

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

**Department of Theatre**

Frank and Joan Dawson

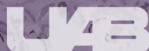
Mary and Kyle Hulcher

Michael J. and Mary Anne Freeman

W.B. Philips, Jr.

John & Dorinda Smith

present



DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

# HAY FEVER

Written by Noel Coward

Directed by Dennis McLernon



The Sirote Theatre  
in the Alys Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Center

# OVATION THEATRE UAB

Opening nights at Theatre UAB are OVATION nights. OVATION UAB features refreshments and conversation with the director and designers before the show, as well as a post-performance meet & greet with the cast and crew.

But that's not all. OVATION's mission is to support and sponsor our students working backstage and performing in Theatre UAB productions. Membership dues ranging from \$50 - \$1500+ help off-set the cost of tuition for each student to participate in the productions.

Join us! Park early, socialize, learn about the show and enjoy hors d'oeuvres, desserts, coffee and light refreshments before an evening of great theatre. OVATION THEATRE UAB is a perfect way to assist our talented students and have lots of fun!

OVATION THEATRE UAB Membership Forms are in our Theatre UAB Season Brochure or contact Program Manager, Mel Christian at 934-3237, [cmel@uab.edu](mailto:cmel@uab.edu) or through our website: <https://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/alumni/give>. We'd love to see you at our next OVATION!

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT OVATION UAB MEMBERS

### Founding Members

Russell Drummond, Col. Daniel D. Hall, Patty McDonald, Carol Odess, Chandler S. Smith, Jane Paris Smith, BBS Martha Moore Sykes Fund

### 2018-2019 Members

John & Susan Atwood, Peter & Miriam Bellis, William & Mary Ellen Capps, Peggy Carlisle, Betsy & Joe Cooper, Don & Kathy Davis, Frank & Joan Dawson, Lauren Edwards, Ben & Ellen Erdreich, Mary Jane & Ray Faircloth, John R. & Linda Frawley, Michael J. & Mary Anne Freeman, Dr. Robert & Mrs. Barbara Glaze, Myrna Goldstein, Lanny & Darlene Gray, Virginia & Boyce Guthrie, Dr. Ward & Mrs. Martha Haarbauer, Frank & Rona Harper, Emily Harris, Mary & Kyle Hulcher, Michael and Catherine Hulcher, Allen & Cele Montgomery, Patrick & Mary Morrissey, William & Patricia Moulton, Mark Nelson, Carol Odess, James & Angela Owen, Steve & Laura Parker, W. B. Philips, Jr., Kayli Porter, Beverly & David Radford, James & Dawn Ribe, Leigh Robinson, John & Deborah Sellers, Arnold & Fran Singer, Olivia Skillern, Dorinda & John A. Smith, Phil & Beverly Stine, Charles Turnbough, Jr., Nancy Whitt, Joyce Whitten



*The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by*  
**David M. Rubenstein.**

*Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.*

*Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; and the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation.*

*Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts.*

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 invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,500 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.

## **Theatre UAB Faculty and Administrative Staff**

Kelly Dean Allison, Professor.....	Chair
Valerie Accetta, Assistant Professor.....	Head of Musical Theatre Performance
Jack Cannon, Assistant Professor.....	Acting/Intro to Theatre
Ward Haarbauer .....	Professor Emeritus
Cheryl Hall, Assistant Professor.....	Intro to Theatre
Karma Ibsen.....	Professor Emerita
Marlene Johnson, Professor.....	Acting/Voice
Karla Koskinen, Professor.....	Acting/Directing
Roy Lightner, Associate Professor.....	Musical Theatre Performance/Dance
Dennis McLernon, Professor.....	Head of Performance
Amy Page, Assistant Professor.....	Costume Director
Kimberly Schnormeier, Associate Professor.....	Costume Design
Lee Shackelford, Associate Professor.....	Playwriting
Cliff Simon, Professor.....	Scene Design
Carolyn Violi.....	Musical Director/Accompanist
Vessela Warner, Associate Professor.....	Theatre History
Will York.....	Professor Emeritus
Ed Zuckerman, Associate Professor.....	Production Manager/Technical Director

