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Brighton Beach Memoirs

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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TheatreGoer

BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS

by Neil Simon

Guest Professional Director Dennis Romer

Scenic Designer: Fred Thayer

Lighting Designer: T. J. Gerckens

Costume Designer: Katie Robbins



Presented through special arrangements with Samuel French, Inc.

October 8, 7:30 p.m. · October 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 1987 8:00 p.m. · October 11, 1987 2:00 p.m.

OTTERBEIN COLLEGE THEATRE

Department of Theatre and Dance

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Directors Corner

I got a phone call from my friend Ed Vaughan about four weeks ago to tell me that my longtime friend and mentor, Dr. Charles Dodrill, had suffered a heart attack and would be unable to direct *Brighton Beach Memoirs*. Ed wanted to know if I would direct the show, teach a couple of acting classes and serve as an artist-in-residence for the fall term. I decided to accept the challenge and have thoroughly enjoyed the entire process of working with this script and this cast of student actors. *Brighton Beach* is a play about the innocence of youth and the regrets and frustration of being an adult. It's also a play about family and love and emerging sexuality. Of all the plays by Neil Simon, this is his most human and revealing. I hope we have done this great playwright justice and that we stir up some memories of your own family and loved ones. By the way, Dr. Dodrill is recovering quite nicely.

—Dennis Romer



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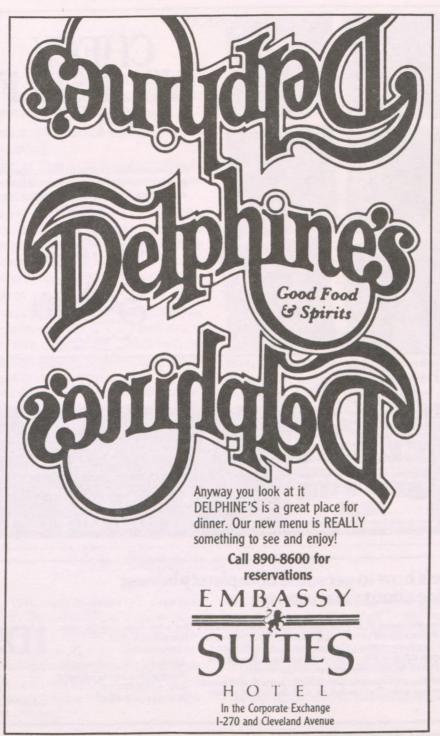
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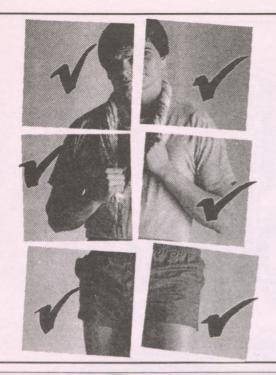
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About Us

The Otterbein College Theatre and the Otterbein Summer Theatre are the producing organizations of the Department of Theatre and Dance.

The Department offers several alternative degree programs, including:

The Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in acting or design-technical theatre, designed to prepare students for careers in professional theatre.

The Bachelor of Arts degree in theatre is a fundamental theatre training sequence with options in Music Theatre, Children's Theatre, Theatre education and Theatre Arts management. The most recent addition to our degree offerings is a Bachelor of Arts in dance

The Department of Theatre and Dance combines with the Department of Music and Visual Arts to form the new Center for the Arts. While each department provides separate intensive student education and performance opportunities, they frequently combine efforts in co-curricular performances activities that are annually attended by thousands in the central Ohio area.

Theatre students combine intensive classroom study with practical production work to develop and practice their craft. Our curriculum places strong emphasis upon the development of wellrounded persons within the liberal arts spectrum, while at the same time providing specialized theatre training in all areas of theatre. The purposes of the Otterbein College Theatre:

- 1. To train students in the arts of the theatre and prepare them for careers.
- 2. To provide opportunities for disciplined work in classes and on stage.
- 3. To develop high artistic standards thru the use of guest professionals.
- 4. To "bridge the gap" between educational training and career goals.
- 5. To provide entertainment, education, and cultural enrichment for students and community thru public performances.

The above goals are reached thru intensive class work and the 10 annual productions in winter and summer theatre programs. Approximately 9 studio productions are also presented each winter. Most of our students work in summer theatres here or at other Ohio theatres, and our seniors spend 15 weeks on professional theatre internships either in New York City or in regional theatres all over the country. The highly qualified faculty is frequently augmented with visiting professional actors, directors and designers, thus providing the link between academia and the realities of the professional theatre world.

The Department of Music

Since 1852, when the president of Otterbein brought the first piano to the village, music has been a part of many students' lives at the College. Composer Benjamin Hanby (Up on the Housetop, Darling Nellie Gray) taught "juvenile singing" at the College in 1855, and by the time of the Civil War, a vocal music professor was hired and a choral society was established.

