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Antigravity

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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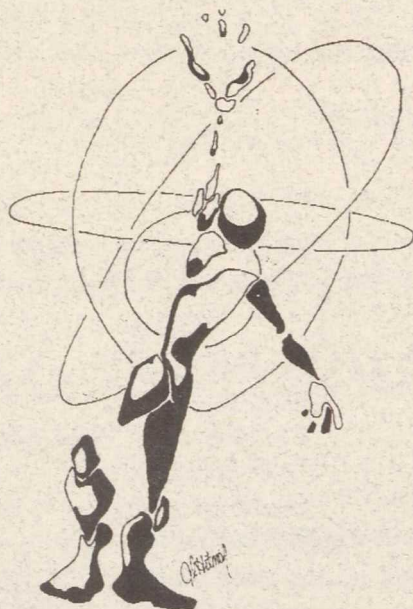
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Otterbein College Theatre (Since 1907)
The Department of Theatre and Dance
presents:

ANTIGRAVITY



By **Bill Corbett**
May 27 - June 6, 1999

Campus Center Theatre
100 W. Home St.
Westerville

Directed by **John Stefano**

Scenic Design by **Stephanie Gerckens**

Costume Design by **Ruth Boyd**

Lighting Design by **Rob Johnson**

Sound Consulting by **David Mead**

Sound Design by **Becky Morrison**

OUR SIXTH NEW COMMISSIONED WORK!!



Setting

Place: A house in rural upstate New York.

Time: A weekend in Spring 1999.

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

Cast

(in order of appearance)

WENDY.....	Kelly Reeves
ROY.....	J.B. Reidenbaugh
GERALD.....	Damon Decker
EVE.....	Amber Mellott
CAMERON.....	Jesse Wilson
BRIAN.....	Randy Goetz
MELINA.....	Nikki Hersh
PETER.....	Jared Jensen
SUZANNE.....	Robin Borovic

Production Staff

Artistic Director	DENNIS ROMER
Production Manager.....	GREGORY BELL
Technical Director.....	MICHAEL SCHERTZER
Assistant Technical Director/Scene Shop Supervisor	TIMOTHY D. ALLWEIN
Audience Services Director	BRIAN FALCK
Costume Shop Supervisor	MARCIA HAIN
Stage Manager.....	DEBORAH SINGER
Assistant Director/Dramaturg.....	LAUREL BURGGRAF
Assistant to Artistic Director.....	SARAH JAMES
Assistant Stage Managers.....	SCOTT TOLBERT, JENNIFER WHITCOMB
Properties Master	LORA WINSHIP
Master Carpenter.....	JACLYN HOLSEY
Wardrobe Master.....	JONATHAN ERWIN
Master Painter.....	HOLLY BARNETT
Master Electrician	STACEY SINCLAIR
Assistant Master Electrician	JENNY HITMAR
Sound Designer/Operator.....	BECKY MORRISON
House Manager	JAMIE SPONCIL
Box Office Manager.....	RANDY GOETZ

SCENIC STUDIO ASSISTANTS

Alison Acierno, Casey Beard, Elizabeth Carroll, Shanna Clay, George DeShetler Jr., Edith Dinger, Carey L. Evans, Patrick Green, Andrew Hagan, Robyn A. Henry, Jenny L. Hitmar, Jaclyn Holsey, Becky Morrison, Natalie Padula, Jayson Pritchard, Michael Schertzer, Lora Winship, Stacey Sinclair, Aaron Stegall

WARDROBE CREW

Liz Harold, Laurel Burggraf, Steve Sparks, Leslie Moran (shop assist.)

