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### Leaving Iowa

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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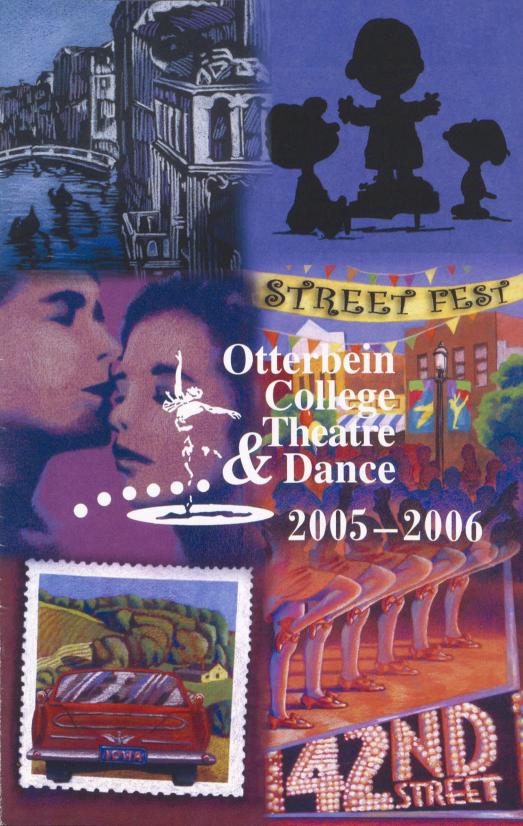


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### OTTERBEIN COLLEGE THEATRE

presents

# Leaving lowa

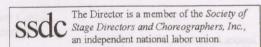
Stage Direction by \*TONY CASELLI

Set Design
CORINNE BETZ

Costume Design RUTH BOYD Lighting Design DANA L. WHITE

Sound Design QUINTESSA GALLINAT

April 26-30 & May 4-6, 2006 Campus Center Theatre



## cast

DON	Zach Kleinsmith
DAD	Daniel Everidge
MOM	Geneva Hyman
SIS	Beth Triffon
SUPER UTILITY PLAYERS	Luke Dixon & Lilian Matsuda

production team

Department Artistic Director	Dennis Romer
Audience Services Director	
Production Manager	
Assistant to the Production Manager	
Assistant Director	Lauren Baker
Movement Coach	
Speech & Dialects Coach	Melissa Nutting
Technical Director	Trent Kugler
Scenic Studio Supervisor	Richard Uhrick
Costume Shop Supervisor	Marcia Hain
Stage Manager	Erin Snyder
Assistant Lighting Designer	
Master Carpenter	Alex Myers
Master Painter	Jennifer Borror
Master Electrician	Carmen Rowlands
Assistant Master Electrician	
Props Master	Matthew Buettner
Props Assistant	Stephanie Ahern
Wardrobe Master	Kim Killeya
Sound Operator	Jessica Jackson
Light Poord Operator	Renee Scott
Light Board Operator  House Manager	Cassie Barker
Pool of Manager	Tiffany Rolling
Box Office Manager	Tillally Rollins

#### Scenic Studio Participation Students

Jonelle Brown, Matt Johnson, Tyler Stratton, Erik Christensen

#### **Costume Crew**

Victoria "Tori" Alexander, Ian Stillman

#### **Electrics Crew**

Andy Baker, Eric Bartkowski, Robert Hartwell, Wes Jenkins, Caitlin Morris, Christine Nickel, Alyssa Pence, Kari Ringer, Katelyn Rondinaro, Renee Scott, Sarah Taylor, Cesar Villavicencio, Adrian Zambrano

#### **Box Office Crew**

Megan Bruno, Brittany Cope, Luke Dixon, Jessica A. Jackson, Nicole Lehman, Kelley Monts de Oca, Rachel Wulber

# time & place

Now & Then
Don's present & his past
Driving around the Midwest

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

## director's note

This is a play about traveling. Traveling through life. Traveling through the Mid-West. Traveling through our past, our family, through our childhood into adulthood, and connecting all the dots that lead us to who and where we are now.

#### Traveling.

As I traveled here to Otterbein to serve as Guest Director, I gave thought to the things that I love about this play; the father/son/family story that resonates strongly with me; the many slices of 'life in the Mid-West' that remind me of my own childhood; the characters that remind me of people in my own life. Most of all, though, I love the theatricality of this piece.

