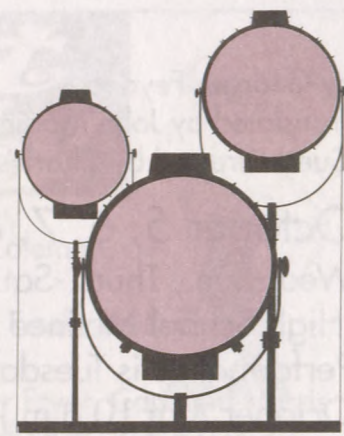


SPECIAL 1994-95 SEASON EDITION

Stages



FALL 1994 ▼ VOLUME VI, NUMBER 1

OTTERBEIN COLLEGE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE



Otterbein College Theatre

Setting a New Standard of Excellence

As we approach the opening of a new theatre season, we couldn't help but reflect on the achievements of the past year. In addition to training numerous young student artists, we also provided many fun, affordable evenings of thought-provoking entertainment for over 23,000 people from the Central Ohio community. Furthermore, we were recently featured prominently in *The Columbus Dispatch's* year end theatre awards, earning much critical praise from several local reviewers. Below is a partial list of our honors from last year:

• **Best New Play:** *The Brothers Karamazov*
Michael Grossberg,
The Columbus Dispatch

- Dennis Thompson, *Suburban News Publications*
- **Best Musical:** *Pippin*
Michael Grossberg,
The Columbus Dispatch
Dennis Thompson, *Suburban News Publications*
- **Best Play:** *Top Girls*
Dennis Thompson, *Suburban News Publications*
- **Best Direction:** Dennis Romer (*Pippin, Luv-OST, Homeward Bound-CATCO*)
Michael Grossberg,
The Columbus Dispatch
- **Best Choreography:** Stella Hiatt Kane (*Pippin*)
Michael Grossberg,
The Columbus Dispatch
- **Best Design:** *Pippin* (Runner-up)
Michael Grossberg,
The Columbus Dispatch

- **Best Actor:** Ed Vaughan (*King Lear*)
Richard Ades, *The Other Paper*
- **Best Actress:** Tirzah Wise (*Top Girls*)
Dennis Thompson, *Suburban News Publications*
- **Best Supporting Actor:** Todd Alan Crain (Runner-up for *The Brothers Karamazov*), Ron Thomas (Runner-up for *The Brothers Karamazov*), Andrew Hansen (Honorable Mention for *Pippin*)
Michael Grossberg,
The Columbus Dispatch
- **Best Supporting Actress:** Nicole Franklin-Kern (Honorable Mention for *The Brothers Karamazov*)
Michael Grossberg,
The Columbus Dispatch

▼ The Leading Player and ensemble from last season's award-winning musical. "From the spine-tingling opening to the most stunning theatrical finale I've seen in five years of reviewing, Otterbein College's *Pippin* is spectacular." —Dennis Thompson, *SNP*

In case you've never seen a show at Otterbein we hope you'll try us—we are more than just a college theatre. If you've been attending for years, you can take renewed pride in the fact that you're seeing some of the best quality work in town.

So order your season tickets today and witness, up close, one of the most critically acclaimed college theatre programs in the country. We promise you another outstanding season of award-winning entertainment! ■



Department of Theatre & Dance
Westerville, OH 43081-2006

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If you receive more than one copy of this newsletter, please pass one along to a friend.

by Georges Feydeau
Translated by John Mortimer
Guest Directed by Charles W. Dodrill

October 5, 6, 7, 8, 9;
Wed.-Sun., Thurs.-Sat.
(High School Matinee
Performance is Tuesday,
October 4 at 10 a.m.)
Cowan Hall

From the originator and master of the "French Farce" comes "A triumph of ingenuity, gaiety, absurdity and laughter."—*London Daily Telegraph*. The play opens in the opulent drawing room of Lucette Gautier a famous music-hall star. The protagonist is Lucette's lover, a good-for-nothing young man named Bois-d'Enghien, who is about to leave her to marry a Baroness' daughter, but hasn't got the courage to tell Lucette about it. In the second act Lucette, still unknowing, turns up to sing at Bois d'Enghien's engagement party. He runs himself ragged trying to keep everybody away from everybody else, but ends up being caught in *flagrante delicto* with Lucette. In the third act he suffers agonies of embarrassment when he is locked out of his apartment in his underwear. A hilarious nightmare-fantasy of guilt, *Cat Among the Pigeons* is a grand farce full of style and flourish! ▼



