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The Batting Cage

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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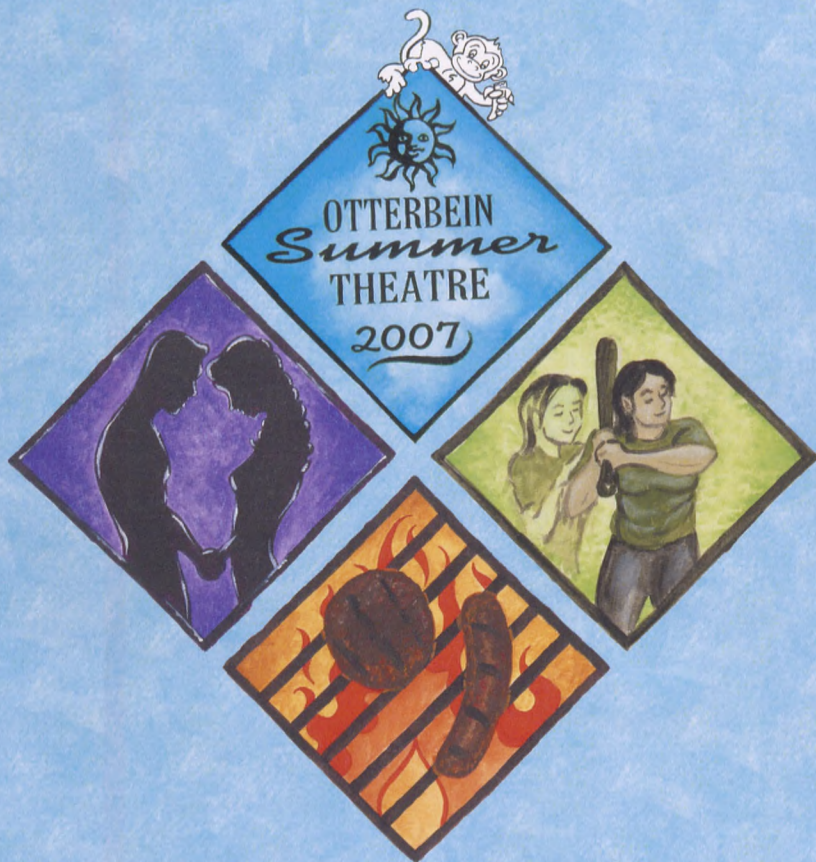
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OTTERBEIN COLLEGE



- ◆ Private Lives
- ◆ THE BATTING CAGE
- ◆ The Spitfire Grill

*Creating Masterpieces
for All your Senses*



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**OAKLAND
NURSERIES**

**"23 Acres of
Gardening Pleasure"**

The Batting Cage

By Joan Ackermann

Directed by Ed Vaughan

Scenic Design by Carmen Rowlands

Costume Design by Ruth Boyd

Lighting Design by Jayson Pritchard

Sound Design by Andy Baker

CAST

Julianna Elizabeth Shivenor
Wilson Jonelle Browne
Bobby Jihad Milhem
Rose Caitlin Morris

PRODUCTION STAFF

Chair, Department of Theatre & Dance/Co-Producer John Stefano
Co-Producer/Audience Services Director Elizabeth Saltzgiver
Movement Coach Melinda Murphy
Production Assistant Jessica Jackson
Stage Manager Kelley Monts de Oca
Assistant Stage Manager Mary Ferut
Technical Director Rich Uhrick
Assistant Technical Director Dieter Willis
Costume Shop Supervisor Marcia Hain
Master Carpenter Douglas Sarmir
Master Painter Carmen Rowlands
Master Electrician Kim Killeya
Co-Props Masters Julia Singer, Aran Carr
Wardrobe Master Lauren Williams
Light Board Operator Colin Murray
Sound Board Operator Al Kemp
Front of House Manager Sarah Waits
Box Office Assistants Chrissy Nickel

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

SETTING

A hotel room in St. Augustine, Florida. The time is the present.