The play travels back and forth through time, from Don's past to his present. It travels from place to place; the inside of the family car, a diner, the center of the United States.

The play travels, the characters travel, and we travel with them. All without a hundred set pieces, or a cast of thousands. All through the simplest, most imaginative, theatrical methods possible. We travel.

I've been lucky enough to ride with some spectacular traveling companions on this journey. The Cast, Crew, Stage Manager, Designers and entire Production Team have all put tremendous effort into making this trip the best it could be.

So now sit back, buckle up, and enjoy the ride - I hope you have as much fun experiencing the show as we did making it!

Tony Caselli Director

# profiles

Tony Caselli (Director) is Artistic Director at the newly founded Williamston Theatre, Michigan's newest professional regional theatre. He has worked at many theatres across south eastern Michigan as a director, stage manager, actor and administrator. He spent over 12 years working for the Purple Rose Theatre Company as a house manager, apprentice, stage manager, actor, director and 3 years as the Associate Artistic Director. Named Best Director in 2001 and 2005 from The Ann Arbor News, Tony's work has also been recognized with award nominations from the Detroit Free Press, Oakland Press and other local publications. He received his degree in Communication and Theatre Arts from Eastern Michigan University, and spent last year teaching several classes in its Theatre Department. A member of Actors' Equity Association and the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, Tony lives in Chelsea with his wife and two children. He's having a great time directing Leaving Iowa at Otterbein, and after Opening Night will immediately begin directing Williamston Theatre's inaugural production, Additional Particulars.

Corinne Betz (Scenic Designer) is a senior BFA Design/Tech major originally from South Bend, IN. Previous production credits include Assistant Scenic Designer for *The Music Man*, Props Master for *The Merchant of Venice*, and Costume Designer for *Necessary Targets*. She is also designing the set for *Harvey* which will be part of the 2006 Otterbein Summer Theatre season. Corinne would like to thank her parents, sister, and Chad for all of their love and support.

Ruth Boyd (Costume Designer) has costumed extensively in professional, community, college, and children's theater. She is a frequent guest artist at Otterbein College Theatre. Ruth is resident costume designer for Phoenix Theatre for Children in Columbus and recently completed *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. She has costumed for Ohio University at Lancaster, Red Herring Theatre, and Actor's Summer Theatre. She has degrees from Marshall University and The Ohio State University, and has studied theater at Kent State University.

Dana L. White (Lighting Designer) may be remembered for his lighting design efforts locally and regionally. He has designed the lighting for several productions at the Purple Rose Theatre Company including the World Premiers of Raindance and Book of Days (winner Best New Play 1998 by American Theatre Critics), both by Lanford Wilson, and Stand by Toni Press-Coffman. Other favorite projects include: Boom Town, Apt. 3A, Stanton's Garage, as well as Escanaba in da Moonlight and Tropical Pickle at the Gem Theatre in Detroit, MI. Recent work includes Matchgirl with Columbus Dance Theatre, and A Tuna Christmas (Contemporary American Theatre Company, CATCO, Columbus, OH). He also directed Science Friction at the Performance Network (Ann Arbor, MI), and Raggedy Ann and Andy for Otterbein College. Dana is an Associate Artist at the Purple Rose Theatre, a member of United Scenic Artists Local 829, and is Professor of Lighting, Sound, and Stage Management at Otterbein College.

Quintessa Gallinat (Sound Designer) is delighted to be working on this production! She has been Resident Sound Designer for The Purple Rose Theatre Company since 2002. She has designed twelve productions for the PRTC, six of which were World Premieres; her favorites include Guest Artist and Across The Way by Jeff Daniels, Leaving Iowa by Tim Clue and Spike Manton and The Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams. She has also designed sound for Performance Network, Phoenix Theatre Project, The City of Wayne Parks & Recreation/Stage VI Theater and Do What I Want Productions. Quintessa received her BA in Theatre from Alma College and is also a PRTC Apprentice Program graduate. Quintessa is eternally grateful to her husband Dave for all his love and to Mama for always believing in her.

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 Dance 2005 Passions, The Ugly Duckling + 2, The Music Man, Schoolhouse Rock, Livel, 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. She 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.

