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### Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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Otterbein College Theatre  
presents

Edward Albee's  
Who's Afraid of  
Virginia  
Woolf?

February 6-7-8-9, 1980

Director - Charles W. Dodrill

Scenery Designer and Technical Director - D. Scott Dillon

Lighting Designer, Costume Coordinator - Kathleen Lewicki

*Produced by arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.*



## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

We are pleased to announce the completion of a working relationship with the Great Lakes Shakespeare Festival for our next production, the Shakespearean farce *THE COMEDY OF ERRORS*. Producing Director Vincent Dowling has arranged for professional actor and director ROBERT ELLENSTEIN to spend the next five weeks with us to direct *ERRORS* and teach the junior level Acting Studio classes.

ROBERT ELLENSTEIN has been a professional actor, director and teacher for over 30 years. He is frequently seen on television in numerous series (over 300 appearances) including *Chips*, *Hawaii 5-0*, *Quincy*, *Columbo*, *Rockford Files*, *McCloud* and most recently in *A Man Called Sloane*. Among his many movie credits theatre goers will remember *Love At First Bite*, *North By Northwest*, *The Young Lions*, *The Gazebo* and *Deathwatch*. His extensive regional theatre credits include a number of years with the Cleveland Playhouse, Chautauqua Repertory Company, Great Lakes Drama Festival, Karamu Theatre, Vanguard Theatre, the Los Angeles Music Center and most recently with the Arizona Theatre Company where he directed *Hamlet*. He is also Co-Founder and Artistic Director of the Los Angeles Repertory Company, where he has produced or directed 16 productions.

We are especially happy to add this "new wrinkle" to our program. Beginning in 1962 with the visit of Hans Conreid to appear in our production of *John Brown's Body*, this production will mark the 18th successive year with visiting professionals. Guest professional directors began with the Arnold Moss production of *Love's Labour's Lost* in 1964. Subsequent directors include Joseph della Sorte (*School for Scandal*, 1971), David Hooks (*Much Ado About Nothing*, 1972), Robert Forster (*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, 1977), and Otterbein graduate professionals Dennis Romer, John Duval, and Carter Lewis have directed in recent summer theatre seasons. We know that the presence of professionals has great impact upon our students and contributes enormously to the success of our program. We welcome Robert Ellenstein and are delighted to have this new opportunity to share in the classroom as well as in theatrical performance. We welcome him and know many of you will have a chance to meet him during the next five weeks.

Charles W. Dodrill

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Edward Albee was born March 12, 1928, to parents now unknown. At the age of two weeks he was adopted by millionaire E.F. Albee, Jr., son of the famous vaudevillian E.F. Albee (Keith-Albee). Educated at the private Choate prep school, he began college at Trinity and mutinously departed after a year and a half for ten aimless years in New York. During this period he worked a variety of jobs and wrote a great deal of unpublished poetry, until he completed *The Zoo Story* in 1958 and it became a sensational hit in Berlin in 1959. This was followed by a 1960 presentation in New York where its



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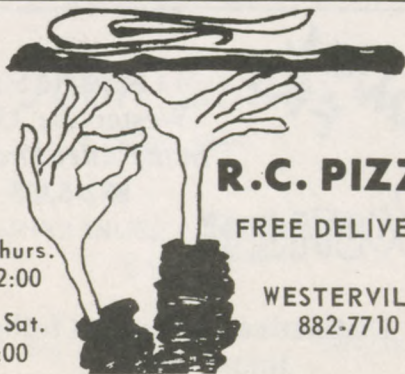


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thundering success in a little off-Broadway theatre lasted for over 73 weeks. *The American Dream* and *The Death of Bessie Smith* opened off-Broadway in 1961 and the two plays were a great success for over a year. Critics admired his work, but began to wonder if he could sustain a full length play. Their questions were soon answered with the 1962 production of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* which was nothing less than sensational. Greeted by tremendous praise and enthusiastic audiences that thronged the theatre for 660 performances, the play won the prestigious New York Drama Critics Circle Award in 1963 and every other award around except the Pulitzer Prize, which Albee won for *A Delicate Balance* in 1967.

