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Fool for Love

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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OTTERBEIN COLLEGE THEATRE PRESENTS



BY SAM SHEPARD

Director Ed Vaughan

Scenic Designer Julie Anne Wetherbee

Costume Designer Katie Robbins

Lighting Designer Fred J. Thayer

Sound Designer Robert Johnson

Production Manager Kelly M. Knowles

Fool for Love is presented through special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc. 440 Park Ave. South, New York, N. Y. 10016.

May 23, 1990, 7:30 p.m.

May 24, 25, 26, 30, 31, June 1, 2, 1990, 8:00 p.m.

May 27, June 3, 1990, 2:00 p.m.

Otterbein College Department of Theatre and Dance

WESTERVILLE, OHIO 43081

Production Staff

Technical Director Steve Hall

Costume Shop Supervisor Marcia Hain

Production Manager Kelly M. Knowles**

Stage Manager Lisa J. Snodgrass**

Assistant Stage Manager Janet E. Brown**

Assistant Technical Director Richard Uhrick**

Master Carpenter Christopher H. Jones*

Master Painter J. Christopher Wojcieszyn**

Set Construction Crew Eva Bevans*, Katy Bowers*, Melanie Bruno*,

Julie Cremean*, Kim Kefgen, Anastasia Klimaszewski*,

Ginger Lee McDermott*, Mark Merriman*, James Minter*, Jenni Wagner*

Wardrobe Master Gregory Owen-Houck**

Wardrobe Crew Jason Gay*, Karen Goddard*, Nancy Martin**, James Minter*,

Scott Mulligan*, Nicole Rabel*, Mary Randle**, Philip Wolfe*

Properties Master Bradley K. Wees**

Properties Crew James Ashford, Amy Bachtell, Bryan Brems*,

Tom Cardinal*, Stacey Ferguson*, Kim Glann, Kim Kefgen, Daryl Lozupone*,

Cheryl Martin*, Ian Short*, Bill Yarbrough*

Master Electrician Pamela L. Bloom**

Light Crew Jim Brey, Vicki D. Christian,

Todd Lucht*, David Steinmetz, Lee Wilson,

Sound Operator J. Christopher Wojcieszyn**

House Manager Michael C. Moser*

Publicity Assistant Vicki D. Christian

Box Office Assistants Matthew J. Bartholomew*,

Keith Berkes**, Eva Bevans*, Cheryl Gaysunas**, Kim Kefgen,

Colby Anne Paul**, Lisa J. Snodgrass**, Stoney Westmoreland*,

Julie Anne Wetherbee**, Philip Wolfe*

* Indicates membership in Cap and Dagger

** Indicates membership in Theta Alpha Phi Theatre Honorary

Cast

May	Ginger Lee McDermott**
Eddie	Bill D. Timmins III*
Martin	Benjamin A. Hodges**
The Old Man	Joshua Alan Wank**

Place: A motel room on the edge of the Mojave Desert

Time: The present

Understudy for Martin and The Old Man: Alan Ellerbrock*

* Indicates membership in Cap and Dagger

** Indicates membership in Theta Alpha Phi Theatre Honorary

American College Theater Festival XXII

*Presented and produced by the
John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts*

Supported in part by

The Kennedy Center Corporate Fund • The U.S. Department of Education • Ryder System

THIS PRODUCTION is an Associate entry in the American College Theater Festival (ACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for adjudication by a regional ACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in ACTF programs involving awards, scholarships, and special grants for actors, play-

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

Last year more than 800 productions and 17,000 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 to focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

Theatre and Dance Staff

Chairman/Artistic Director Dr. Donald W. Seay

Director of Professional Actor Training Dr. Charles W. Dodrill

Director of Design Technology Prof. Fred J. Thayer

Teacher/Director Ed Vaughan

Teacher/Director Dennis Romer

Scenic Designer Robert Johnson

Costume Designer Katie Robbins

Technical Director Steve Hall

Costume Shop Supervisor Marcia Hain

Director of Dance Denise T. David

Adjunct Dance Faculty Denise Celestin, Jon Devlin,
Cathy Duke, Stella Hiatt Kane, Shirley McClain, Joan Moos

Managing Director Tod Wilson

Administrative Assistant Jeanne Augustus

Director of College Relations Patricia Kessler

OTTERBEIN COLLEGE THEATRE is affiliated with the Association for Theatre in Higher Education, the American College Theatre Festival, the Ohio Theatre Alliance, the Columbus Theatre Roundtable, and the United States Institute of Theatre Technology.