SET/PROPERTIES RUNNING CREW

Lindsey Chambers, Ayler Balsat

BOX OFFICE CREW

Jared Jensen, Robin Seabaugh, Sarah James, Geoff Martin, Colleen McKnight,
Chris VanHoy, Harry Gee

ELECTRICS CREW

Trent Caldwell, Mike Kirsch, Krista Lively, Eric Porr, Jessica Richter, Laura Runkle,
Christopher Van Hoy, Susan Zedella, Scott Wilson, Brandon Strawder

Program Notes

"I just know that when you go to the heart, punishment melts away, fear melts away, light comes in, and there's space for happiness to enter."
Bill Corbett, *Antigravity*

Bill Corbett's *Antigravity* wrestles with real issues at the end of the millennium: our self-absorption, our desperate grasping for success, and our unacknowledged need for meaning in our lives. End-times make us think about such things. Wendy is obsessed with the belief that Armageddon is at hand. She is weighed down by the heaviness of those unbidden thoughts, unable to move. Her brother and his friends are also tied to each other and to the past by their own gravitational forces. But "antigravity" is at work in the play as well--through laughter and forgiveness--and by the end almost all have found the space for happiness to enter. As Roy says in the last line of the play, "I'm gonna float... Float as high as I can."

Antigravity is the sixth in Otterbein's series of New Commissioned Works. Beginning in 1993 with Anthony Clarvoe's *Brothers Karamazov*, the series has featured new plays by some of the country's most gifted emerging playwrights: Kia Corthron, Carter Lewis, Joan Ackermann and Neena Beber. The New Commissioned Works program has become a hallmark of Otterbein College Theatre, and we are thankful for your support of it through the years.

John Stefano, director

Laurel Burggraf, dramaturg

Biographies

Bill Corbett (Playwright) is a native of Brooklyn, N.Y., and a 1989 M.F.A. graduate of the Yale School of Drama, where he studied playwriting and screenwriting. He is a Core Member of the Playwrights' Center in Minneapolis, where he has also been the recipient of Jerome Playwriting Fellowships and a McKnight Advancement Grant, and has co-run the Young Playwrights Summer Conference. In the past few years his play *The Big Slam* has been produced at Woolly Mammoth Theater in Washington, DC, ACT Theater in Seattle, as well as theaters in Boston, Minneapolis, Dallas, Richmond VA., and Anchorage, Alaska. *Hate Mail*, a collaboration with playwright Kira Obolensky, was commissioned and originally produced by Eye of the Storm Theater in Minneapolis, and was subsequently produced at Primary Stages in N.Y. It will soon be produced as a touring show be Fox Theatricals in Chicago. Other work: short plays *Manifesto*, *Beat the Press*, and *Hunters*, produced by the HBO Writers Project in Los Angeles; *Cash Karma*, produced at the Organic Theatre in Chicago; *Motorcade*, produced at many small theatres around the U.S., as well as Canada and in Japan; an adaptation of Heinrich Boll's novel *The Clown*, commissioned by the Guthrie Theatre and titled *This Ridiculous Dreaming* produced at Theatre de la Jeune Lune in Minneapolis; and *Down the Pike*, which won the Actor's Theatre of Louisville National One-Act Play Contest in 1990. He is currently a writer and performer for the television show *Mystery Science Theatre 3000*, and provides the voice of "Crow" for the program.

John Stefano (Director) has been chairman of the Department of Theatre and Dance at Otterbein College since 1992, when he moved from Illinois State University where he was chair of their Theatre Department and Managing Director of the Illinois Shakespeare Festival. At Otterbein he has directed, among other plays, *Big River*, *Sweet Charity*, and *Robin Hood*, and appeared as John Adams in last year's production of *1776*.

Ruth Boyd (Costume Designer) has costumed over 75 productions in professional, community, collegiate and children's theatre. A frequent guest costume designer at Otterbein, she most recently costumed last summer's production of *The Mousetrap*. In 1998, she costumed *Park Your Car in the Harvard Yard* for Ohio University at Lancaster, *Old Wicked Songs* for Red Herring Theatre Company, and *Big River* for Actors' Summer Theatre. Her next project with Otterbein will be this summer's production of *Proposals*. Ruth is resident costume designer at Phoenix Theatre Circle in Columbus where she most recently completed *Tuck Everlasting* and *Secret Garden*. She has degrees from Marshall University and The Ohio State University, and has studied theater at Kent State University.