### **Adjunct Faculty**

Carlton Alexandra .....	Intro to Dance
Monique Gannon.....	Musical Theatre for Non-Majors
Tiffany Heimbach .....	Tap I
June Mack.....	Intermediate Narrative Filmmaking
Mary Margaret Scalici .....	Ballet II
Mel Christian.....	Program Manager/Tour Coordinator
Nora Whitten.....	Administrative Associate

***Theatre UAB is a proud member of...***



**The Kennedy Center**



**NAST**  
The National Association of  
Schools of Theatre



**The University of Alabama at Birmingham**

**Department of Theatre**

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Mary and Kyle Hulcher

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W.B. Philips, Jr.

John & Dorinda Smith

present

# **Hay Fever**

**By Noël Coward**

“Hay Fever” is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

Stage Manager

**Tyler Stidham**

Costume Design

**Elana Brooks**

Scenic Design

**Ed Zuckerman**

Lighting Design

**Spencer Webb**

Sound Design

**Sean Allan Doyle**

Properties Design

**J. Marc Quattlebaum**

Voice & Dialect Coach

**Marlene Johnson**

**Directed by Dennis McLernon**

**Opening Night: Wednesday, February 20, 2019, 7:30 p.m.**

**A strobe effect will be used in this production.**

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OTHER AUDIO AND/OR VISUAL RECORDINGS OF THIS  
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## THE CAST

Sorel Bliss.....	Rachel Biggs
Simon Bliss.....	Brett Everingham
Clara.....	Anna Whitlock
Judith Bliss.....	Clara Vetta Holmes
David Bliss.....	Evan Wilson
Sandy Tyrell.....	Tanier Dutton
Myra Arundel.....	Marissa Hebson
Richard Greatham.....	David Parker
Jackie Coryton.....	Anna Frey

**PLACE:** The Bliss Home at Cookham in June

**ACT I: Saturday Afternoon**

**ACT II: Saturday Evening**

**ACT III: Sunday Morning**

*There will be two ten-minute intermissions.*

## *Notes on this production...*

Noël Coward's farcical and irreverent comedy, HAY FEVER was written in 1925. A frothy and frivolous period of excess and denial nestled into a 10 year period between the horrors of World War I and the crushing economic realities of the Great Depression. It was a period known as The Jazz Age and it was characterized by an opening up of social restraints, especially regarding the freedoms of women. Swinging music, wild parties, the dropping of traditional etiquette, living for the moment, and blatant displays of social irreverence were common place in a period that used frivolity and unself-conscious excess to blot out the atrocities of "The Great War".

Author, Noël Coward, did his best to entertain his public in writing HAY FEVER by exploring a very non-traditional family in his play. The Bliss family is comprised of the matriarch Judith, a recently retired and publicly acclaimed stage actress; David, her husband, a well-known novelist; Simon, their son, an incorrigible and budding artist; and Sorel, their daughter, striving to rise above her bohemian family but always ready to play the game whenever it presents itself.

In highlighting the chaotic nature of the Bliss family Noël Coward incorporated the classic cornerstones of comedy: social disorder, incongruity, physical humor, witty dialogue, sexual innuendo, cross purposes, and situational reversals. To bring this all to life he constructed a very simple plot structure: each member of the family has invited a guest up for the weekend, without informing the other members of the family. This immediately generates hurt feelings, over-dramatic reactions, and raucous conflict! All of which the Bliss family appear to thrive on!

Noël Coward explored the traditions of family life and the social masks that accompany them and turned them upside down in HAY FEVER. In reading research for this production I came upon Mark Fisher's review of HAY FEVER for the London Guardian newspaper. Mr. Fisher explored the idea that HAY FEVER might be the missing link between Shakespeare's MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM and Edward Albee's WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOLF. Mr. Fisher writes:

"Noël Coward's silly, subversive 1925 comedy is the missing link between William Shakespeare and Edward Albee. Set in a country house on a humid and tempestuous June weekend, HAY FEVER takes four singletons, subjects them to a midsummer night's dream of misplaced desire and warped romance and, once the spell wears off, sends them home to the rational world of the city. Nobody says "Methought I was enamoured of an ass" – but the sense remains."