For Your Information

Latecomers' Policy: The House Manager may seat latecomers only during times which minimize disruption of the play. The management accepts no responsibility for inconvenience to latecomers and can make no adjustment because of it.

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.

Box Office Hours: Weekdays, 1:00-4:30 p.m., phone 614/898-1109.

Group Sales: Groups of 25 or more people

are eligible for special group rates. For more information call 614/898-1209.

Cameras and Recording Devices: The use of recording equipment and the taking of photographs during a performance are strictly prohibited.

Restrooms and Telephones: The restrooms and telephones are located upstairs opposite the main entrance of the Campus Center.

Backstage Visit: You are welcome to come backstage and say "hello" to the cast and crew immediately following any performance.

Acknowledgements

Coyle Music • Equine Science Department • Lori Plotnick

WHO'S WHO • • • FOOL FOR LOVE

Pamela L. Bloom (Master Electrician) recently served as assistant to the set designer and master painter for *Evita*. Other technical credits include lighting designer for the Workshop Theatre production of *Meeting the Winter Bike Rider*, assistant to the costume designer for *She Stoops to Conquer*, master electrician for *Cinderella*, and master carpenter for *Stepping Out*. This summer, Pam will be working at Cedar Point as a light technician for live shows.

Janet E. Brown (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore BFA design/tech major from Salineville, Ohio. Recently she served as stage manager for the 1990 Dance Concert and wardrobe mistress for *Evita*.

Alan Ellerbrock (Understudy-Martin and the Old Man) was last seen as Mr. Hardcastle in *She Stoops to Conquer* and Roland in *Present Laughter*. He is a BFA performance major from Glandorf, Ohio.

Benjamin A. Hodges (Martin), a junior BFA performance major from Morristown, Tennessee, previously appeared as the Prince in *Cinderella*, Judge Turpin in *Sweeney Todd*, and Ken in *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*.

Christopher H. Jones (Master Carpenter) appeared last year as the Cook in *Alice in Wonderland* and as Prince Escalus in *Romeo and Juliet*. He also served as assistant to the costume designer for *Evita*. This summer Chris will be scenic designer and stage manager at South Park Children's Theater in Pittsburgh.

Kelly M. Knowles (Production Manager) is a senior BFA performance major. This past season she served as properties mistress for *She Stoops to Conquer*, understudy for Mavis and assistant to the choreographer for *Stepping Out*, and stage manager for *Cinderella*. Next fall she will intern at Denver Center Theatre in Colorado.

Ginger Lee McDermott (May), a sophomore BFA performance major from Longwood, Florida, most recently appeared as Mavis in *Stepping Out*. Last year she appeared as Alice in *Alice in Wonderland* and in both the winter and spring dance concerts. Ginger will be spending the upcoming summer in Saranac Lake, New York as an acting company member for the Pendragon Theatre.

Lisa J. Snodgrass (Stage Manager), a junior BFA design/tech major from Barnesville, Ohio, served as stage manager for last year's *Sweeney Todd* and production manager for this year's *She Stoops to Conquer*. This summer she will be production manager for Summer Theatre '90.

Bill D. Timmins III (Eddie), a sophomore BFA performance major from Westerville, recently appeared in *She Stoops to Conquer* and *Present Laughter*. He will be a company member for Summer Theatre '90.

Rich Uhrick (Assistant to the Technical Director) recently completed his internship at Arena Stage in Washington, D.C. A senior BFA design/tech major from Columbus, Rich hopes to work as a carpenter after graduation.