Stephanie R. Gerckens (Scenic Designer) is a freelance Scenic Designer in Marysville Ohio with her husband T.J. For the Contemporary American Theatre Company, CATCO, Stephanie designed the scenery for *The Fantasticks*, *The Taste of Sunrise* and *Forever Plaid*. Other design credits include productions of Chicago's Griffin Theatre on the Square and many shows at Circa 21 Dinner Playhouse including *I Do, I Do*, *My Three Angels*, *Buffalo Girls*, and *A Legendary Christmas*. She spent two seasons at Actors Theatre of Louisville as the Resident Assistant Scene Designer and Charge Scenic Artist. While in Louisville, she served as the Lead Painter on the independent feature film *Lawn Dogs*. She enjoyed designing the set for *Steel Magnolias* here at Otterbein last summer.

Marcia Hain (Costume Shop Supervisor/Costumer) has been a member of the Otterbein Theatre Tech Staff since 1989. Since then she has run the Costume Shop full time and has also designed such shows as *Night Watch*, *Sherlock's Last Case*, and *A Few Good Men*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and *1776*. She also served as Associate Designer for *Phantom*. Ms. Hain has an extensive background in Home Economics

as well as commercial costuming, and has free lance designed and built for regional, community, and high school theatres.

Rob Johnson (Lighting Designer) is our resident scenic designer in his ninth year at Otterbein College. Some of Rob's past set designs include *The Mousetrap*, *Crazy For You*, *Hamlet*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Six Degrees of Separation*, *True West*, and *Pippin*. Recent lighting designs include *Moon Over Buffalo*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Thirst* and *A Chorus Line* at Otterbein, *Fortunes of the Moor* at OSU, and Artscape, a festival of performing arts at The Capitol Theatre in Columbus. To date, he has designed over 100 productions. Rob continues to be at the forefront of computer-aided design and animation, and web design, and teaches courses at Otterbein in the use of that technology. Rob would like to dedicate his work in memory of his father.

David S. Mead (Sound Consultant) has been involved in all aspects of entertainment production for twenty-five years. As an audio designer, he has worked on national touring productions of Ken Hill's *Phantom of the Opera*, *The Fantastics*, and the Great Radio City Music Hall Spectacular. Otterbein College productions include *Into the Woods*, *Evita*, *Cabaret*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *1776*. Mead is the performance audio engineer for the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra. He is CEO of Live Technologies, an Ohio based production sales and services company. Mead is a 1972 graduate of Miami University.

Holly E. Barnett (Master Painter) is a Sophomore BFA Theatre Design/Tech major from Ashtabula, OH. She is a member of Cap and Dagger and she is enjoying her short reprieve from props before she once again starts props for Otterbein Summer Theatre. She sends her love to her parents and Scott.

Robin Borovic (Suzanne) is a Senior BFA Acting major from Mentor, OH. She is graduating in what?, a week? Then a short stint here for OST in *How the Other Half Loves* and *Proposals*. Robin has previously been seen in *Noises Off* and *Steel Magnolias*. She plans on heading to L.A. this fall. Thanks to Mom, Dad, Brett and Rachie for their trust and love, or should I say ...lightness.

Laurel Burggraf (Asst. Director/Dramaturg) is a Freshman BFA Acting major from Baltimore, MD. She is happy to have had diverse experiences behind the scenes and in the orchestra pit this season. She also appeared in the workshop production of *The Real Inspector Hound* and *Felicity*. She thanks her friends for their countless contributions to the research for the show and her parents for driving several hundred miles to come and see it.

