

**2009-10 THEATRE SEASON  
THE UNIVERSITY OF PORTLAND**

**Rumors** by Neil Simon,  
Oct. 7-11 and Oct. 14-15

**The Servant of Two Masters** by Carlo Goldoni, adapted by Constance Congdon,  
Nov. 18-24

**Top Girls** by Caryl Churchill,  
Feb. 25-28, Mar. 2-4

**Urinetown** Music by Mark Hollmann, lyrics by Mark Hollmann and Greg Kotis, Book by Greg Kotis,  
April 8-11, 14-16



## The Kennedy Center

THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival-  
XLII

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Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KCACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KCACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC in the spring of 2010.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.



Department of Performing and Fine Arts  
5000 North Willamette Blvd.  
Portland, OR 97203-5798

The University of Portland  
Department of Performing and Fine Arts presents  
**RUMORS**

Written by Neil Simon  
Directed by Jenn Hunter



October 7-10 and 14-15 at 7:30 p.m.  
October 11 at 2:00 p.m.  
Mago Hunt Center Theater, University of Portland  
5000 North Willamette Boulevard



## PRODUCTION STAFF

Production Manager	Larry Larsen
Scene Shop Supervisor	Colin Murray
Costume Shop Supervisor	Mooch Martin
Box Office Supervisor	Devin Olson
Asst. Box Office Supervisor	Anna Mottice
Light Area Director	Lauren Brenneman
Properties Master	Bridgett Foran
Lead Carpenter	Emily Douglas
Set and Light Crew	Stephanie Bayne, Lauren Brenneman, Emily Douglas, Patrick Gorski, Katy Hampton, Samantha Layco, Eric Lyness, Rico Nan, Patrick Rexroat, and Tim Yandi
Costume Crew	Lily Raabe, Becky Downs, Ariel Puls, Megan La Fleur, Jamie Grant, Adrienne Shelnutt, and Brittany Nowers
Volunteer Light Crew for <i>Rumors</i>	Stephanie Bayne, Francis Finnegan, Katy Hampton, Lindsey Irish, Charles Lattin, Samantha Layco, Eric Lyness, and Chris Morrell

Special Thanks to: Andrew Berkowitz, John Mechalas, and Cara Carr, Lewis and Clark College

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I have a soft spot for *Rumors*. My first experience with the show was in high school, when I attended a community production that starred several actors who later became my mentors and colleagues in the land of educational theatre. Years (and years) later, I also had the amazing opportunity to perform in the show myself; needless to say, it was a real kick in the pants.

So what is it about *Rumors* that keeps it in current theatre line ups? First off, Simon is iconic – a comic legend who belongs in any and every theatre and a part of all education tracks. After a stint writing comedy for popular television programs, Simon began writing for theater in the 1960s. His first play, *Come Blow Your Horn*, was a modest hit. It was followed shortly thereafter by *Barefoot in the Park*, which ran on Broadway for four years. His third play, *The Odd Couple* introduced two of theater's most unforgettable characters, Felix and Oscar. He has since written Broadway smash after smash.

*Rumors* was a departure from Simon's typical blend of serio-comedy and autobiographical material. It is the truest farce in his large body of work. There is something universally appealing about a farce. It remains a tried and true comic vehicle.

It has been my pleasure to work on this production and I am blessed to be surrounded by such talented actors and designers. Thank you to my family for all of their encouragement and support. To the cast: *I'm in the back row!*

## BIOGRAPHIES

dozen musical and non-musical productions including *The Crucible*, *Noises Off*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Footloose*. She was Artistic Director of ComedySportz in Spokane and toured with Missoula Children's Theatre. In Portland, Jenn performs with Theatre Vertigo, ComedySportz, and her own improv creation - The BEE Word. Some of her favorite roles include Tina in *Tony and Tina's Wedding* and Lucy in *The Threepenny Opera*. Jenn has a BFA from the University of Montana and an MEd from Eastern Washington University. She has studied Meisner Technique at The Neighborhood Playhouse in New York.

**Jamie Kluth – Claire Ganz** – After journeying away to study in London for a semester, Jamie is pleased as punch to be kicking off her junior year back on the UP stage. She is honored to be working with such a fantastic cast/crew—especially Jenn Hunter. Although Jamie is a Drama major, she can also be found camping out in the Pamplin School of Business, working on a B.B.A in Marketing and Management. When not onstage or being a student, Jamie can be found drinking copious amounts of coffee, playing wall ball with her nephew and niece, or daydreaming of working for a major motion picture studio. She's ecstatic you came to see this production and hopes you fully enjoy yourself.