Judith and David Bliss may be closer to Oberon and Titania in Shakespeare's play than they are to George and Martha in Edward Albee's, but for an evening's light entertainment we are happy that they are!

**Dennis McLernon, Director**

## **Theatre UAB Production Staff**

Production Manager/Technical Director.....	Ed Zuckerman
Assistant Technical Director.....	David Page
Costume Director.....	Amy Page
Costume Studio Supervisor.....	Sharon Morgan
Stage Electrics Director.....	Sean Doyle
Properties Master.....	J. Marc Quattlebaum
Scenic Studio Assistants.....	Dustin Green, Mel McComber, Brian Wittenberg, Amanda Waller, Lew Williams, Aliyah Zeigler
Electrics Assistants.....	Katherine Montgomery, Rita Pearson-Daley, Spencer Webb
Costume Assistants.....	Olivia Bowles, Addie Counts, Marissa Hebson, Sam Mathews, Anna Medders, Madeline Pratt, Alyssa Wilke
Properties Assistants.....	Allie Nichols, Rita Pearson-Daley, Anna Whitlock
Media Relations.....	Shannon Thomason
Videography.....	Stacy Brannan
ASC Manager of Patron Services.....	Jeremie Kirkwood
ASC House Management.....	Noah Andrews, Joel Corley
ASC Associate House Managers.....	John Bryan, Terrie Entrup, Mary Washburn

## **Staff for this Production**

Assistant Stage Managers.....	Kaylee Radney, Rachel-Marie Strazza
Fabric Painter/Textile Artist.....	Amy Page
Scenery/Lighting Construction/Electrics.....	Ian Black, Kevin Bryant, Isabel Castro, Demerius Coleman, Addie Counts, Mariah Gardner, Dustin Green, Garrett Grubbs, Nadia Harden, Marissa Hebson, Caitlin Irelan, Caleb Langford, Rachel-Kate McGee, Anna Medders, Malik Muhammad, Joey Parker, Travis Roddy, Katie Strickland, Brian Wittenberg
Scenic Painters.....	Isabel Castro, Ashley Cobb, Austin Helmers, Caitlin Irelan, Anna Medders, Anna Shows, Amanda Walker, Brian Wittenberg
Scenery/Properties Running Crew.....	Gabriella Henry
Costume/Craft Construction.....	Bailey Dumlao, Anna Frey, Briana Hernandez, Marissa Hilton, Joseph McKinley, Alyse Rosenblatt, Katelynn Schulte, Briana Scott, Medina Sellers, Michaela Slocum, Amanda Waller
Dressers.....	Diamond Carson, Anna Stewart
Properties Construction .....	Tess Lenzen
Light Board Operator.....	Austin Helmers
Sound Board Operator.....	Marissa Hilton
Cover/Poster Design.....	Cliff Simon

## ***Hay Fever Production Biographies***

### **Rachel Biggs (Sorel Bliss)**

Home Town: Lubbock, TX

Education: Frenship High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Hairspray*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *A Little Night Music* (UAB), *Peter Pan* (Lubbock Moonlight Musicals), *Into the Woods* (Frenship HS Choir), *All My Sons*, *Tarzan* (Frenship HS Theatre), *Ghetto* (Texas Tech Theatre Camp).

### **Elana Brooks (Scenic Design/Scenic Charge)**

Home Town: Enterprise, AL

Education: Enterprise High School

Recent Production Work: Scenic Design/Scenic Charge: *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (UAB). Assistant Scenic Design: *Hairspray* (UAB). Assistant Wig/Makeup Design: *Hairspray* (UAB). Scenic Painter: *You Can't take it With You*, *Vinegar Tom* (UAB).

### **Sean Allan Doyle (Sound Design)**

Home Town: Alexandria, VA

Education: BA Theatre Arts Lehigh University

Recent Production Work: Sound Design: *Romeo & Juliet: Love Knows No Age* (Unexpected Stage), *Tangles* (Theatre for New Medicine at Wooley Mammoth), *The Great American Trailer Park Musical* (Dominion Stage). Sound Engineer: *Intersections Theatre Festival* (DC). Lighting Design: *The Bachelorette* (Dominion Stage). Light Board Operator: *The Call* (Theatre J).