Today seven full-time faculty and twenty-two adjunct faculty members teach in the Department with undergraduate degrees awarded in music education, theory and composition, applied music, history and literature, musical theatre, and music and business. The Department is a member of the National Association of Schools of Music.



Children's Theatre

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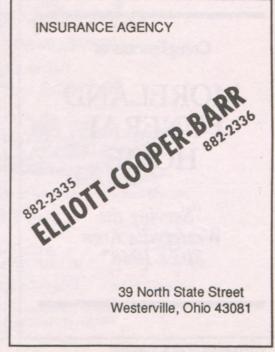
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Guest Director

Dennis Romer is a graduate of the Otterbein Class of 1971 and has enjoyed his continuing association with the theatre program. He received his MFA in directing from Wayne State University where he was an acting member of the Hillberry Repertory Theatre Company.

Dennis has performed at the Meadow-Brook Theatre, the Cleveland Playhouse, the Kennedy Center, the Clarence Brown Theatre, etc. in many diverse roles. He has created several soap opera characters on As the World Turns, Search for Tomorrow, For Richer, For Poorer, and most recently Gene Blake on All My Children. He has also appeared in around 50 commercials and the feature

film The Second Degree.

He is a member of the Raft Theatre Company in New York City on Theatre Row where he has directed several off- Broadway productions. Dennis is also a member of the Ensemble Studio Theatre in Los Angeles. While in Los Angeles, he has had co-starring and guest starring roles on Starman, Hotel, Crazy Like a Fox, Dynasty, Brothers and Matt Houston. Also, Dennis produced and directed the world premiere of Frontiers in Los Angeles at the Victory Theatre. This play was coauthored by his wife, Doreen Dunn who will be arriving soon for a two-week visit along with their four-and-a- half-year-old son, Eric.

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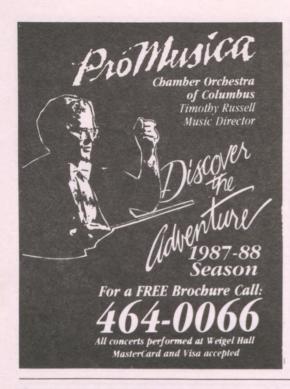
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Brighton Beach Memoirs Cast

(in order of appearance)

Eugene	Kevin Ford Carty**
Blanche	Diana Blazer*
Kate	Cathy Lee Collins**
Laurie	Meg Williamson**
Nora	Lori Schubeler**
Stanley	Scott Willis**
Jack	Ralph Scott**

Synopsis of Scenes

Act I

Brighton Beach, Brooklyn, New York September, 1937-6:30 p.m.

Act II

Wednesday, a week later About 6:45 in the evening

*Indicates membership in Cap and Dagger **Indicates membership in Theta Alpha Phi Theatre Honorary

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Opus Zero

Opus Zero, Otterbein's exciting show choir, will present its fall show on Friday night, November 6, 1987 in the auditorium of the Battelle Fine Arts Center on Otterbein's campus. The show will be given in two performances, at 7:00 and 9:00 p.m. All seats are reserved; tickets are \$3 for the general public, \$2 for Otterbein faculty, and \$1 for Otterbein students with I.D.

Opus Zero is a group of twelve singers and dancers who present a lively evening of entertainment, performing literature ranging from Big Band era hits to musical theatre and songs from today's best selling records. This year's show is titled New York. New York! and includes the music of Irving Berlin, Barry Manilow and music from Fame and Forty-Second Street.

For tickets or information, contact the BFAC box office at 898-1358. Tickets go on sale October 28.



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wrights, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Last year more than 650 productions and 15,000 students participated in the American College Theater Festival nationwide. By entering this production, our department is sharing in the ACTF goals to help college theater grow and focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

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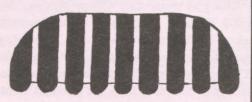






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Assistant Box Office Manager Vicki Kayati

Publicity Bethany Bangeman**

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Master Carpenter Chris Clapp**

Master Electrician Rich Uhrick*

Scenic Artist Susie Walsh**

Properties Mistress Jean C. Childers*,

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Sound Engineer Anne Alexander*

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^{*}Indicates membership in Cap and Dagger

^{**}Indicates membership in Theta Alpha Phi Theatre Honorary

Otterbein Theatre Advisory

The Otterbein Theatre Advisory Committee was created in the fall of 1986. In association with Otterbein College, the Advisory Committee established the theatre endowment program. The program is designed to benefit two critical areas: talent grants for students, and special capital projects.