CAT AMONG

THE

PIGEONS



The Cherry Orchard

by Anton Chekhov
translated by David Mamet
Guest Directed by Doreen
Dunn with Guest Actor TBA

Jan. 25, 26, 27,
28, 29 and
Feb. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Wed.-Sun. Mat.;

Campus Center Theatre

An acknowledged classic of modern drama, *The Cherry Orchard* is Anton Chekhov's masterpiece. First produced in Moscow in 1904, the play is a compassionate chronicle of a family on the brink of ruin. What these idle, frivolous people are struggling to hang onto is a country estate, which they have heedlessly mortgaged to the hilt, that contains a beloved ancestral home and, most cherished of all, a cherry orchard renowned throughout the area for its beauty. Finally, the upper middle class family is dispossessed of its estate and at the end they are sadly embarking for Paris, leaving their home dismantled and in ruins. But apart from its serio-comic tale of human tribulation, *The Cherry Orchard* is also a page of history—a demonstration of the decay of the Russian aristocracy at the turn of the century that later led to the rise of Communism in Russia. "What a beautiful and moving play this is. It is timeless."—*NY Times*. ▼

True West

by Sam Shepard
Guest Directed by Rich Cole

October 26, 27, 28, 29, 30
and November 2, 3, 4, 5
Wed.-Sun. Mat.; Wed.-Sat.

Campus Center Theatre



Authored by Pulitzer-Prize winner and movie actor, Sam Shepard, *True West* is a dark, bizarre comedy about sibling rivalry and the artistic bankruptcy of the New Hollywood. Set in Southern California *True West* is about two vastly different brothers; Austin an aspiring screenwriter and Lee a drifter and petty thief. Austin is house-sitting for his vacationing mother in her suburban Los Angeles home. Enter a trendy film producer. Austin has sold a romantic script to the producer but Lee convinces the guy to accept his script instead, a contemporary "true western." The tables are turned and then turned again, for Lee is not a writer and, of course, Austin won't help. The play reaches a climax when Mom comes home to find her kitchen awash with sheets of paper and beer cans. *True West* is "an extraordinarily rich, dense and satisfying play. It is funny, at times scary, and provocative..."—*NY Post*. "a short, crisp play in which every line reverberates with menace and mystery."—*NY Magazine*. ▼

Warning: *This play contains adult themes and language.*

Special! Children's Theatre Androcles and the Lion

The Musical
Adapted by Aurand Harris

▼ Equity actor and Otterbein faculty member Ed Vaughan in one of Shakespeare's most demanding roles. "At last: A perfect portrayal of King Lear." —Richard Ades, *The Other Paper*



A Central Ohio Premiere!

SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION

by John Guare
Directed by Dennis Romer

March 1, 2,
3, 4, 5

Wed.-Sun. Mat.

(High School Matinee is Tuesday, February 28 at 10:00 am)
Cowan Hall

Winner of the 1991 New York Drama Critic's Circle Award, *Six Degrees* "is extraordinary high comedy in which broken connections, mistaken identities and tragic social, familial and cultural schisms take the stage to create a hilarious and finally searing panorama of urban America in precisely our time."—Frank Rich, *NY Times*. Inspired by a true story, the play follows the trail of a young black con man, Paul, who insinuates himself into the lives of a wealthy New York couple, Ouisa and Flan Kittredge, claiming he knows their son at college. Paul tells them he is the son of actor Sidney Poitier, and that he has been mugged and all his money is gone. Captivated by Paul's intelligence and his fascinating conversation, the Kittredges invite him to stay overnight. In the morning they discover him in bed with a young male hustler from the streets and the picture begins to change. The comedy probes the tensions that discolor contemporary life—racial friction, homophobia, homelessness, the gulf between generations, alienation and the need to belong, and even the nature of truth. A central Ohio premiere, *Six Degrees* is an extraordinarily thought-provoking play that will haunt you long after you leave the theatre. ▼

Warning: This play contains adult themes and language.