### **Tanier Dutton (Sandy Tyrell)**

Home Town: Carbon Hill, AL

Education: Transfer: Bevill State Community College, A.S. Psychology, Carbon Hill High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Hairspray*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (UAB), *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *All My Sons*, *Macbeth* (Bevill State Community College). Playwriting: *Sundee Mornin' Digest* (One Man Show). Dramaturgy: *Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches* (UAB).

### **Brett Everingham (Simon Bliss)**

Home Town: Atlanta, GA

Education: Hoover High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches*, *Hairspray*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (UAB), *Bring It On: The Musical*, *Don't Touch That Dial*, *I Am Angel* (Hoover HS).

### **Anna Frey (Jackie Coryton)**

Home Town: Oneonta, AL

Education: Oneonta High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *And Then There Were None* (The Whole Backstage), *Beauty and the Beast*, *Shrek the Musical* (Oneonta High School), *Seasonal Allergies*, *Anne of Green Gables* (Covered Bridge Players).

## ***Hay Fever Production Biographies***

### **Marissa Hebson (Myra Arundel)**

Home Town: Pinson, AL

Education: Shades Valley Theatre Academy

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Hairspray*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, 2017-18 *Bookends Touring Company*, *A Little Night Music*, *Vinegar Tom*, *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *13th Annual Festival of Ten Minute Plays* (UAB), *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *The Drowsy Chaperone* (SVTA). Choreography: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (UAB).

### **Clara Vetta Holmes (Judith Bliss)**

Home Town: Grand Blanc, MI

Education: Grand Blanc High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: 2018-19 *Diva Touring Company*, *Hairspray*, *A Little Night Music*, *Vinegar Tom* (UAB), *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Almost, Maine*, *Hairspray* (Grand Blanc HS). Assistant Stage Management: *Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches*, *Working* (UAB).

### **Marlene Johnson (Voice & Dialect Coach)**

Home Town: Allentown, PA

Education: MFA, Virginia Commonwealth University

Recent Production Work: Voice & Text Coach: *Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches*, *Hairspray*, *Silent Sky*, *Working*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (UAB).

Vocal Coach: *The Real Inspector Hound*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *Spring Awakening*, *Buried Child*, *Stupid F\*\*\*ing Bird*, *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *Avenue Q*, *In The Next Room* (or, *The Vibrator Play*), *Women of War*, *Urinetown: The Musical*, *Twelfth Night*, *Big Love* (UAB). Vocal Director: *Vinegar Tom*, *On The Verge* (UAB), *Around The World in 80 Days*, *God of Carnage* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival).

### **David Parker (Richard Greatham)**

Home Town: Birmingham, AL

Education: Paul W. Bryant High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches*, *Hairspray* (UAB), *Washington & DuBois: Two Opinions, One Goal* (Vulcan Park), *The Dinner Detective* (Redmont Hotel), *Voice in the Dark: A Salem Story* (Paul W. Bryant HS).

### **J. Marc Quattlebaum (Properties Design)**

Home Town: Lexington, SC

Education: MFA Wayne State University 2009, BA Newberry College 2005

Recent Production Work: Scenic & Properties Design: *Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches* (UAB). Properties Design: *Hairspray*, *Silent Sky*, *Working*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *A Little Night Music*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *Vinegar Tom*, *The Real Inspector Hound*, *Spring Awakening*, *Buried Child*, *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *In The Next Room* (or, *The Vibrator Play*), *Clybourne Park* (UAB).

### **Kaylee Radney (Assistant Stage Manager)**

Home Town: Oxford, AL

Education: Oxford High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: *Standing on Ceremony: The Gay Marriage Plays* (UAB), *The Night He Came Back* (Theatre Downtown). Playwriting: *The 2019 Festival of Ten Minute Plays* (UAB). Lighting Design: *The 2019 Festival of Ten Minute Plays* (UAB).