Damon Decker (Gerald) is a senior BFA Acting major from Plano, TX. Damon has also been in *Robin Hood*, *A Few Good Men*, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *Hamlet*, *Cabaret*, *1776*, *The Miser*, and *Arcadia*. This is Damon's final performance during Otterbein's regular season, and he would like to thank Shad, Sam, Amber, and his Mom and Dad. Also, he would like to dedicate this show to his brother Tristan for being a true dedicated inspiration in the world of theatre.

Jonathan Erwin (Wardrobe Master/Facility Manager) is a Sophomore Design/Tech major from Upper Arlington, OH. Previously Jon was Sound Designer for Otterbein In Motion and last summer's OST season. This year will be an encore performance for him as RSD for OST. He would like to thank his brother, George, and of course the rest of his family. He also still sends his love to Marius.

Randy Goetz (Brian) is a Junior BFA/Acting major from Longview, Texas. He is the President of Cap and Dagger, and he was seen in last winter's *Arcadia* as well as the secret performance of *Edmond* in the Fall. Other credits include: *The Mousetrap*, *Crazy For You*, and *The Miser*. He sends this show out to Jared (Momo's best disciple) and Christopher for all the laughs and traveling plans.

Nikki Hersh (Melina) is a senior BFA Acting major from Sylvania, OH and is a member of Kappa Phi Omega sorority. Nikki would like to thank John, Bill and the cast of *Antigravity*. Nikkie has previously been seen here at Otterbein in *Moonchildren*, *Marcus is Walking* and the *Emperor's New Clothes* and is carpooling with Robin to L.A. in the Fall. She dedicates her performance to Meg and her newfound love, Wolfie.

Jenny L. Hitmar (Assistant Master Electrician) is a junior BFA Design/Tech major from Cortland, Ohio. Jenny is emphasizing scenic design and painting, her most recent credits include *A Little Night Music* and *The Emperor's New Clothes*. She won the Barbizon Award (second) for her design of Otterbein's *Pinocchio* at the Region III ACTF festival. She is eagerly anticipating a senior year internship at the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, Georgia and will be painting at the Porthouse Theatre this summer. Jenny is a member of Cap and Dagger, USITT, and Alpha Lambda Delta.

Jaclyn Holsey (Master Carpenter) is a sophomore BFA Design/Tech major from Allentown, PA. She is very excited to build this show. This is her first experience as Master Carpenter and she would like to dedicate this show to Dave and Chris.

Jared Jensen (Peter) is a Senior BFA Acting major from Colorado Springs, Colorado. Otterbein credits include: *Arcadia*, *Moon Over Buffalo*, *Thirst*, *Hamlet*, and *The Mousetrap*. This summer he will appear

in *How the Other Half Loves* and *Proposals*. In December he completed work on the independent film, *Below the Belt*, in which he also served as stunt coordinator. He has just completed the fight choreography for Upper Arlington High.

Amber Mellott (Eve) is a senior BFA Acting major from Westerville. This time she only wants to thank her daughter Aubrey. Although she's only been able to see her work once... She is THE reason she chases her dreams. I Love You! Love You! Love You!

Becky Morrison (Sound Designer/Operator) is a senior BFA Design/Tech major from Zanesville, OH. This is Becky's final show at Otterbein and her second this year under Dr. Stefano's direction. She wishes to express her deepest gratitude and thanks to the entire Theatre Dept., her family, friends, and Ian. She would like to dedicate this show in memory of her brother, Pete.

Kelly Reeves (Wendy) is a senior BFA Acting major from Dallas, TX. Kelly was last seen in *Moon Over Buffalo*. Special love to Mom and Dad (I can't tell you how much your support has meant), all her Kappa Sisters, the beautiful senior class and of course, her partner, and best friend and love, Marc.

J.B. Reidenbaugh (Roy) is a junior BA Theatre/BA Philosophy major from Gahanna, OH. Previous credits include *Picasso Does My Maps* and *Arcadia*. He hopes to use acting as a way of finding his true

1998-99 Season Donors

Otterbein College Theatre wishes to thank you our loyal supporters!

