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Frontiers

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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TheatreGoer

Frontiers

By VALERY DAEMKE, DOREEN DUNN,
KATHLEEN GAFFNEY and NANCY SELLIN



Guest Director: **Ionia Zelenka**

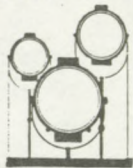
Scenic Designer: **T.J. Gerckens**

Lighting Designer: **Stephanie Haney**

Costume Designer: **Katie Robbins**

Technical Director: **Robert Fox**

Music Composed and Executed by:
Michael McGannon and Bruce Armitage



May 28-30, 1987 - 8:00 p.m. • May 31, 1987 - 2:00 p.m.
June 3-6, 1987 8:00 p.m.

OTTERBEIN COLLEGE

• **CAMPUS CENTER ARENA THEATRE** •

Department of Theatre and Dance

Cast

(In order of appearance)

Patricia Cockburn Alma, Jolene, Clare, Jemma, Teresa
Liana Peters** Susana, Petrel's mother, Mrs. Woodward, Anna, Emily
Cheryl Gaysunas Louise, Emma Bell, Sara Beth, Gran, Sarah
Heather Huprich* Carrie, Tree Woman, Neddie, Lucy, Mrs. Gavin
Charlotte Dougherty** Amanda, Elizabeth, Virginia, Mrs. Duncan, Mrs. Trombley
Cathy Collins* Petrel, Rose, Mrs. Farmer, Lavinia, Blanket Woman

Synopsis of Scenes

Various locations on and around the Kansas plains from 1847-1891

*Indicates membership in Cap and Dagger Drama Club

**Indicates membership in Theta Alpha Phi Theatre Honorary

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Marci Haines for costume assistance. • Dr. Marilyn Day for dance assistance

Theatre and Dance Staff

Director of Theatre Dr. Charles W. Dodrill
Coordinator of Design/Technology Prof. Fred J. Thayer
Coordinator of Acting Training Prof. Ed Vaughan
Costume Designer Prof. Katie Robbins
Acting/Directing Instructor Stephen Buckwald
Technical Director Robert Fox
Costume Shop Supervisor Patricia Gaines
Coordinator of Dance Denise David
Dance Instructors Joanne VanSant, Joan Moos, Mary Sweeney
College Relations Director Patricia Kessler
Administrative Assistant Jeanne Augustus

Director's Biography

Ionia M. Zelenka, Assistant Professor of Theater at Ohio State University since 1977, is making her first appearance as a guest director at Otterbein. Zelenka has a broad range of acting and directing experience in both professional and educational theater. Her directing credits include *The Dining Room*, *The Tempest*, *She Stoops to Conquer* and *Lion in Winter*. As an actress, Ionia has appeared professionally on the Arena Stage in Washington D.C., Olney Theater, Maryland, and other professional theaters around the country.

Production Staff

Stage Manager Beth Deiley**
Assistant Stage Manager Meg Williamson*
Wardrobe Mistress Julie Oberholtzer
Wardrobe Crew Steve Geyer*, Shane Frampton*,
Beth Chandler, Rachael Harris,
Rich Uhrick, Emily DePaul
Costume Shop Assistants Catherine Randazzo**,
Charlotte Dougherty**, Marc Foster**
Master Carpenter Ralph Scott*
Assistant to Light Designer Chris Clapp*
Master Electrician Chris Clapp*
Electricians Michelle Thompson*,
Anne Alexander, Jerry Comer, Gwen Griffin,
Fred Robertson, Julie Wetherbee

Set Crew Robert Witherow**, Anne Alexander,
Chuck Rosen*, Mandy Brockett*,
Michelle Bartley*, Tim Deak, Todd Kreps,
Kelly Glaser*
Property Mistresses Catherine Randazzo**,
Lori Schubeler*
Properties Crew Keith Berkes, Brent Ries,
Missy Helm
Sound Engineer Lisa Davidon*
Make-up Dia Huekler**
Publicity Steve Geyer*, Kelly Knowles
Box Office Managers Chris Cox**, Dia Huekler**
Box Office Assistants Bethany Smith,
Lisa Davidon*, Catherine Randazzo**
House Manager Kelly Knowles

