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MAY-14-98

## Tale of love, passion, betrayal to premiere at Otterbein

384 Otterbein College Theatre will again end its season with a world premiere production. For the fifth consecutive season, Otterbein's final production will be a new commissioned work.

This year, playwright Neena Beber was commissioned to create an original work for Otterbein. Beber has written **Thirst**, which is loosely based on and inspired by the Henry James novel Roderick Hudson. The action flows through the interactions of four characters - an artist, his patron and mentor, the artist's model and

the patron's girlfriend. As Beber explores the parallel universes of the present day and the turn of the last century, the play evokes strong and constant themes of love, passion and betrayal among its characters. **Thirst** takes the audience on their journeys to fulfill dreams and desires together and individually.

**Thirst** will premiere May 28 at 7:30 pm in Otterbein's Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St. in Westerville. Other performances are at 8 pm and the Sunday matinees begin at 2 pm. It will run

May 28-31, June 4-7. Tickets can be reserved by calling the Otterbein College Theatre box office at 823-1109 between 1 and 4:30 pm weekdays beginning May 18. Tickets are \$11 for Thursday and Sunday shows and \$12 for Friday and Saturday shows.

Beber's previous works include *A Common Vision*, *Tomorrowland*, *The Brief but Exemplary Life of the Living Goddess*, *Failure to Thrive*, *The Course of It* and *Misreadings* which was commissioned by Actors Theatre of

Louisville and was produced in the 1997 Humana Festival.

She has received commissions from Sundance Children's Theatre and the Amblin Commission from Playwright's Horizon. Beber also writes for children's television.

The new play program has become an opening artistic effort to bring original theatre to the Central Ohio area. Two previous plays that premiered at Otterbein College earned the Central Ohio Critic's Award for Best New Play.

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THIS WEEK - WESTERVILLE  
WORTHINGTON, OH.  
W. CIRC. 24,253

JUN-3-98



## Tale of Love

Otterbein College Theatre will end its season with the world premiere of Neena Beber's "Thirst." Loosely based on and inspired by the Henry James novel "Roderick Hudson," it is a tale of love, passion and betrayal among four characters, Stuart played by Sam Jaeger, Caroline played by Liz Beckman (standing), Evelyn played by Kelly Reeves and Hans played by Jared Jensen (seated in front). Evening performances will be held June 4-7. Tickets can be reserved by calling Otterbein College Theatre box office at 823-1109 between 1 and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Tickets are \$11 for Thursday and Sunday shows and \$12 for Friday and Saturday shows.

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FUBLIC OPINION  
WESTERVILLE, OH.  
CIRC. 6,386

MAY-20-98

'Thirst' premiere to be offered

384 Otterbein College Theatre, 100 W. Home St., will present the premiere of Neena Beber's *Thirst*, based on and inspired by the Henry James novel *Roderick Hudson*.

The play will open at 7:30 p.m. May 28 and will be performed at 8 p.m. May 29, 30 and June 4-6 and at 2 p.m. May 31 and June 7.

Tickets are \$11 for Thursday and Sunday shows and \$12 for Friday and Saturday shows.

For tickets call 823-1109 between 1 and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.