Our apologies to any donor inadvertently left off of this list.

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Judy Roy
Becky Stamm

Star

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Alan Coupland
Ruth E. Pifer
Katherine Cox
Beth Bradstreet
Marcella P. Targett
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Director

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Marcus and Evelyn Eimas
Dr and Mrs. John Schwarzell
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Carol Brody
Jerry and Susan Brown
Margaret and Richard Fenton
Mike and Debra Collins
Patti and Oscar Lord
Eleanor Murphy
Mike and Janice Townsley
Dennis and Sue Ann Norton
Don and Joan McVay
Howard and Bonnie Spring
Daniel and Mildred Patience
Ruby P. Martin
Margret Ashbrook
Michael and Bonita Collins
Dr. Larry Lawrence
Russell Jordan

Featured Player

Linda Niemann
Water and Connie Kobalka
Larry Hansgen
Rebecca Madigan
Rose Wetherill
Richard Luckay
Conrad De Sieno
Audrey Bland
Nancy G. Chamberlain

passion - perfecting cold fission.

Mike Schertzer (Technical Director) is a junior BFA Design/Tech major from Marion OH. This is the first time Mike has been assigned to the position of Technical Director. Prior to this production, he has held multiple other assignments over the years. He would like to thank everyone for the devoted work they gave this production and to his supportive family.

Deborah Singer (Stage Manager) is a senior BA Theatre/Stage Management major who currently resides in Gahanna, OH. *Antigravity* is Debbie's first opportunity to stage manage a mainstage production at Otterbein. She previously stage managed Opera Theatre's *The Magic Flute* and assistant stage managed *Otterbein in Motion* and *Pinocchio*. Much love to Mom and Dad for putting up with her late nights.

Scott Tolbert (Assistant Stage Manager) is junior BA Theatre major from Columbus, OH. Scott has just finished writing his sixth play. He would like to thank Bill Corbett, John Stefano and the Otterbein Theatre Department for this opportunity to learn more about playwriting.

Jesse Wilson (Cameron) is a junior BFA Acting major from Columbus. Jesse would like to thank the brothers of Pi Sig, the bestest pal "the Ber," and is looking forward to his comic roles this summer.

Lora Winship (Props Master) is a junior from Gahanna, OH. Clubs that Lora belongs to are Cap and Dagger and USITT. Lora was last seen harnessed into Cowan's ceiling for running follow spot for *A Little Night Music*. She enjoyed this year and working on props. In the fall, she will be interning at Walt Disney World. She says "See You in the Winter."

Jennifer Whitcomb (Assistant Stage Manager) is freshman BA Theatre major from Columbia Station, OH. She is a member of Tau Delta and Women's Choir. *Antigravity* is the third production she has participated in at Otterbein and she looks forward to many more. She sends her love and thanks to her family, Jess, and of course Deb, who put up with her craziness.

For more program information see our website @ WWW.otterbein.edu

Otterbein College Theatre (Campus Center Theatre)

Latecomer's 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.

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 upstairs in the Lobby.

THE KENNEDY CENTER AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATER FESTIVAL XXXII

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
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This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KC/ACTF). The aims of this national theatre education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theatre production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KC/ACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in KC/ACTF programs involving awards, scholarships, and special grants for actors, playwrights, designers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KC/ACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KC/ACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., in the spring of 1999.

Last year more than 900 productions and 18,000 students participated in the American College Theater Festival nationwide. By entering this production, our department is sharing in the KC/ACTF goals to help college theatre grow and to focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theatres across the nation.

SPECIAL THANKS: Randy Bosh for the T-Shirt Design, Big Bear Stores, Bruegger's Bagel Bakery, Schneider's Bakery, The Baggerie, The Ohio State University