There will be one 15-Minute Intermission during this production

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Working on *The Batting Cage* has been an incredible personal experience. The play is about redefining one's self, family, and reconciliation. The story of the Finley sisters and their mother is alternately humorous, moving, and poignant. This play speaks to me and I hope as you experience the play this evening, you will find moments that resonate with you.

I dedicate this performance to my sister, Rose.

-Ed Vaughan

BIOGRAPHIES

Ed Vaughan (Director) has been a member of the Otterbein College Department of Theatre and Dance for twenty-five years. His directing work has encompassed the Greeks to Mamet and Durang, and he lists *Sweeney Todd*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Imaginary Invalid*, *Medea* and *Boy Gets Girl* among his favorites.

Carmen Rowlands (Scenic Designer/Master Painter) is a senior Design/Tech major with a focus in scenic design from Bowling Green, OH. She's excited to be a part of the Otterbein Summer Theatre Company this year. Past scenic credits include *And Baby Makes Seven* (Master Painter), *Poetic Pandemic* (Scenic Designer/Master Painter), *42nd Street* (Deck Chief), *The Dinner Party* (Deck Chief), and Otterbein Summer Theatre 2005 (Technical Apprentice). She would like to thank her friends, family, Garst Girls, Jordan, and the sisters of Theta Nu for their love and support. In loving memory of Irene Rowlands (December 1918-June 2007).

Ruth Boyd (Costume Designer) has costumed in professional, community, collegiate, and children's theatre. A frequent guest costume designer at Otterbein College Theatre, she most recently costumed the production of *Leaving Iowa*. Ruth is Resident Costume Designer at Phoenix Theatre for Children where she recently completed *A Year with Frog and Toad*. She has degrees from Marshall University and The Ohio State University, and has studied theatre at Kent State University.

BIOGRAPHIES

Jayson Pritchard (Lighting Design) is delighted for the opportunity to design lights for the 2007 Summer Theater season. His professional designs have been seen in *Cheaper by the Dozen* and *Barnum* at Westerville South High School, *Beauty and the Beast* at Newark High School, *Thoroughly Modern Mille* at Upper Arlington High School, *Secret Garden*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, and *Anything Goes* at Pickerington Central High School. He has also lit a number of shows here at Otterbein including, *Hello, Dolly!*, *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, *Because He Can*, *Crimes of the Heart*, *Harvey*, *Father Joy*, *Oleanna* and the World Premiere of *Swamp Baby*. He will be lighting *Our Town* at Pickerington Central High School this fall. "OFA."

Andy Baker (Sound Design) is in his third year at Otterbein and enjoying his second season of Summer Theatre. He has recently served as Master Electrician for *Hello, Dolly!* and *Tartuffe*, Assistant Lighting Designer for Dance 2007: *Encore!*, and Sound Operator for *Company*. Andy also serves as Lighting Designer for Westerville Central H.S. and recently assisted in the design for Ohio Wesleyan's production of *Henry IV, Part I*. Andy would like to thank his friends, family, and Jen for their support.

Marcia Hain (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 *Hello Dolly!* *Harvey*, Dance 2006: *Street Fest*, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*, Dance 2005: *Passions*, *The Ugly Duckling + 2*, *The Music Man*, *Schoolhouse Rock, Live!*, *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 Loves*, *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.

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. Since coming to Otterbein, she also trained to teach Fitzmaurice Voicework for its specialized tools for improving the voice and breath. Melinda has coached Otterbein productions since the turn of the century. She has also coached equestrians, figure skaters, musicians, and competitive barbershop quartets and choruses including the two-time international gold medalist Southern Gateway Chorus.

Richard A. Uhrick (Technical Director) is in his fourth season at Otterbein College. Before his return to his alma mater, he worked in Regional Theatres across the Midwest and New England, including Actors Theatre of Louisville, Merrimack Repertory Theatre, New American Theatre, Kansas City Repertory Theatre (at UMKC), and The Court Theatre in Chicago. He received his Master's in Theatre Technology from UMKC in 1997. He now lives in Columbus with his wife Lisa. They work with Ohio Pug Rescue to provide abandoned or surrendered Pugs [dogs] foster homes.

