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The Madwoman of Chaillot

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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VIVECA LINDFORS

March 3, 4, 5, 1966
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CAST

in order of appearance

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The Prospector	Greg Sabatino
The President	Ron Steelman
The Baron	John Duval**
Therese	Judy McNeely
The Street Singer	Gwendy Miles
The Accordianist	Janice Abbott
The Flower Girl	Betty Carlisle
The Ragpicker	Ted Pritchard
Paulette	Mary Furniss
The Deaf-Mute	
Irma	
The Shoelace Peddler	Deedra Bebout**
The Broker	
The Street Juggler	
Dr. Jadin	
Countess Aurelia, The Madwoman of Chaillot	VIVECA LINDFORS
Understudy for Miss Lindfors	
The Doorman	
The Policeman	
Pierre	
The Sargeant	
The Sewerman	
Mme. Constance, The Madwoman of Passy	
Mlle. Gabrielle, The Madwoman of St. Sulpice	
Mme. Josephine, The Madwoman of La Concorde	
The Presidents	
	John Duval**
m. P	Dick Crable
The Prospectors	
	Dick Near
TIL D. A.	William Hunter*
The Press Agents	
	Bob Woods
T1 - 1 - 1:	Larry Evans
The Ladies	
	Mary Furniss
	Becky Ruyan

* Denotes membership in Cap and Dagger

** Denotes membership in Theta Alpha Phi Dramatics Fraternity

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

ACT I

The Cafe Terrace of Chez Francis.

ACT II

The Countess' Cellar - 21 Rue de Chaillot.

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History of the Author

Jean Giraudoux, born 1882, intended to become a professor, and trained at the famous <u>Ecole Normale Superieure</u> in Paris. But, after taking his degree, he renounced an academic career and for five years wandered through many countries for the fun of exploring them. He earned his way variously as a tutor and newspaperman.

With this experience, and the proper connections, he found an important place in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Paris, often going on diplomatic missions abroad. His debut as an author occurred in 1911, but he also continued his career in the Foreign Affairs ministry until the fall of France, 1940, and lived in an apartment near that ministry's headquarters on the famous Quai D'Orsay.

Giraudoux did not write for the stage until 1928, when he dramatized one of his novels, "Siegfried," which explored the possibilities of French-German understanding. This firmly established Giraudoux as an important French playwright. Some of his other important plays include: "Amphitryon 38," "Judith," "Intermezzo," "Tiger at the Gates," "Electra," and "Ondine."

Giraudoux died in Paris during the German occupation, in Feb. 1944, 22 months before "The Madwoman of Chaillot" was produced. He was generally considered one of the greatest writers of contemporary France, often called "the Racine of our time." His reputation has continued to grow since his death. A street was named for him in Paris in 1949. A special holiday was declared early in 1950 when, with much ecremony, a bronze plaque was affixed to the apartment house (so near to the real Chez Francis cafe) wall to mark for posterity the fact that Giraudoux had lived there for the last 24 years of his life.

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History of the Play

Jean Giraudoux wrote "The Madwoman of Chaillot" during 1942-43. Since Paris was then occupied by the Germans, Giraudoux, who was living quietly there and would never have permitted a play of his to be performed during the Occupation, put it aside with the prophetic note on its fly-leaf: "To be performed Oct. 17, 1945" — this was at a time when no one could foresee when, if ever, the Nazis would be driven out of France. They were driven out in August, 1944 (by which time Giraudoux had died); peace came in August, 1945. Thus the author's estimate of the liberation of his country was correct.

However, materials were so scarce in Paris in the months following the victory that, despite all efforts, Giraudoux's date could not be kept, and his play was not presented until Dec. 19, 1945. The play ran in Paris for 13 months without an empty seat.

In New York the play was finally produced three years after its Paris success — opening Dec. 27, 1949, at the Belasco theatre. It immediately stirred a tremendous controversy in New York, with many admirers returning to see it time and again, others attacking it angrily. Its reception was mixed in the press — certain critics going to great extremes of praise, others of condemnation. The most influential critics were in favor, so also seemed to be the public...for the theatre was packed night after night.

The play ran in New York until Jan. 7, 1950 for a total of 386 performances, the second longest run of any play ever given in America in an adaptation from an original French play.

Our Guest Artist



Otterbein College is indeed proud to present VIVECA LINDFORS as our guest star in "The Madwoman of Chaillot." Miss Lindfors started her acting career in her native land of Sweden. Since then she has been acclaimed in some forty motion pictures, including "No Sad Songs for Me," "The Adventures of Don Juan," "I Accuse," and "Four in a Jeep." She received the "Best Actress of the Year" International Film Award for her role in "Four in a Jeep," and she has recently been seen in "Sylvia," "Brainstorm," and "The Damned." For her efforts in "The Damned" and "Weddings and Babies" Miss Lindfors recently was the winner of the Special Award at the Venice Film Festival. She was also given the Best Actress Award at the Berlin Film Festival for the motion picture "No Exit."