**Danielle Larson – Cassie Cooper** – Danielle is a junior Music and Drama major and an eager and

doe-eyed new member of the entrepreneurial program "E-Scholars" here on campus. Most recently, you may have seen her on the Mago Hunt stage as Anne Egerman in Mock's Crest Productions' *A Little Night Music* this summer, or as Rosina in the Electric Opera Company's inaugural production of *The Barber of Seville*. Previous to that Danielle was spied in some other UP productions, and as a member of the illustrious improv troupe ActUP; to which she returns with enthusiasm this fall. Thanks go out to her fabulous housemates, both domestic and abroad, and BR, who is the cat's pajamas.

**Chris Morrell – Glenn Cooper** – Chris Morrell is a sophomore Music major, Drama minor, and is thrilled to be making his UP theatre debut. His previous roles include Max in the classic *Sound of Music*, and Charlie, the ill-fated anvil salesman in *The Music Man*. In his spare time, Chris enjoys black and white photography, long walks on the beach, and playing guitar.

**Anna Mottice – Cookie Cusack** – Anna is a sophomore Music major here at the University hoping to pick up a minor in Drama. Last year she was assistant stage manager for the University's production of *Marat/Sade*, but this marks her debut on the Mago Hunt Stage. Favorite roles include Gertrude McFuzz in *Seussical the Musical* and Sebastian in *The Tempest*. Thanks to Jenn for this fabulous opportunity.

## Ed Bowen, Ph.D., Sutherland Professor of Theatre

Dr. Bowen begins his nineteenth year at the University of Portland. His directing assignments over the last few years have included *Noises Off*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Honk*, *Sweet Charity* and *Measure for Measure*. He is not scheduled to direct this season as he begins the third year of a phased retirement program, that put he and his wife, Polley, in Mexico, Italy and Greece this last spring with plans to return to Mexico in January and February and to France for April and May. They will return home to Oregon for the summer where there is no better place at that time of the year. In between adventures, they will be checking in on their 3 cats and 7 grandchildren.

## Andrew Golla, M.F.A., Assistant Professor, M.F.A. Graduate Program Director

This is Andrew Golla's third year as full-time faculty at the University of Portland, having previously taught here as an adjunct. Previous University's productions include *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, *The Foreigner*, *The Threepenny Opera*, and last season's *Bliithe Spirit*. He has directed plays in Portland, including *if you take one elf off the shelf*, and has worked at Portland Center Stage's JAW Festival for the last several years. Andrew is also the Artistic Director of Portland Theatre Works, as well as a freelance director, new play dramaturg, and actor. He received an M.F.A. in Directing from the University of Iowa and a B.A. in Political Philosophy from Carleton College. He has directed over 30 productions of classical and contemporary plays and musicals in over 15 years of directing, many of them world premieres.

## Jill Peterson Hoddick, M.F.A., Professor of Theatre

Jill has designed costumes for over 240 productions in her more than 40 year career, which includes 33 years here at the University. She has designed costumes and sets for three California summer stock companies, designed a season Off-Broadway, as well as designed several shows for Artists Repertory Theatre in Portland. Jill has also been honored by the Kennedy Center and the Northwest Drama Conference for her work with the Northwest University theatre community. Jill received her BA from University of the Pacific, an MA in theatre from Cal State-Fresno, and an M.F.A. from the University of Southern California. She enjoys the balance of teaching and costuming in her current work. She will complete a second year as Chair of the University's Committee on Rank and Tenure this year. Jill is an active volunteer in Portland Public Schools, and a founding parent of daVinci Arts Middle School. She is also a practicing artist working in textile arts. Husband Kent and daughter Kayley offer great support and inspiration in her life here and away from the University. Kayley recently graduated in studio art/photography from Pitzer College in Southern California and has begun her career as a photographer.

## Lawrence Larsen, M.F.A., Associate Professor, Director of Theatre

Professor Larsen is in his 16th year teaching and designing for the University. His scenic work at the University includes last year's productions of *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Bliithe Spirit*. Other designs for the University include *Measure for Measure*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, *The Fan*, *Electra*, *Noises Off*, *The Philadelphia Story*, and *Big Love*. His current professional design work includes the scenery for this summer's Mocks Crest production of *A Little Night Music*. Artists Repertory Theatre's productions of *Becky's New Car*, and the scenery for Irish Revels for the Portland Revels organization. Other theatres designed for include Portland Repertory Theatre, Tygres Heart Theatre, Northwest Children's Theatre, Portland Civic Theatre and Summer Repertory Theatre in Santa Rosa. Prior to his employment at the University, Larry worked for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, both in Ashland and Portland. Professor Larsen teaches all the scenic, lighting and stage management courses at the University and is the Director for the Drama Program. When he isn't in the Mago Hunt Theater, Larry spends time with his wife, actress Caren Graham and their son Mac. He has his M.F.A. in scenic and lighting design from the University of Washington.

