

The University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Department of Theatre  
at the Odess Theatre  
in the Alys Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Center



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the Arts*



# ORPHANS

by Lyle Kessler

1999-2000 season

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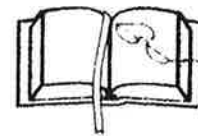
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Benjamin Franklin



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The University of Alabama At Birmingham  
Department of Theatre  
Presents

# ORPHANS

By  
**Lyle Kessler**

Set Design  
**Kelly Allison**

Light Design  
**Ed Zuckerman**

Costume Design  
**Russell D. Drummond**

Stage Manager  
**Michelle Nix**

**Directed by**  
**Will York**

**Opening Night , Wednesday, February 9, 2000, 7:30 p.m.**

This production is funded in part by The UAB Cultural Activities Committee.

## CAST

(In Order Of Appearance)

Phillip.....Spencer Simpson  
Treat.....Michael E. Hicks  
Harold.....Tritano Evans

The Action takes place in an old row house in North Philadelphia.

### ACT I

A Spring Day

### ACT II

Two weeks later.

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission

## Director's Notes

When I first read this play some years ago, I became intrigued by the reference to a group of kids referred to as The Dead End Kids. This group of actors came together for a 1935 New York production of the play Dead End. After a very successful run it was decided that a film version would follow, and the cast was hired intact for the Lillian Hellman version of the script. This launched a series of more than 90 films that took the young actors from hardened, street kids playing in serious drama to adults known as The Bowery Boys playing in a comedic style that was often compared to the work of the Three Stooges. The "Kids" worked with many of the big name stars of the day including the likes of James Cagney, Ronald Reagan, and Bela Lugosi. So here's to the original Dead End Kids: Bobby Jordon, Leo Gorcey, Huntz Hall, Billy Halop, Gabriel Dell, Bernard Punsley, Billy Benedict, and Sam Morrison.

## Who's Who – Acting Company

**Tritano Evans** (Harold) is a Los Angeles, native, currently studying Theatre (Acting) at UAB. Initially an ENG major, Tritano has aspirations to write, produce and direct screenplays depicting the black experience.

**Michael E. Hicks** (Treat) is currently studying acting at UAB. He has performed in a number of plays and films in the Birmingham community. Michael's main interest for the future is to explore the exciting medium of film acting.

**Spencer Simpson** (Phillip) is currently a junior at UAB. He attended Homewood High School and was active in theatre. He played the lead role of George in UAB's 1998 production of "The Actor's Nightmare". Spencer is working towards a BA in Theatre and English and plans to attend graduate school after graduation.

## LOVE NOTE

The UAB Department of Theatre, its faculty, students and staff wish to again thank Jack and Carol Odess for this wonderful state of the art facility called the Odess Theatre.

Words cannot express how we feel about the two of you and all you have done for the arts. Your extra special attention to us and our program has been the highlight of our year.



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University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Department of Theatre

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

### GREASE

By Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey  
Directed by Roy Hudson  
Sirote Theatre  
February 23 through 27  
Wed.-Sat. at 7:30 p.m.  
Sun. at 2:00 p.m.

### MAY FLIES FAST

By Lee Eric Shackelford  
Directed by Karma Ibsen  
Odess Theatre  
April 19 through April 23  
Wed.-Sat. at 7:30 p.m.  
Sun. at 2:00 p.m.

### DESIRE UNDER THE ELMS

By Eugene O'Neill  
Directed by Ward Haarbauer  
Sirote Theatre  
May 10 through May 14  
Wed.-Sat. at 7:30 p.m.  
Sun. at 2:00 p.m.

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**THANK YOU**

Howard Goldstein, Russell Drummond, Joyce Whitten,  
Jeff Inman at Birmingham News , Sherell Hunt at Philadelphia Enquirer,  
and a special thanks to Barron Melton, Karl Zier and the  
ASC Production Staff

**Technical Staff For This Production**

Production Manager.....Kelly Allison  
Technical Director.....Ed Zuckerman  
Props Master.....Phillip Anderson  
Master Electrician.....Russ Friedrikis  
Master Carpenter.....C. David Loggins  
Production Electrician.....Michael Rawlins  
Sound Design.....Russ Friedrikis  
Assistant Stage Manger.....Amy N. Newman  
Set Construction/Scene Shop Assistants.....Spencer Simpson,  
David Wiederecht, Adam Courington  
Carpenters.....Morgan Eiland, Daniel Duffany, Joyce Hall,  
Rebecca Duncan, Jesse McElroy, Daniel Walker,  
Cary Newberry, Jessica Holbert, Nathan Denton  
Props Crew.....Becky Newman-Brown, Jennifer Kelley

**Costume Staff for this Production**

Costume Studio Supervisor.....Russell S. Drummond  
Costume Assistants.....Rebecca J. Bozarth, Lakenna Dickey, Tritano Evans,  
Carolyn Hand, Nikia M. Lightfoot, Gregg Micheals,  
Douglas O'Neil, Jr.  
Wardrobe Supervisor.....Gregg Micheals  
Wardrobe Mistress.....Marie Jones

**Production Staff**

Vocal Coach.....Will York  
Fight Coordinator.....Michael E. Hicks  
Graphic Design/Cover Design.....Walter Allen  
House Manager.....Jerry Sims

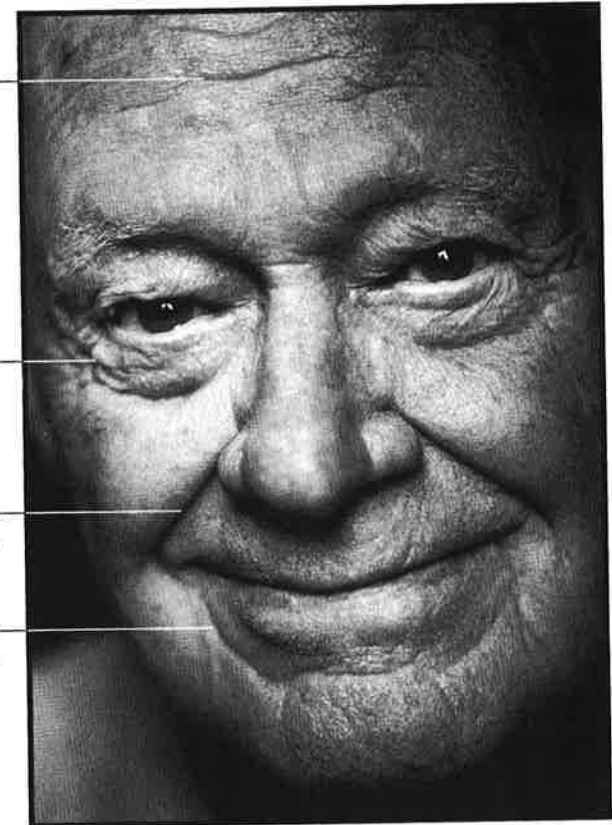
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