

Spring 1991

The Madwoman of Chaillot

School of Theatre and Dance
Illinois State University

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Illinois State University
College of Fine Arts
Department of Theatre
presents

The Madwoman of Chaillet

by Jean Giraudoux

WESTHOFF THEATRE

Feb. 21-23, 26-28, Mar. 1 at 8:00 pm
Feb. 24 at 3:00 pm
Mar. 1 at 10:30 am

1991

The Madwoman of Chaillot

Director
PATRICK O'GARA

Costume Designer
LORRAINE ANDERSON*

Lighting Designer
SCOTT CAVIN*

Composer/Arranger
BRETT BARTON

Sound Designer
ETHAN J. GOLDSPIEL

Scenic Designer/Technical Director
DAN BROWDER

*Master of Fine Arts Candidate

Act I: The café terrace at Chez Francis on the Place de l'Alma in Paris. The Alma is in the stately quarter of Paris known as Chaillot, between the Champs-Elysées and the Seine, across the river from the Eiffel Tower.

Act II: The cellar of the Countess' house.

— There will be one 10-minute intermission —

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

CAST

(in order of appearance)

The Waiter	RANDY T. KIRBY
Irma	TRACY A.K. FINK
The Prospector	PHILLIP MATT
The Little Man	MICHAEL GRANT LONG
Paulette	CARLA DeLIO
The Sergeant	JOHN CORWIN
The Street Singer	JAMIE MICHAEL TROIANO
The Street Juggler	ANDRÉ WILLIAMS
The Policeman	JONATHAN BROWNING
The Doorman	PATRICK HEALY
The Deaf-Mute	RON JIU
The Flower Girl	HEATHER ANNE PRETE
Therese	KRISTA LALLY
The President	KEVIN P. WILL
The Baron	KURT REYNOLDS
The Ragpicker	JAMES KASPRZYK
The Shoelace Peddler	THOMAS J. KEATING
The Broker	CHRISTOPHER MICHELE HAINSWORTH
Dr. Jadin	BRENDAN HUNT
Countess Aurelia, <i>The Madwoman of Chaillet</i>	SARA WALSH
Pierre	PAUL KALINA
The Sewer Man	JEFF GRAFTON
Constance, <i>The Madwoman of Passy</i>	JENNIFER CLARK
Gabrielle, <i>The Madwoman of St. Sulpice</i>	KRIS EDLUND
Josephine, <i>The Madwoman of La Concorde</i>	TANIA RICHARD

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Manager	SUKI SCHIERHOLZ
Assistant Director	KATI BRAZDA*
Assistant Stage Managers	REBECCA BUSCHER, SARAH DOSS
Properties Master/Assistant Set Designer	KEITH D. BLUE
Scenic Artist	CARRIE BLETSCHE
Master Electrician	THERESA L. KUREK
Assistant Costume Designer	LAWRENCE R. WISOWATY
Assistant Composer	PERRIN STAMATIS
Dialogue Coach	NANCY BENJAMIN
Faculty Advisor (Lights)	KENT GOETZ
Faculty Advisor (Costumes)	DAN WILHELM

PRODUCTION CREWS

Set Crew: Justin Bitner, Earl Crayton, Anita Deely, Phil Eaton, Tracy Kopecky, Amy Palmer, Brad Roback, Dale Schaaff, Laura Steib, Jennifer Wilson

Light Crew: Jason Bennett, Mindy Bridges, Lori-Alyn Claster, Mickey DiPiero, Nyalls Hartman, Brendan Hunt, Edna Kingsley, John Schultz, Debra Kay Stier, Brittany Strong, Jennifer Willhite

Light Board Operator: John Hansen

Sound Board Operator: Collen McGuire

Costume Crew: David Durham, Ana Garcia, Mike Hakanson, Rachel Kasper, David Marmer, Shelley Reed, Tom Thomas, Todd Wineburner

Costume Crew Head: Stephen McCormick

Wig Dresser: Deborah K. Stier

AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATRE FESTIVAL XXIII

Presented and produced by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
Supported in part by the Kennedy Center Corporate Fund,
the U.S. Department of Education, and Ryder System

This production is an Associate entry in the American College Theatre Festival (ACTF). The aims of this national theatre education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theatre production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for adjudication by a regional ACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in ACTF programs involving awards, scholarships and special grants for actors, playwrights, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Last year approximately 800 productions and 17,000 students participated in the American College Theatre Festival nationwide. By entering this production, our department is sharing in the ACTF goals to help college theater grow and to focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