## Mindi Logan, M.F.A., Associate Professor, Acting Instructor

Mindi is beginning her eleventh year teaching for the University of Portland. Her artistic work at the University includes choreography, acting and dialect coaching for last year's productions. Mindi received her M.F.A. from the Professional Actors Training Program at Rutgers University and then worked professionally as an actor in New York and Los Angeles, appearing off-Broadway, in soap operas, sit-coms, and film. Continuing her professional acting career, Mindi has appeared locally with Artists Repertory Theatre, Quintessence Theater, Stark Raving Theatre, in commercials, industrials, and voice-overs. Mindi also serves as the Regional Chair of the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival. Mindi's husband, Hal, is a professional musician and composer who also works locally and teaches at the University of Portland.

## Theatre Patrons Fund

The Theatre Patrons Fund was originally set up in the 1980s by Professor Tom Lasswell as an additional resource for the Drama Program's productions and students. This fund has allocated financial support for many needs of the program that are not always able to be met by the University and its yearly program budget. The Theatre Patrons Fund shall use the dedicated monies placed in the Fund to give additional support to the Drama Program's production costs, student's professional development and outreach. These funds should never be used in lieu of other funding from program, department, and college budgetary resources, but only when needed resources are not available. These funds must clearly be directed to the benefit of our students' growth and training as theatre artists; that happens both in the classroom and in the program's productions.

If you have enjoyed what we offered tonight, we invite you to get more involved in our program by making a donation to our Theatre Patrons Fund. If you are interested in supporting the efforts of our students, please contact any of the faculty listed above (503-943-7228) or send a check to University of Portland-Theatre Patrons Fund, Department of Performing and Fine Arts, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd., Portland, OR 97203.

## Measure for Measure. He would

like to thank his Mom and Dad for always teaching him the value of persevering through the hard times and enjoying the good times. This is the only life you've got, so love it and never stop believing! 'LET THE SUN SHINE!'

Jedediah Schultz, in addition to a slew of other characters, as part of Idaho's R.A.T. summer theatre program. Patrick is currently weighing a plethora of options for his future, including, but not limited to graduate school, playwrighting, and teaching high school. He is excited to be alive and wants to thank everyone who has consistently come out to see the shows, worked, lived and studied with him at an uncomfortable degree of closeness, and all of the love and support he has received and continues to receive from friends and family in Portland and his hometown of Jerome, ID, alike.

## Kyle Richardson – Officer Pudney –

A junior Computer Science major, *Rumors* is Kyle's first role in a University of Portland production, though he has had previous experience in the plays *The Adding Machine*, *True West*, and *Almost Maine*. Kyle is also a member of ActUP, the campus improv group as well as a DJ on KDUP.

## Zachary Virden – Officer Welch –

Zach is gearing up for reality! After a summer in New York City, studying with acclaimed acting teacher, William Esper (author of *The Actors Art and Craft*) in a full-time summer intensive, taking classes in acting, voice, mask, movement, and film, he has reached a new appreciation and passion for his craft. He has been accepted and plans to return to the Esper studio in the fall of 2011 to complete the two-year professional training program. He has been seen many times on the UP stage over the past three years with roles in *Marat/Sade*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Stop Kiss*, *Proof*, *Line*, and

**Devin Olson – Lenny Ganz –** Devin is a senior Drama & Psychology double major. He is very proud to say that this will be his eighth production on the University's stage.

In the past you have seen him in *The Foreigner* as Ellard, *Much Ado About Nothing* as Claudio, *Stop/Kiss* as George, and *Marat/Sade* as Coulmier. Devin would like to thank everyone involved with the show. To Jenn for being an amazing director full of wonderful ideas. To the cast for making him laugh so hard it hurts. To his housemates and friends for all their support. And lastly to his family, his biggest fans, for all their love.

## Lily Raabe – Stage Manager –

Lily is a senior Drama major (emphasizing in management, performance and design). She is currently working on getting accepted to grad school to pursue an MA in Theater Education in Communities. This is the third show she has managed at UP. Lily would like to thank Jenn for being a great director and everyone in the cast for being a joy to work with over the last few weeks. Break a leg everyone!

## Patrick Rexroat – Ernie Cusack –

Patrick is a senior this year, majoring in Drama with a performance emphasis. *Rumors* marks his ninth appearance on the Mago Hunt stage, and he is excited to go into his final year at the University of Portland with such a fun play. U.P. performance highlights include Dogberry in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Kokol in *Marat/Sade*, Billy in *The Cripple of Inishmaan*, and Matt in *Talley's Folly*. He also was seen in *The Laramie Project* as