Joshua Alan Wank (Old Man) is a senior BFA performance/directing major from St. Joseph, Michigan. Previous Otterbein roles include Gary in *Present Laughter*, Danforth in *I'm Not Rappaport* and Selridge in *Biloxi Blues*. Next fall Josh will intern with Simon and Kumin Casting in New York City.

Bradley K. Wees (Properties Master) served as make-up artist/hairstylist, as well as being a costume shop assistant for *Evita*. Other technical credits include stage manager for the Workshop Theatre production of *Meeting the Winter Bike Rider*, wardrobe master for *She Stoops to Conquer*, and a costume crew member for *Present Laughter* and *Cinderella*. This summer, Brad will serve as assistant to the costume designer for Summer Theatre '90.

Julie Anne Wetherbee (Set Designer), a senior design/tech major from Parma, spent this past fall at Arena Stage in Washington D.C. working as a stage management/casting/production intern. She will serve as assistant managing director for the upcoming Otterbein Summer Theatre season.

J. Christopher Wojcieszyn (Sound Operator/Master Painter) from Buffalo, New York, served as assistant sound designer for *Evita* and will be sound designer for Summer Theatre '90. He is a sophomore BFA design/tech major.

ABOUT THE PLAY

"This play is to be performed relentlessly, without a break," commands Sam Shepard. After much wrestling with the "analytical" method, I chose to tackle this program note the same way. In the published text of *Fool For Love*, Shepard prefaces the play with this quotation from Archbishop Bloom: "The proper response of love is to accept it. There is nothing to do." The same may be said of *Fool For Love*. Accept it, do not seek to "understand" it. Shepard reveals a mystery, but does not explain it. The passion which Eddie and May share is as concrete and as complex as trigonometry and as inevitable as the law of gravity. Their "pact" is at the heart of this play, providing a bond that fear, flight and desertion cannot break. *Fool For Love* connects to the audience the same way. Logic, reason, "she should do this, he ought not to do that," are out of place in a motel room on the edge of the Mojave Desert. *Fool For Love* does not seek to edify or provide catharsis. The play bounces around in the bloodstream the way Eddie bounces off the motel walls.

Why the desert? Why a rodeo cowboy turned stuntman as protagonist / antagonist? Much is made of Shepard as a poet of the "new west." True, the characters in *Fool For Love*, especially the Old Man, share an instinctive grasp of the metaphors and archetypes of the Hollywood western. However there is more going on than just a revamp of *Riders of the Purple Sage*. The myth of the west that Eddie clings to for identity is also his connection to the past and the pact. May can deride Eddie for his "fantasies," but she is equally bound by the ropes of history. There is little doubt that what occurs on stage is a repeat performance for Eddie and May, but this by no means diminishes the importance of the action. Ritual is no less a part of life than of theatre.

The Old Man? Does he exist in the minds of Eddie and May? Is he a hallucination? A narrative device? It does not matter. He is there and we must assume that Shepard's reasons for putting him there are neither whimsical or arbitrary. In a play where time is immediate rather than sequential and living in the present means living in the past, the presence of the Old Man is natural. What else? See the play. Or rather, feel the play.

--This program note was written by James Elliott Fippin, a 1985 alumni of Otterbein College Theatre. Jim is currently working as box office manager for the Canton Players Guild, one of Ohio's largest non-professional theatres, while finishing work on his master's degree in Theatre Arts.

POST-PERFORMANCE DISCUSSION

Immediately following the Thursday, May 31 performance (9:30 p.m.) of *Fool for Love*, Otterbein College Theatre will hold a post-performance discussion to explore issues and themes present in *Fool for Love* and other works by Sam Shepard. Panel members for the discussion will be Otterbein faculty Dr. Nancy Woodson and Dr. James Bailey, and Geoff Nelson, artistic director for the Contemporary American Theatre Company. Dr. Donald W. Seay, chairman/artistic director will serve as moderator. This discussion is open to all who are interested in discovering more about *Fool for Love* and its author, one of America's most important and dynamic contemporary playwrights.