Melissa Nutting (Speech and Dialects Coach) teaches speech, dialects, and theatre history in the Department of Theatre and Dance at Otterbein College. She also serves as the resident speech and dialects coach for all productions. Favorite Otterbein credits include Violet, The Women of Lockerbie, Crimes of the Heart, The Merchant of Venice, You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, Necessary Targets, and Prelude to a Kiss. Recently, she coached the dialects for Ohio Wesleyan University's production of Noises Off. Melissa holds an M.F.A. in Acting from the combined program of Carnegie Mellon University and the Moscow Art Theatre in Russia and a B.F.A. in Acting from Carnegie Mellon. She is a founding company member of the American Studio Theatre in New York City and also served as the company's resident voice and speech coach. Favorite roles include Marina in Volodya (LaMama E.T.C.), Margaret in Richard III and Emilia in Othello (AST), Clytemnestra in The Greeks (Moscow Art Theatre), and the title role in Miss Julie (CMU). Melissa is a member of the Voice and Speech Trainers Association (VASTA).

## profiles

Richard Uhrick (Scene Shop Supervisor) is enjoying his third full season since returning to his alma mater. Before his return, 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.

Lauren Baker (Assistant Director/Rehearsal Assistant) is a senior BA Theatre and Art major from Worthington. This marks Lauren's last production at Otterbein and it has been some kind of adventure! Past credits include directing Jump and An Actor's Nightmare (Otterbein), Beyond Therapy (Thomas Worthington High School) and Assistant Directing Prelude to A Kiss, Jesus Christ Superstar, and Violet (Otterbein) and A Christmas Carol (Horla, UK). Lauren looks forward to the next chapter of life wherever it may lead her. Lauren would like to thank Tony for being awesome and introducing us to tape ball, Erin for being "Super SM," the cast for laughs and excitement, crew for creating the great atmosphere, all her Otterbein family for reminding her why she does theatre, and all her friends and family who have constantly been there along the way. "Class '06 – ain't nothing better!"

**Matthew Buettner** (Props Master) is a sophomore BFA Design/Tech major. Earlier this year, he stage managed *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Matt is looking forward to Otterbein Summer Theatre and would like to thank his brothers at Pi Beta Sigma.

Lucas Dixon (Super Utility Player), a sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major from Huntsville, TX, is pleased to be a part of this creative collaboration. His past Otterbein credits include *Prelude to A Kiss, The Merchant of Venice, Crimes of the Heart, Swamp Baby, BecauseHeCan*, and *Bowl of Soup.* He would like to thank the cast, Erin, Lauren, Melinda, Melissa, and definitely Tony, as well as give a special thank you and farewell to this year's senior class for their sheer awesomeness. They will be greatly missed! Lucas also looks forward to taking part in this year's exciting Otterbein Summer Theatre season.

Daniel Everidge (Dad) is a BFA Musical Theatre major from San Antonio, Tejas. Favorite Otterbein credits include ART, Schoolhouse Rock Live!, Forever Plaid, Violet, The Dinner Party, and You're A Good Man Charlie Brown. Daniel just finished an internship with Binder Casting and can't wait to return to NYC in the fall to start life. This summer, he will be returning to the Utah Shakespearean Festival for his second festival experience. Daniel would like to thank everyone reading this right now. He sends his love to his family, every friend, the outstanding senior class ("You will all do so well."), the most amazing group of guys he has ever known and the brotherhood that has helped him bloom – Pi Beta Sigma, his roommates, the cast & crew, Tony, tape ball, Bovenizer, and the love of his life – Lilian. "You betcha – Quite a trip."

Geneva Hyman (Mom) is finally a senior here at the "Otter." The road's been long, but it's been quite a ride. She's done some truly fantastic stuff with some truly fantastic casts! So, a gigantic thank you to all of her talented friends and classmates for being such creative and supportive artists. Thank you to Ed, Dennis, Chris, Stella, Melissa, Melinda, and John for being such epic and individual landmarks along the journey! Mr. Tony "the tape ball" Caselli – "You're so much fun and have been such a joy to work with." Meg, Catherine, Katie and Tracey – "You women rock my world – words can not express." The White House, Kappa, friends, family, audience members, basically everyone – "Thank you for listening!" "I am on my way...."