In the 1960's Albee rocketed to the position of the most notable and most discussed new serious playwright to spring to prominence in the American Theatre since the appearance of Tennessee Williams and Arthur Miller. Other full length plays followed, including: *The Ballad of the Sad Cafe*, *Tiny Alice*, *Everything in the Garden*, *All Over*, and a second Pulitzer in 1975 for *Seascape*. In the spring of 1978 Albee directed the revival of *Virginia Woolf* that opened on Broadway starring Ben Gazzard and Colleen Dewhurst. His latest play, *The Lady From Dubuque*, has just opened in New York.

It seems safe to say that Edward Albee continues to be one of the most important playwrights of the 1960's and 70's. *The Zoo Story* and *The American Dream* were staged by the Summer Theatre in 1968, but this production marks the first full length Albee work staged at Otterbein.

## SCENE DESIGN COMPETITION

It is a great pleasure to present for the third successive year a student designed and executed production! Inaugurated in 1978 for *TARTUFFE* and continued in 1979 with *VANITIES*, this award winning set for our annual Scene Design Competition continues an obvious tradition of quality. As part of the new Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre, with focus on acting and design, this annual competition is presented to draw attention to the unique opportunities and the outstanding talent available at Otterbein.

Scene Design competition rules this season required that completed designs be submitted by December 10. Five students entered the contest, won by D. Scott Dillion (\$175). Previous productions designed by Scott include *A CHRISTMAS CAROL*, *VANITIES*, *CACTUS FLOWER* and *HAY FEVER*. Second place was awarded to Carlton Ritenour (\$50) and third place to Carlyle B. Owens, III (\$25). Numerous student designs have graced the Cowan Hall stage in recent years, including award winning designs by D. Martyn Bookwalter (now with the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles), David Weller (now with Beef and Boards Dinner Theatre in Cincinnati), David Robinson (now free lance designing costumes in New York) and most recently Carlton Ritenour designed the outstanding scenery for *SLEEPING BEAUTY* (now on a professional theatre internship at Arena Stage in Washington D.C.).

No theatre program can exist without dedicated and talented students, both onstage and backstage. We are delighted to share with our audience visual evidence of some of the creative talent and hard work that makes theatre at Otterbein an exciting opportunity for all concerned.

*John Evans*

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The **SCENE** - The living room of a house on the campus of a small New England college.

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Otterbein College Theatre is affiliated with the American College Theatre Festival, The Ohio Theatre Alliance and the American Theatre Association.

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Instructor-Director . . . . .	PROF. DONALD L. PAISLEY
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Student Assistants . . . . .	D. SCOTT DILLON, T. DAVID MARCIA, MARY ROSE MOLINARO, BRUCE MARVIN, CHERYL NEWCOMB, TAMMY PERAKIS, DAN POHL

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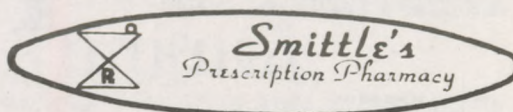
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Assistant Technical Director: DAN POHL

Assistant Lighting Designer: KELLY MAURER\*\*

Costumes: GINA ZELAZNY\*, Chm.; JULIE ARMENTROUT, GREG STEM

House Manager: RICH TATGENHORST\*

Lighting: GREG KIMBRO, Chm.; JENI DEFFENBAUGH, JAMI FLORA, MARIBETH GRAHAM\*, TOM LAWSON\*, CARLYLE B. OWENS III, CARL WOLFE, MITRA HEDAYAT

Props: BARBARA HAWKINS\*, Chm.; DENISE DANKHOFF, KAREN FRANZESE, TONYE PATANO, LARRY SHERWOOD, MIKE SHOAF

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**Feb. 12 – ARTIST SERIES:** Stan Bumgarner, guitar, 8:15 pm, Cowan Hall  
**Feb. 28 - Mar. 1-2 – MUSIC DEPARTMENT:** Opera Theatre - *Gianni Schicchi* and *The Telephone*, Thursday-Saturday 8:15 pm, Sunday 3:00 pm, Battelle Fine Arts Center  
**Mar. 5 – MUSIC DEPARTMENT:** Jazz-Lab Band, 8:15 pm Battelle Fine Arts Center  
**Mar. 8 – MUSIC DEPARTMENT:** Concert Choir, 8:15 pm, Battelle Fine Arts Center  
**Mar. 12-13-14-15 - THEATRE DEPARTMENT:** Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors*, 8:15 pm, Cowan Hall

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