Broadway was first graced with the exceptional abilities of Miss Lindfors in the hit "Anastasia." She won superlative reviews from the critics and the Drama League Award for her performance of the title role of this play. By way of a change from dramatic roles, Miss

Lindfors recently starred in a revival of Rodgers & Hart's musical comedy "Pal Joey" at the New York City Center. She has also appeared off-Broadway in the record breaking "Brecht on Brecht," "Miss Julie," and "King Lear."

Miss Lindfors has toured in such plays as "A Far Country," "I Am a Camera," and "An Evening of Tennessee Williams."

Besides being a capable performer in motion pictures and live theatre, Miss Lindfors has also worked in television. Her most memorable portrayal was that of Natasha in Dostoyevsky's "The Idiot." Other television performances to her credit include a special presentation of Thornton Wilder's "The Bridge of San Luis Rey," "The Defenders," "The Nurses," and most recently, "Ben Casey" and "Bonanza."

Miss Lindfors, now an American citizen, is married to the well-known Hungarían-born novelist and playwright George Tabori who dramatized "Brecht on Brecht." Like other noted Swedish actresses, such as Greta Garbo and Ingrid Bergman, Miss Lindfors is a graduate of Sweden's Royal Dramatic Theatre School. She has also studied under Lee Strasberg and is a member of the Actors Studio.

In recent years the Otterbein College Theatre has received national recognition for its well established guest artist program. Past performers include Hans Conried in "John Brown's Body," Ed Begley in "J.B.," Arnold Moss in "Love's Labors Lost," and Kim Hunter in "Anastasia." We are delighted to have Miss Lindfors on our campus and we are greatly pleased to add her name to our growing list of prominent guest artists. Our thanks to the American National Theatre and Academy for helping arrange her appearance.

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THEATER STAFF

Assistant to Director Elaine Mollencopf**, Helen Ware Stage Manager Bill Ahl Costumes - Jim Lewis, Deanie Rose*, Chmn., Kathy Cunningham, Pat Green, Ruth Stanley. House Manager - Jan Lenahan Lights — Keith Kaufman*, Chmn., Bob Abdella*, Tim Adams, Charlotte Durkin, Judi Garratt, Kathy Titley. Makeup - Sue Hohnhorst*, Chmn., Mary Corbin, Sharon Garvin, Pat Green, Penny Redmond, Elma Schmidt, Becky Willett.

Properties - Elaine Mollencopf**, Student Ass't., Kathy Morris*, Chmn., Pat Ellis, Sharon Johnson, Marcia Long, Pat Merryman, Diana Osterwise, Jo Runnels.

Publicity – Dave Orhin**, Chmn., Linda Gladura, Barb Immel, Penny Redmond, Donna Walklet.

Stage Crew - Jim Bruce, Jan Parsons, Student Ass'ts., Bob Abdella, MaryLou Bistline, Dorie Dunning, Charlotte Durkin, Judy Forsythe, Barb Immel, Sue Kuthan, Marcia Long, Carol McCoy, Penny Redmond, and Speech Class 214.

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Otterbein College is proud to be a member of the Arts Council of Columbus and to participate in the third annual "Showcase of the Arts," this year held from Feb. 24 through March 6. The Arts Council of Columbus is organized to encourage and increase the appreciation of the arts locally, and to bring to public attention the many artistic and cultural opportunities which are available to the central Ohio community. The Council publishes a calendar listing all cultural events, maintains a central calendar to assist those who plan and schedule events, operates an answering service which offers to the public daily information on cultural activities, assists in the sponsorship of the city-wide Festival of the Arts each summer, and sponsors the winter "Showcase" to highlight the many events available throughout the year. To secure copies of the calendar or obtain additional information, phone 221-1911, a twenty-four hour service of the Arts Council of Columbus.

MAILING LIST — If you would like to be on our mailing list and receive announcements of all cultural activities, please fill out a card at the box-office.

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COMING EVENTS - March 25 - Foreign Film Series, "Lazarillo" (date changed from March 11)

March 28 - National Players, "Romeo and Juliet," 1 p.m., "The Miser," 8:15 p.m.

April 23 - William Warfield

April 34 - Otterbein A Cappella Choir Home Concert

May 12-13-14 - College Theatre, "Our Town"

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