her private practice in Columbus, and in classes and seminars for performing artists at other Ohio colleges. She has coached Otterbein productions including *Our Country's Good*, *CTRL +ALT+DEL*, *Fuddy Meers*, *The Secret Garden*, and *The Laramie Project*. She has also coached equestrians, figure skaters, musicians, and competitive barbershop quartets and choruses; she combines them in her private practice in Columbus, and in classes and seminars for performing artists at other Ohio colleges. She has coached Otterbein productions including *Our Country's Good*, *CTRL +ALT+DEL*, *Fuddy Meers*, *The Secret Garden*, and *The Laramie Project*. She has also coached equestrians, figure skaters, musicians, and competitive barbershop quartets and choruses including the two-time international gold medallist Southern Gateway Chorus.

**Rich Uhrick** (Technical Director) is pleased to be making his return to Otterbein Summer Theatre after a 16 year hiatus. He is a graduate of Otterbein College, receiving his BFA in 1990. He has a Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Missouri- Kansas City. He now lives in Columbus with his wife Lisa. They work with Ohio Pug Rescue to provide for abandoned or surrendered Pugs [dogs]. Before his return, he worked in Regional Theatres across the Midwest and New England. Including, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Merrimack Repertory Theatre, New American Theatre, Missouri Repertory Theatre, and The Court Theatre in Chicago. He is also a published Poet.

**Lucas W. Adams** (Colonel Melkett) is now a Senior BFA Acting major. He is from Louisville, KY. Past Otterbein credits include *Book of Days*, *Philadelphia*, *No Exit*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Butter and Egg Man*, *The Music Man*, and now *Black Comedy*. In addition to this show, Lucas appeared as William in *The Nerd* in June for Walden Theatre in Louisville. He would like to thank Mom, Dad, Jake, the brothers of Pi Beta Sigma and George Williams most of all.

**Geneva Hyman** (Clea) is a Junior BFA Acting Major from South Carolina. She knew by the age of six that she would either become a back-up singer or an actress. Her credits here at Otterbein include: *Scapino!*, *No Exit*, *Blithe Spirit*, *The Butter and Egg Man*, *Frankie and Johnny in the Claire de Lune*, *The Music Man*, and *Anton in Show Business*. She would like to thank Doreen, the cast and crew for everything, Megan for totally "getting" her, and David Shane for helping her write the highly acclaimed play, *We Love Our Baby*...

**Jessica Jackson** (Sound Board Operator) is a Design/Technology major and has just finished her first year at Otterbein. She has worked on *Schoolhouse Rock*, *Livel*, *Broadway Babies*, and *The Music Man*. She hails from Columbus, OH and has done other work for Enjoy Theater and Black Box Theater Company. She wants to make it to Hollywood to write and design horror films (no kidding). She'd like to thank her family, friends, Erik, O.G. (who you must always thank, or else) and Jesus. "What a cat, what a guy."

**Nichole McClintock** (Props Master) is serving as Props Master for a second summer at OST. She is a Junior Design/Technology Theatre major at Otterbein. She would like to thank her mom and Matt (times 4) for their love and support.

**Alex Myers** (ASM) is a Sophomore Design/Technology major from Maryland. She would like to thank her friends and family for their support and good times.

**Roger Payne** (Technical Apprentice) is an incoming Freshman in the Otterbein Design/Technology department. He is thrilled to have been a part of the summer theatre. His past credits have been light board operator for *Anton in Show Business* and spotlight operator for *Forever Plaid*. He would like to thank all of the casts and crews for bringing him into the program with open arms. He would also like to thank all of his family and new and old friends for their support.

**David Shane** (Harold) is pleased to be making his OST debut after a fun-filled summer in Newark, OH at the Weathervane Playhouse where he was seen in *The Foreigner* (Ellard), *Crazy For You*, and *Star Spangled Girl* (Norman). Past OC credits include *Kiss Me*, *Kate*, *Betty's Summer Vacation*, and *The Music Man*. David is entering his junior year as a Musical Theatre major. He thanks everyone involved in *Black Comedy* as well as his new Weathervane friends for a fantastic summer! Special thanks go to the cottage cheese, and to Geneva for her collaboration on their "other" British play: *We Love Our Baby*... "Here's hoping Act V is a success!"

**Megan Ward** (Carol Melkett) is a BFA Acting major from Gahanna and has enjoyed working so close to home this summer. At Otterbein she has appeared as Dawn in *The Universal Language*, Maud Dunlop in *The Music Man* and earlier this summer as the three men in *Anton in Show Business*. She has also performed around Columbus at Weathervane Playhouse, Columbus Children's Theatre and Phoenix Theatre Circle. She would like to thank Doreen and the cast for making this so much fun, John-Philip for being unexplainably amazing, and Geneva- "The ways to explain our friendship are endless, but "Carol and Clea" is quite suiting."



# **SPECIAL THANKS**

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# Otterbein Summer Theatre

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**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**

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### **Box Office**

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