Jessica Jackson (Sound Board Operator) is a junior Design/Tech major from Columbus. Her previous credits at Otterbein include Associate Scenic Designer for Street Fest, Wardrobe Master for The Merchant of Venice, and Master Painter for Otterbein Summer Theatre 2005. She would like to thank her parents and friends for their support, and especially Erin for putting up with her shenanigans.

Zach Kleinsmith (Don) is a Senior BFA Acting major from Louisville, KY. Past Otterbein credits include The Merchant of Venice, The Pavilion, Rounding Third, Swamp Baby, The Dinner Party, The Ugly Duckling + 2, The Music Man, A View from the Bridge, Betty's Summer Vacation, The Laramie Project, and Scapino! He will also be seen this summer in Harvey and The 1940's Radio Hour. Zach just finished an internship in New York with Stuart Howard Casting. He will be returning to New York at some time within the next year. Zach would love to thank Tony and the cast and crew of this wonderful play. He thanks Sara for all of her love and support. He also says, "Hi, Mom, Dad, Eli, Anyu, Apu and Pi Beta Sigma. This has been some kind of damn adventure."

Lilian Matsuda (Super Utility Player) is a junior Musical Theatre major from Westerville. Past favorite credits include Street Fest (Ensemble/Choreographer), Necessary Targets (JS), The Dinner Party (Gabrielle), and Jesus Christ Superstar (Judas Dancer). This summer, Lilian is honored to be working at the Tony-Award-Winning Utah Shakespearean Festival! She would like to thank Tony for this tape-ball-filled fun, the obber-talented cast and crew, the junior BFA class, her loving family, her beloved Daniel and the new and old Kappa Babes.

Alex Myers (Master Carpenter) is a junior Design/Tech major from Maryland. She has enjoyed working on this production and would like to thank her family and friends, especially Trent, for making this such a good experience.

Carmen Rowlands (Master Electrician) is a sophomore Design/Tech major from Bowling Green, OH. Her previous work at Otterbein includes Technical Assistant for Otterbein Summer Theatre 2005, Deck Chief for *The Dinner Party*, Wardrobe Master for *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, and Assistant Technical Director for *Street Fest*. Carmen would like to thank her family, friends, Jordan, and the classy broads of Theta Nu Sorority for their ongoing love and support.

## profiles

Erin Snyder (Stage Manager) is a junior BA Theatre major from Sylvania, OH. Past Otterbein credits include Stage Manager for *Necessary Targets* as well as Assistant Stage Manager for *The Music Man, The Dinner Party,* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Erin would like to thank Tony for making this amazing experience possible; Lauren, Emily, and Chase for all of their help; Kevin, Mom and Dad for all of their love and support; and finally, the great cast for all of their hard work and for all the hilarity that ensues whenever they are around.

Beth Triffon (Sis) is a junior acting major from Bexley. Past Otterbein credits include The Merchant of Venice (Jessica), Crimes of the Heart (Babe), The Women of Lockerbie (Hattie), The Ughy Duckling +2 (Pups) and Medea (Servant). Leaving Iowa has been a wonderful experience for Beth due to the glorious cast and crew and especially Tony Caselli- the Tapeball master. She would like to thank speech and movement coaches M and M, the fabulous junior class, the sisters of Theta Nu sorority, the Crazy P, Meg, David, Cory and her wonderful family for their love and support. "Enjoy the show!"

Corey Verdusco (Assistant to the Production Manager) is a freshmen BFA Design/Tech student. He started at Otterbein as an Assistant Stage Manager for *Prelude to a Kiss*. His work outside of the department has included touring with Ringling Brothers Circus and ESPN 50/50 tour. His design credits have included Gin Blossom at DTE Energy Theatre, Boxing for Fox Net sports, and other regional events. Corey has helped to lead his high school to two state competitions in One-Act theatre and continues to help them as a consultant. He recently transferred here after attending Purchase College in New York and is extremely happy to continue his education and contribute his growing skills to Otterbein College.

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## Otterbein College Theatre

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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.

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

Restrooms and Telephones - The restrooms and telephones are located underneath the lobby.

Assisted Hearing Devices are available at the Box Office upon request.

Administrative Office

(614) 823-1657 Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. **Box Office** 

(614) 823-1109 Monday – Friday 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

