



Contact Patti Kennedy, 823-1605  
or Patricia Kessler, 823-1600  
May 4, 1998  
GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## TALE OF LOVE, PASSION, BETRAYAL TO PREMIERE AT OTTERBEIN

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 p.m. in Otterbein's Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St. in Westerville. Other evening performances are at 8 p.m. and the Sunday matinees begin at 2 p.m. 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 p.m. 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 ongoing artistic effort to bring original theatre to the Central Ohio area. Two previous plays that premiered at Otterbein earned the Central Ohio Critics' Award for Best New Play.





# NEWS

Office of College Relations • Otterbein College • Westerville, Ohio 43081  
(614) 823-1600 • Patricia Kessler, Director

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Otterbein College Theatre

*Thirst*

Directed by Dennis Romer

## Cast List

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Stuart .....   | Sam Jaeger   |
| Hans .....     | Jared Jensen |
| Caroline ..... | Liz Beckham  |
| Evelyn .....   | Kelly Reeves |





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## Otterbein College Theatre

### *Thirst*

Runs May 28-31 and June 4-7, 1998

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

The Otterbein College Theatre box office is open 1-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday beginning May 18. The box office phone number is 823-1109.

Dates, times and location of performances are as follows:

| DATE             | TIME      | LOCATION                               |
|------------------|-----------|--|
| Thursday, May 28 | 7:30 p.m. | Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St. |
| Friday, May 29   | 8:00 p.m. | Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St. |
| Saturday, May 30 | 8:00 p.m. | Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St. |
| Sunday, May 31   | 2:00 p.m. | Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St. |
| Thursday, June 4 | 8:00 p.m. | Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St. |
| Friday, June 5   | 8:00 p.m. | Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St. |
| Saturday, June 6 | 8:00 p.m. | Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St. |
| Sunday, June 7   | 2:00 p.m. | Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St. |