BIOGRAPHIES

Jonelle Browne (Wilson) is a junior Acting major from Louisville, KY. This past year, Jonelle played Flipote in *Tartuffe* and Frances in *While We Were Bowling*. She just finished playing the French maid, Louise, in *Private Lives*. She would like to thank Ed for this incredible opportunity, his patience and all around awesomeness; as well as Melinda for being brilliant at moving. Jonelle would also like to thank her friends and family for their endless love and support, and as always, the amazing class of '09.

Aran Carr (Co-Props Master) hails from Upper Arlington and graduated with a BA in Theatre from Otterbein College in June. Her favorite productions include directing and stage management credits for *Caligula*, *Watchdog*, *The House of Bernarda Alba* & *Medea*. This is both her first attempt at props and as a member of Otterbein Summer Theatre, and so far it has been both challenging and rewarding. She would like to thank Elizabeth and John for the opportunity, the crew, designers and cast for their wonderful work, and her props partner Julia for struggling through with her. Also Aran would like to thank her supportive friends and family for all the love.

Mary Ferut (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to be working with such a wonderful, fun team this summer. Mary is entering her sophomore year as a BA Theatre major with a concentration in Stage Management and is from Elyria, OH. Previous Otterbein credits include ASM for ...*And Baby Makes Seven* and Props Assistant for *Hello, Dolly!* Mary thanks Deb for guiding her; her parents for being extraordinarily supportive; and to all of the people that keep a smile on her face. "TEM love and all mine."

Kim Killeya (Master Electrician) is serving a second year of summer theatre here at Otterbein and is having a wonderful time. A 2007 graduate of the BFA Design/Tech program at Otterbein, Kim is a native of Westerville. She would like to thank Don, Mom, and Dad for all their love and support. "Break a leg everybody."

Jihad "Jay" Milhem (Bobby) is a sophomore Acting major from Columbus. This is Jihad's first Otterbein Summer Theatre production and he is proud to be a part of such a rich tradition. This past year, he was in the classroom project *Saving the Planet and Other Improbabilities*. Jihad will be appearing in *The Spitfire Grill* later this summer. He would like to thank Ed and the cast for such an educational rehearsal process; and the cast and crew for being so patient. Jihad would also like to thank Mr. Steve Black and the Blackbox Theatre Co. for giving him the tools to be where he is today; and his family, and friends for always being there for him when he needed them most. Finally, Jihad would like to send a sincere, "Thank You" to the newly appointed sophomore class for their awesomeness. "I am the Rock!"

Caitlin Morris (Rose) is a junior BFA Acting major. Previous experiences on the Otterbein stage include *Private Lives*, *Company*, *While We Were Bowling*, and *And Baby Makes Seven*. She is overjoyed to be participating in Otterbein Summer Theatre for the first time.

BIOGRAPHIES

Kelley Monts de Oca (Stage Manager) is a senior BA Theatre major, Business Administration minor from Reynoldsburg. Stage management credits include *Swamp Baby*, *Crimes of the Heart*, *Prelude to a Kiss*, *The 1940's Radio Hour*, and *Poetic Pandemic*. Kelley would like to thank Ed for a good working experience; and the cast and crew and especially Mary for their hard work.

Colin Murray (Light Board Operator) is going to be a freshman in the Otterbein Theatre program next year. Colin is extremely excited to be here this summer and would like to thank everyone who helped him get here.

Elizabeth Shivener (Julianna) is a junior Musical Theatre major from Reynoldsburg. This is her first season with Otterbein Summer Theatre and she is having a blast! Past Otterbein performances include Irene Malloy in *Hello, Dolly!* and Amy in *Company*. She will also be appearing in *The Spitfire Grill* later this summer. Liz would like to thank her talented sisters from the class of 09', the cast, and Ed for all of his patience during her fits. She sends all her love to Steve, Doreen and her family for putting up with the insanity.

Douglas Sarmir (Master Carpenter) is an incoming freshman Design/Tech major from Pickerington. Some of his past credits include *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Anything Goes*, *The 1940's Radio Hour*, *The Secret Garden*, and *The Family Man*. He would like to thank his high school technical director, Eric Womack, for everything he has taught him over the past 3 years at Pickerington, and most importantly, his parents for all their love and support in theatre and in life.