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

Director's Corner

Frontiers is not a play in the strict sense of the word. It has no single story line or no central character who advances the action. Rather, *Frontiers* compresses several stories (and possibly many plays and films) into a series of vignettes which are unified by a single theme: the determination of people to improve their lot in life. Ironically, an improved lot meant deprivation and unimagineable suffering, especially to those romantic adventurers who set off into the sunset with nothing but fantasies for their expectations. These are stories of courage and endurance, imagination and humour. We consider that theatrical piece which, while it entertains, provides insight into the souls, the hardships, the joys and

sorrows of families who opened and settled the West. The stories are presented from the point of view of the women who "dug, cooked, scrubbed, pounded, planted, kneaded, sewed, baked, bathed, birthed and buried." We see them struggle against the elements of nature and the evils that spring from the greed and ambition. It is the earnest hope of all of us who have put this production together that you will share with us our sense of glory in the valor and humour of these unsung heroines. We have no doubt that you will view your automobiles, dishwashers, and laundry equipment with new eyes and gratitude. You will surely recognize our indebtedness to the women of the American frontier.

Author's Note: Several years ago, actresses Valery Daemke, Doreen Dunn, Kathleen Gaffney, and Nancy Sellin had almost nothing in common - except that they had all developed their own one-woman shows and, therefore, had experienced breaking new ground. Inspired by a rash of western women's diaries, these four pioneering friends thought it a perfect idea for a play and began a collaboration. After extensive research, which included the Lilla Day Monroe Collection at the Kansas State Historical Society, the Rendle

Family History and the Recollections of Essie Stallworth McGowin, *Frontiers* was born. In creating this picture-essay of the lives of real pioneering women, the authors discovered that what was expressing itself was a kind of courage, a power, a way of life. It became clearer and clearer that what was being unveiled was their spirit-the kind of spirit that transcends a specific period of history and becomes a recognizable, universal symbol to all people facing new frontiers.

Otterbein's Air-conditioned Theatre in Campus Center

Otterbein Summer Theatre

presents

The 1987 21st Consecutive Summer Theatre Season
with 8 Professional Guest Artists* and 3 Central Ohio Premieres

Is There Life After High School

Musical Comedy (Central Ohio Premiere) June 23,24,25,26,27,28; June 30, July 1,2,3,Tues. - Sun. Mat.; Tues.-Fri. with guest artist D Martyn Bookwalter (Scenic and Lighting Designer) and David Robinson (Costume Designer).

The Real Thing

Comedy (Central Ohio Premiere) July 7,8,9,10,11,12 Tues. - Sun. Mat. with guest artists Karen Radcliffe (Actress), Carter Lewis (Director), and D Martyn Bookwalter (Scenic and Lighting Designer).

See How They Run

Hilarious Farce July 15,16,17,18,19; July 22, 23, 24, 25 Tues. - Sun. Mat.; Wed. - Sat. with guest artists David Graf (Actor) and D Martyn Bookwalter (Lighting Designer).

The Dresser

Drama (Central Ohio Priemere) July 28,29,30,31, Aug. 1,2 Tues. - Sun. Mat. with guest artists Michael Hartman (Actor), Dennis Romer (Director), D Martyn Bookwalter (Scenic Designer), and David Robinson (Costume Designer).

Season Ticket Prices

Option 1 Fri-Sat. **\$28.00** (save 17%)

Option 2 Wed-Thurs. **\$24.00** (save 20%)

Option 3 Opening Night Club **\$20.00** (save 23%)

Option 4 Sunday Matinees only **\$18.00** (save 25%)

Ticket order form available from Box Office in the lobby.

For group information (25 or more) call 898-1657.

*All professional guest artists are subject to change pending final availabilty.