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GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Actor Vincent O'Neill will take over the lead role of Valmont in the Otterbein Summer Theatre production of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* replacing Tim Gregory who left the company.

O'Neill has performed the role within the past year and no changes will be made to the performance schedule. *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* will be performed in the Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St., June 26-29, July 2 and 3, July 5 and 6, and July 10-13.

Tickets can be reserved by calling the box office at 823-1109 12:30 to 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12:30 to 2 p.m. on Sundays. The box office will be closed June 30 and July 4. Ticket prices are \$14 for Sunday matinees and Wednesday performances, \$15 for Thursday and Friday nights and \$16 for Saturday and opening nights.

A director, Mime artist and teacher as well as an actor, O'Neill is a graduate of University College in Dublin, the city of his birth. He trained at the celebrated Abbey Theatre School and subsequently at Marcel Marceau's International Mime School in Paris.

On returning to Ireland, he founded Ireland's first professional mime company, The Oscar Mime Company and became its artistic director. He also founded and was director of the Dublin Theatre School, a conservatory for professional actors. Having taught mime and movement at virtually every theatrical institution in Ireland, O'Neill was appointed to the drama faculty of Trinity College (Dublin University).

In 1985 he was invited to join the internationally celebrated Abbey Theatre Company, both as an actor and director. As a member of the company for five years, he toured throughout the world.

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O'Neill is co-founder and artistic director of the Irish Classical Theatre Company (ICTC) in Buffalo, New York, now concluding its sixth season. His numerous acting roles for the Irish Classical Theatre Company include work in *Joycity*, his one-man show on James Joyce which won him acclaim at the Edinburgh Festival, Harvard University, the Folger Theatre in Washington D.C., Milwaukee, Toronto, New York, and also Tokyo and Sydney, Australia.

In addition for ICTC, he has played leading roles in *Betrayal*, *Faith Healer*, *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*, *The Importance of Being Oscar*, *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, *A Galway Girl*, *Aristocrats*, *Village Wooing*, *Dinner on the Patio* and *Events on a Hotel Terrace*.

Among his ICTC directing credits are *The Plough and the Stars*, *The Playboy of the Western World*, *Same Old Moon*, *Bed Among the Lentils* and *Krapp's Last Tape*.

Since relocating to Buffalo in 1990, he has worked both as actor and director in most of the other western New York theatres, including Studio Arena, Shakespeare in Delaware Park, the Kavinoky Theatre and Theatre of Youth. This past April, O'Neill directed the Mozart opera, *Così fan tutte*, for the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

A member of the University at Buffalo Department of Theatre and Dance faculty, he and his wife, actress, Josephine Hogan, make their home in Buffalo with their two children.

This past spring, O'Neill and Hogan were recipients of the Toast to Buffalo Award presented by the YMCA of Greater Buffalo.