Lauren Williams (Wardrobe Master/Costume Assistant) graduated from Dublin-Coffman High School in 2006. She is currently a sophomore Theater Design/Tech major here at Otterbein College. She was on set crew for *Hello, Dolly!* and costume crew for *Dance 2007: Encore!* While in high school, she was Set Designer and Props Master for *My Fair Lady*. She also designed costumes for *Radium Girls*. Lauren would like to thank her family and friends for always supporting her.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Joan Ackermann is co-founder and Artistic Director of Mixed Company Theatre in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, now in its twenty-third year. Her plays include *Zara Spook and Other Lures*, *Stanton's Garage*, *The Batting Cage*, *Don't Ride the Clutch*, *Bed and Breakfast*, *Rescuing Greenland*, *A Knight at the Theatre*, *My New York Hit*, *Back Story*, *Off the Map*, *Isabella: a Young Physician's Primer on the Perils of Love*, a musical for which she wrote the music and lyrics, and *Marcus is Walking* which was commissioned by Otterbein College and received its world premiere here in 1997. She adapted "Off the Map" into a screenplay directed by Campbell Scott and starring Joan Allen and Sam Elliot. Her plays have been produced at the Vineyard Theatre, the Guthrie Theater, Circle Rep, the George Street Theatre, Cleveland Play House, Shakespeare & Company, the Berkshire Theatre Festival, Mark Taper Forum, the Purple Rose and the Atlantic Theatre Company. A Special Contributor to Sports Illustrated for seven years, she freelanced for Time, The Atlantic, GQ, New York, Audubon and other magazines. She lives in the Berkshires where she is a part-time hiking guide and was recently visited, on two separate occasions, by a mountain lion and a black bear.

In loving memory.....

The 2007 Otterbein Summer Theatre season is dedicated to the memory of Jared Jensen who was killed in the line of duty in Colorado Springs while attempting to apprehend a parolee wanted for attempted murder. Jared, a 2000 BFA Acting graduate of Otterbein College, will forever be remembered for his quirky wit, his quiet humor, and his incredible dedication to serving his fellow man. Jared did productions ranging from Shakespeare's *Hamlet* to Stoppard's *Arcadia*, including two new plays, *Thirst* and *Antigravity*, but he was always happiest with his work in Summer Theatre in 1998 and 1999, when he performed in *The Mousetrap*, *How the Other Half Loves*, and *Proposals*.

An Summer Theatre Support Fund has begun with the intent of creating an endowment in his memory to fund future seasons of Otterbein Summer Theatre so that students may be encouraged to live Jared's commitment of his whole self to a job well done, no matter how large the task, or how small the role.

If you would like to contribute to the Summer Theatre Support Fund in Jared's memory, please make checks payable to Otterbein Summer Theatre and write "Jared Jensen Memorial" in the memo field. Contributions may be mailed to the Department of Theatre & Dance:

Otterbein College Theatre
30 S Grove St.
Westerville OH 43081

Thank you for being a part of Otterbein Summer Theatre 2007!

DON'T MISS OUR NEXT PRODUCTION....

The Spitfire Grill

Music & Book by: James Valcq

Lyrics & Book by: Fred Alley

Based on the film by: Lee David Zlotoff

Directed by: David Caldwell

July 26-29, August 2-5, 9-11

Campus Center Theatre, 100 W Home St.

Tickets are \$25 each



A feisty parolee follows her dreams, based on a page from an old travel book, to a small town in Wisconsin and finds a place for herself working at Hannah's Spitfire Grill. The restaurant is for sale but there are no buyers in the depressed town, so newcomer Percy suggests that Hannah award the eatery in a round of friendly competition. Soon, entries are arriving by the wheelbarrow full and things are definitely cookin' at the Spitfire Grill. Described by Curtain Up Reviews as "a slice of Americana," The Spitfire Grill is full of folksy, uplifting music to soothe the American soul.

Box Office: 614-823-1109

SPECIAL THANKS

The Goddard School Westerville, Executive Parkway
Hilton Garden Inn Columbus/Dublin