This summer, in addition to greeting theatre patrons, the Advisory Committee sponsored a reception for season ticket holders, so they could meet this summer's guest artists and theatre company.

The Otterbein Theatre Advisory Committee is growing and will become more involved with the theatre department, while continuing it's efforts to meet the endowment fund goal of \$250,000.

If you are interested in joining the committee or contributing to the endowment fund, please contact Dr. Robert Fogal at 898-1305 or Jeanne Augustus at 898-1657.

We are pleased to recognize the following categories of giving to the Theatre Endowment.

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Marching Band in Concert 7:00 p.m. Cowan Hall

November 6, 1987
Opus Zero 7:00 & 9:00 p.m. Battelle Fine Arts Center

November 8, 1987
Gary Tirey, Tuba 7:00 p.m. Battelle Fine Arts Center
November 11, 1987
Percussion Ensemble 8:00 p.m. Battelle Fine Arts Center

November 14, 1987
Otterbein Chorale 8:00 p.m. Battelle Fine Arts Center

November 15, 1987
Jenny Armendt, mezzo-soprano 7:00 p.m. Battelle Fine Arts Center

November 21, 1987
Concert Choir 8:00 p.m. Battelle Fine Arts Center

November 22, 1987 Westerville Civic Symphny 4:00 p.m. Westerville South High School



Artist Series

October 28. 1987 Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra 7:30 p.m. Cowan Hall

WHO'S WHO - STUDENTS

ANNE ALEXANDER (SOUND ENGINEER) IS A SOPHOMORE B.F.A. DESIGN/TECH MAJOR FROM PENINSULA, OHIO. LAST YEAR ANNE WAS MASTER PAINTER FOR <u>FRONTEIRS</u>, PROPS MISTRESS FOR <u>NOISES OFF</u>, AND CO-MASTER CARPENTER FOR <u>THE CRUCIBLE</u>.

BETHANY BANGEMAN (PUBLICITY) IS A SENIOR B.A. THEATRE MAJOR AND A PUBLIC RELATIONS MINOR. SHE APPEARED IN <u>CAROUSEL</u>, <u>MY FAIR LADY</u>, AND THE <u>IMAGINARY INVALID</u>. BETHANY WAS ALSO A PART OF OST IN 1986 AND STAGE MANAGED LAST YEAR'S PRODUCTION OF THE CRUCIBLE.

<u>DIANA BLAZER</u> (BLANCHE) IS A SOPHOMORE B.F.A. THEATRE MAJOR FROM MECHANICSBURG, OHIO. LAST YEAR SHE WAS SEEN IN WORKSHOP PRODUCTIONS AS JEWEL IN <u>PATIO</u> AND JENNIFER IS <u>APPROACHING LAVENDER</u>. THIS PAST SUMMER SHE WORKED AS COSTUME ASSISTANT FOR OST.

TRAD A BURNS (SET DRESSER) IS A JUNIOR DESIGN/TECH MAJOR FROM VERMILLION, OHIO. TRAD WORKED AS PROPERTIES MASTER AND MASTER CARPENTER FOR CAROUSEL.

KEVIN FORD CARTY (EUGENE) IS A SENIOR B.F.A. MUSICAL THEATRE MAJOR. LAST YEAR KEVIN WAS SEEN AS MOZART IN AMADEUS, GARY IN NOISES OFF, AND ELANO IN SLEEPING BEAUTY. KEVIN ALSO COMPLETED HIS SECOND SEASON OF OST IN IS THERE LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL? AND SEE HOW THEY RUN.

JEAN C. CHILDERS (PROPERTIES MISTRESS) IS A SOPHOMORE B.F.A. PERFORMANCE MAJOR. SHE SPENT THIS LAST SUMMER AS AN APPRENTICE AT OST, APPEARING IN "IS THERE LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL? AND THE REAL THING.

CHRIS CLAPP (MASTER CARPENTER) IS A B.F.A. DESIGN/TECH MAJOR FROM ALLECHANY, NEW YORK. LAST YEAR CHRIS WAS MASTER ELECTRICIAN FOR FRONTIERS, MASTER PAINTER FOR AMADEUS AND A CARPENTER FOR NOISES OFF. THIS YEAR CHRIS WILL BE DESIGNING LIGHTS FOR THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE.

CATHY LEE COLLINS (KATE) IS A JUNIOR B.F.A. PERFORMANCE MAJOR FROM MICHIGAN. PAST PRODUCTIONS IN WHICH SHE HAS APPEARED INCLUDE FRONTIERS, THE CRUCIBLE, LADYHOUSE BLUES AND PETER PAN. CATHY WAS A MEMBER OF OST IN 1985 AND IS PRESIDENT OF CAP AND DAGGER THIS YEAR.