▼ From last season's musical version of the A.A. Milne's children's theatre classic.

▼ Otterbein College Theatre's *Top Girls* is an exceptional production of difficult work. I rarely rave, but when you factor in the degree of difficulty, this one earns a 10."—Dennis Thompson, *SNP*.



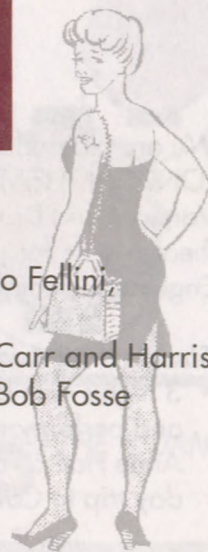
New Commissioned Play

by TBA
Directed by Ed Vaughan

May 24, 25, 26, 27, 28; and
May 31, June 1, 2, 3, 4:
Wed.-Sun. Mat. each week
Campus Center

Last year we successfully mounted the original production of Anthony Clarvoe's *The Brothers Karamazov* which will be produced this coming year in Cincinnati and St. Louis. This season marks our second annual staging of a world premiere play. When the script is commissioned and as the year goes along we'll fill you in on the details of the what the play is about. Needless to say, this will be another exciting first for Otterbein College Theatre and our audiences! ▼

Sweet Charity



Book by Neil Simon, Music by Cy Coleman,
Lyrics by Dorothy Fields
Based on an original screenplay by Federico Fellini,
Tullio Pinelli, and Ennio Flaiano
Produced for the Broadway stage by Fryer, Carr and Harris
Conceived, Staged and Choreographed by Bob Fosse
Directed by John Stefano
Music Direction by Craig R. Johnson
Choreography by Stella Hiatt Kane
Co-sponsored by the Department of Music

April 27, 28, 29, 30 and May 4, 5, 6
Thurs.-Sun. Mat.; Thurs.-Sat.

(High School Matinee is Wednesday, April 26 at 10:00 am)
Cowan Hall

One of the biggest Broadway hits of the mid-1960's this musical paired Bob Fosse and Gwen Verdon in their triumphant follow-up to *Damn Yankees* and *Redhead*. The show was successfully revived in 1986 with Fosse again choreographing, Verdon assisting and Debbie Allen starring in the title role of Charity Hope Valentine. Based on Fellini's award-winning Italian movie, "Nights of Cabiria," *Sweet Charity* is the story of an incurably romantic dance hall hostess and her indefatigable search for true love and the heaven of supermarket shopping for a husband in a nice little suburb. With a witty, racy script by Broadway legend Neil Simon and a jazzy, tuneful score by Cy Coleman (*On the Twentieth Century*, *Barnum*, *City of Angels*, *The Will Rogers Follies*) this is a tour-de-force dance musical. Featuring such memorable show-stoppers as "Big Spender," "If My Friends Could See Me Now," "Rhythm of Life" and "I'm A Brass Band," *Sweet Charity* promises to be the theatrical event of the year! ▼

**BOX
OFFICE
823-1109**

The box office, located in the lobby of Cowan Hall, is open from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. weekdays and Saturdays of performances. It is also open one hour prior to all scheduled performances. Mail orders (for individual tickets) received in advance of box office opening dates will receive priority. Box office opens for all sales on September 22 (*Cat Among the Pigeons*), October 13 (*True West*), November 7 (*Androcles and the Lion*), January 12 (*The Cherry Orchard*), February 15 (*Six Degrees of Separation*), April 12 (*Sweet Charity*), and May 15 (*New Play*).

Box office number is 614/823-1109. Individual phone orders accepted with Visa/Mastercard or Discover. **Season tickets will be mailed the week of September 19, 1994.**

**WHY
SUBSCRIBE?**

▼ **The Best Seats at the Best Price**
Subscribers are guaranteed the "best seats in the house" at the best possible price. This season you'll see six shows for the price of five!

▼ **Convenient Ticket Exchange**
This is an exclusive benefit for subscribers only! All individual tickets sales are final and may not be exchanged.

▼ **Discount Coupons**
Along with your season tickets you'll receive our "Bring-a-Friend" coupons and discount coupons for Opus Zero, Otterbein's singing and dancing ensemble. Also enclosed are coupons for the annual dance company concert.