THEATRE STAFF

General Manager Peter Guither
Costume Shop Supervisor Beverly Norcross
Scene Shop Supervisor Dennis Mays

COSTUME SHOP — Graduate Personnel: Lorraine Anderson*, Amy Khongkhakul, Jennifer Noe*, Teresa S. Pruitt*, Tona Schenck*, Missy Skelton*;
Undergraduate TA: Debra Kay Stier; **Undergraduate Personnel:** Karis Frenchak, Susan Hayes, Anne Latta, Kelly VanKirk, Jennifer Wilson, Larry Wisowaty

SCENE SHOP — Carpenter: Thomas Thompson; **Graduate Personnel:** Scott Cavin*, Armella Nefzger*, Angela Weber; **Undergraduate Personnel:** Kristi Batt, Gina Diehl, Ethan J. Goldspiel, Dianne Guariniello, Seth Hible, Timothy Mann, Laura Steib

MANAGEMENT — Box Office Managers: Kati Brazda*, Mickey DiPiero, Troy Dunn*, David C. Morgan; **Marketing Director:** Sarah Zwick-Tapley; **Asst. Marketing Director:** Daniel Cress; **House Managers:** Daniel Cress, Suki Schierholz; **Asst. to the General Manager:** Eric Weaver; **Photographer:** Max Gerwick

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE FACULTY

Chairperson: John Stefano

Barbara Acker, Nancy Benjamin, Julie Brinker, Dan Browder, Kathy D'Alessandro, Connie de Veer, Kent Goetz, Peter Guither, John Kirk, Ron Mottram, Patrick O'Gara, Kim Pereira, Pam Ritch, Rebecca Rovit, J. William Ruyle, Jean Scharfenberg, John Sipes, John Stefano, Lee Templeman, Frank Vybiral, Dan Wilhelm, Sandra Zielinski

Office Staff: Caroline Gordon, Betty Stephenson, Rosemary Stockle

Dean, College of Fine Arts: Alvin Goldfarb

Director's Notes

When Giraudoux wrote *The Madwoman of Chaillot* his heart was broken. A diplomat and poet-playwright, he was the child of two opposing yet complementary national cultures: French and German. Born a Frenchman and educated in German aesthetics and philosophy, he spent the decade of the 1930's as a diplomat trying to avoid war between his dual homelands. He failed, of course, and lived to see France occupied by the horrific Nazi war machine.

In 1943, during the occupation, he wrote *The Madwoman of Chaillot*, probably his greatest play. He did not live to see it performed. In it he created a world of fantasy-reality wherein greed and ambition were examined and judged to be the primary enemies of 20th Century mankind.

Giraudoux saw what was happening in the modern corporate state. He saw the beauty of life—its simple courage and love—being destroyed by a mania for regimentation in the service of power and greed. He saw a lessening of joy in work and play. He saw the pursuit of true happiness being replaced by loyalty to corporation, nation and creed. He saw it all, and he responded with a grand affirmation of life in the character of the Countess Aurelia and her coterie of friends at the Café Chez Francis in Chaillot.

Delightfully whimsical yet grand in manner and powerfully committed to life, the Countess and her three charmingly "mad" friends, with the help of the spell-binding Ragpicker, conduct a "trial" of the evil forces in the world. Found guilty of greed, they are condemned and, in one of theatre's most effective expressionistic scenes, are led to their deaths by the very greed that defined their lives.

As the play ends Aurelia says: "They were wicked and wickedness evaporates." Giraudoux was too much of a realist to believe in the literal truth of Aurelia's solution, but he was enough of a poet to understand its deeper truth: the world (our world) can be made safe from the force of evil within each of us only by a commitment to life, to love and to justice. When those forces are strong within the individual, evil does indeed evaporate, and human life is put back in its true relationship to the power. For humanity is the intended master of greed and economic political or military power; not their servant.

Acknowledgements

Barbara Acker
Declan Patrick MacManus
Skyler's Picture Place
Bill & Ida Thompson
Normal Camera Craft
Illinois Wesleyan University Department of Theatre
University of Illinois Department of Theatre
Kent Goetz

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A Lesson from Aloes

Compelling Drama
by South African playwright Athol Fugard.
Mar. 22,23,26-30 at 8 pm
Mar. 24 & 31 at 3 pm

Così fan tutte

Mozart's famous comic opera performed
in conjunction with the ISU Music Department.
Apr. 6,9,12,13 at 8 pm

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Proceeds go to Music-Theatre Scholarships

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Apr. 26,27,30 & May 1-4 at 8 pm
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