STEVE GEYER (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR) IS A JUNIOR B.F.A. MUSICAL THEATRE MAJOR FROM PITTSBURGH, PA. STEVE APPEARED AS MR. SNOW IN <u>CAROUSEL</u>, REV. PARRIS IN <u>THE CRUCIBLE</u> AND VENTICELLI IN <u>AMADEUS</u>. HE WORKED IN "SUMMER STOCK '87" AT FINDLAY COLLEGE AND IS A MEMBER OF OPUS ZERO.

JOHN R. GUTKNECHT (ASSISTANT TO THE DESIGNER) IS A SOPHOMORE DESIGN MAJOR FROM HOFFMAN ESTATES, ILL. HE WAS SCENE SHOP MANAGER FOR OST THIS SUMMER AND WAS MASTER CARPENTER FOR NOISES OFF AS WELL AS MASTER ELECTRICIAN FOR CAROUSEL.

MELISSA A. HELM (WIG DESIGNER) IS A JUNIOR B.F.A. PERFORMANCE MAJOR FROM GAHANNA, OHIO. SHE APPEARED AS MRS. MULLIGAN IN CAROUSEL AND WAS IN THE WORKSHOP PRODUCTION OF 'DENTITY CRISIS. MISSY ALSO WAS ASST. STAGE MANAGER FOR NOISES OFF.

RALPH E. SCOTT (JACK) IS A SENIOR B.F.A. PERFORMANCE MAJOR. HE WAS SEEN LAST SUMMER IN THE OST PRODUCTIONS OF IS THERE LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?, SEE HOW THEY RUN AND THE REAL THING. LAST YEAR RALPH WAS SEEN IN NOISES OFF AND AMADEUS.

LORI SCHUBELER (NORA) IS A JUNIOR B.F.A. PERFORMANCE MAJOR FROM CINCINNATI, OHIO. SHE HAS APPEARED IN THE TAMING OF THE SHREW, MY FAIR LADY, AMADEUS, SLEEPING BEAUTY, NOISES OFF, AND CAROUSEL. IN 1986, LORI WAS SEEN IN AH! WILDERNESS, PLENTY, AND WHODUNNIT WITH OST.

BETHANY SMITH (BOX OFFICE MANAGER) IS A JUNIOR THEATRE/SPEECH EDUCATION MAJOR FROM CANTON, OHIO. SHE WORKED AS BOX OFFICE ASSISTANT FOR TWO YEARS AND WAS BOX OFFICE RESERVATIONIST FOR CST IN 1987. BETHANY APPEARED IN <u>CAROUSEL</u> AND IN THE WORKSHOP PRODUCTION OF <u>JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT</u>.

RICH UHRICK (MASTER ELECTRICIAN) IS A SOPHOMORE B.F.A. DESIGN/TECH MAJOR FROM COLUMBUS, OHIO. RICH HAS SERVED AS A CARPENTER FOR NOISES OFF AND WAS DRAFTSMAN AND CO-MASTER CARPENTER FOR THE CRUCIBLE. RICH ALSO WORKED IN OST THIS SUMMER.

SUSIE WALSH (SCENIC ARTIST) IS A JUNIOR STAGE MANAGEMENT MAJOR FROM BARRINGTON, ILL. SHE WAS PRODUCTION ASSISTANT FOR OST THIS PAST SUMMER. SUSIE ALSO WAS ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER FOR CAROUSEL AND THE CRUCIBLE AS WELL AS MASTER ELECTRICIAN FOR NOISES OFF.

MEG WILLIAMSON (LAURIE) IS A JUNIOR B.F.A. PERFORMANCE MAJOR FROM PLAIN CITY, OHIO. SHE WAS LAST SEEN AS MARY WARREN IN THE CRUCIBLE AND WAS ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER FOR FRONTIERS.

SCOTT WILLIS (STANLEY) IS A SENIOR B.F.A. MUSICAL THEATRE MAJOR FROM ASHVILLE, OHIO.HE APPEARED IN OST PRODUCTIONS THIS SUMMER. SCOTT HAS ALSO APPEARED IN AMADEUS AND CAROUSEL. HE WILL INTERN IN NEW YORK THIS WINTER AND RETURN TO CITERBEIN IN THE SPRING.

ROBERT WITHEROW (STAGE MANAGER) IS A SENIOR B.F.A. PERFORMANCE MAJOR FROM COLUMBUS, OHIO. LAST YEAR ROBERT STAGE MANAGED SLEEPING BEAUTY AND ASSISTED IN CAROUSEL AS WELL AS APPEARING IN NOISES OFF AS TIM. HE ALSO WORKED AS STAGE MANAGER FOR BEREA SUMMER THEATRE '87 AND IS PRESIDENT OF THETA ALPHA PHI.