▼ **Special Children's Show Bonus**
As a subscriber we'll allow you to order discount reserved seat tickets in advance to our annual children's theatre production.

▼ **A Free Subscription to STAGES**
Published quarterly, *Stages* features news and notes of Otterbein College Theatre.

London Theatre Tour

December 6-20, 1994

We are pleased to invite our theatre patrons to the annual LONDON THEATRE TOUR, fully escorted by Dean Joanne VanSant and Dr. Marilyn Day, who have been hosting London theatre tours for years. The tour is a 14 day/13 night trip to England including airfare and hotel accommodations staying in:

Stratford-on-Avon

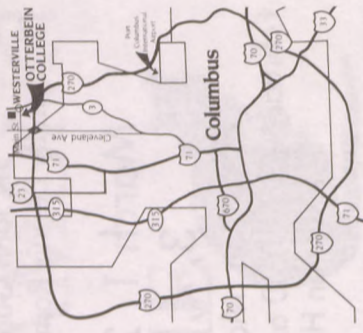
- 3 nights with bed and full breakfast accommodations. A tour and performance at The Royal Shakespeare Theatre, visits to Anne Hathaway's cottage, Shakespeare's birthplace, and a day trip to Coventry Cathedral and Warwick Castle.

London

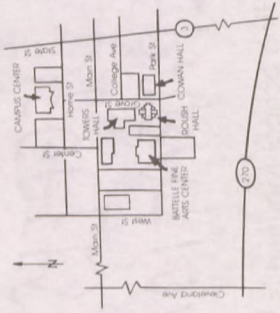
- 10 nights in London at the President Hotel with private bath and continental breakfast
- 3 theatre tickets
- A half-day sightseeing tour
- 8-day transportation pass for bus and underground travel
- Escorted visits to British Museum, antique markets, Wesley's Chapel, Speaker's Corner, the Tower of London, the National Theatre and Windsor via British Rail (optional)
- A tour of Parliament
- A half-day escorted tour of Oxford, the city and a college
- A full-day coach trip to Canterbury and the cathedral, Dover Castle and the White Cliffs
- A program especially designed for nurses is available. Please call for details.

Cost is approximately \$1,795 per person. Single supplement is \$200. A \$250 non-refundable deposit is due by September 23, 1994. For information and/or reservations, call 614/823-1305 or 823-1400.

Easy to Reach



Free Parking



▼ The ensemble cast of last year's original production of *The Brothers Karamazov* "the season's most intriguing and impressive new play."—Michael Grossberg, *The Columbus Dispatch*.

----- Cut here and mail to Otterbein College Theatre, Westerville, Ohio 43081 -----

1994-95 Season Ticket Order Form

Season Ticket Availability Dates

Season Tickets are available only for the dates listed below. Please circle desired date for each play and underline your second choice in case the first is not available. **Note:** Option #3, Opening Nite Club, must circle the 1st Wednesday for each play and the 1st Thursday for *Sweet Charity*. The 1st Thursday subscribers must choose the 2nd Thursday for *Sweet Charity*.

| | Wed. | Thurs. | Fri. | Sat. | Sun./Mat. |
|--------------------------|------|--------|------|------|-----------|
| <i>CAT AMONG PIGEONS</i> | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| October | | | | | |
| <i>TRUE WEST</i> | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| Oct./Nov. | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
| <i>CHERRY ORCHARD</i> | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| Jan./Feb. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| <i>SIX DEGREES</i> | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| March | | | | | |

Individual Ticket Prices

See Six Shows for the Price of Five!

| | Option #1 Fri/Sat | Option #2 W/Th/Sun. | Option #3 Opening Nite |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Cat Among Pigeons</i> | \$9.50 | \$8.00 | \$8.00 |
| <i>True West</i> | \$9.50 | \$8.00 | \$8.00 |
| <i>Cherry Orchard</i> | \$9.50 | \$8.00 | \$8.00 |
| <i>Six Degrees Separation</i> | \$9.50 | \$8.00 | \$8.00 |
| <i>Sweet Charity</i> | \$12.50 | \$10.50 | \$10.50 |