## ***Hay Fever Production Biographies***

### **Tyler Stidham (Stage Manager)**

Home Town: Chelsea, AL

Education: Chelsea High School

Recent Production Work: Assistant Stage Management: *A Not So Silent Night* (CAT), *Hairspray* (UAB). Stage Management: *Down the Yellow Brick Road* (ArtPlay), *Hairspray, Jr.* (VST). Assistant Directing: *Savage* (UAB), *Godspell* (Chelsea High School). Directing: *2019 Festival of Ten Minute Plays* (UAB). Acting: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The 2017 Festival of Ten Minute Plays* (UAB).

### **Rachel-Marie Strazza (Assistant Stage Manager)**

Home Town: Bronx, NY

Education: Wilton High School (CT)

Recent Production Work: Assistant Stage Management: *Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches* (UAB). Stage Management: *Annie! the Musical* (Wiremill Academy), *Bye Bye Birdie*, (Summerstage), *Law and Order: Fairy Tale Unit*, *Superhero's the Musical* (WHS). Choreography: *Bebop With Aesop*, *Frog and Toad*, *Annie! the Musical* (Wiremill Academy). Lighting Design: *Wizard of Oz*, *Mary Poppins Jr.*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (WCT), *Xanadu* (Carriage House Arts Center). Acting: *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *The Pajama Game* (WHS), *Little Women the Musical* (Wilton Playshop).

### **Spencer Webb (Lighting Design)**

Home Town: Madison, AL

Education: Bob Jones High School

Recent Production Work: Stage Management: *Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches*, *Silent Sky* (UAB). Directing/Stage Management: *2017 & 2019 Festival of Ten Minute Plays* (UAB). Assistant Stage Management: *Working* (UAB), *A Chorus Line* (Virginia Samford Theatre). *Scenic Construction: Willy Wonka, Jr.*, *A Christmas Story*, *Spamalot* (VST), *Spring Awakening* (UAB).

### **Anna Whitlock (Clara)**

Home Town: Alabaster, AL

Education: Thompson High School

Recent Production Work: Assistant to Director: *Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches* (UAB). Assistant Stage Management: *Silent Sky* (UAB). Acting: *2018-19 Bookends Touring Company*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *You Can't Take It With You* (UAB), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (South City Theatre). *Into the Woods*, *James and the Giant Peach* (Thompson HS).

### **Evan Wilson (David Bliss)**

Home Town: Homewood, AL

Education: Homewood High School

Recent Production Work: Costume Running Crew: *Silent Sky* (UAB). Acting: *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Curse of Frankenstein* (Homewood HS).

### **Ed Zuckerman (Scenic Design)**

Home Town: Philadelphia, PA

Education: MFA, Wayne State University

Recent Production Work: Lighting Design: *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Hairspray*, *Clybourne Park*, *Twelfth Night*; or, *What You Will*, *Proof*, *Rhinoceros*, *The Praying Mantis*, *The Piano Lesson*, *The It Girl*, *The Seagull* (UAB). Scenic Design: *The Real Inspector Hound*, *Dancing At Lughnasa*, *The Next Room* (or, *The Vibrator Play*), *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Playboy of the Western World* (UAB).

**Visit our website at <http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/>**

*Next at UAB Department of Theatre:*

# REALITY BITES

EIGHT  
SHORT PLAYS  
EXPLORING  
THE SPACE  
BETWEEN  
FANTASY  
AND  
TRUTH



 THE 2019  
THEATRE UAB  
FESTIVAL OF  
TEN-MINUTE PLAYS

MARCH 4-8, 2019 7.30 NIGHTLY  
ODESS THEATRE 975-ARTS (2787)  
ALL TICKETS \$5



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**MATURE AUDIENCES ONLY**

# **Theatre UAB 2018-2019 Season**

## **THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE**

Music & Lyrics by William Finn. Book by Rachel Sheinkin. Conceived by Rebecca Feldman. Additional Material by Jay Reiss

Directed by Roy Lightner

Music Direction by Carolyn Violi

October 17-20 at 7:30pm

October 21 at 2:00pm

The Sirote Theatre

## **ANGELS IN AMERICA, PART I: MILLENNIUM APPROACHES**

By Tony Kushner

Directed by Hayley Procacci & Jack Cannon

November 7-10, 14-16 at 7:30pm

November 17 at 2:00pm

The Odess Theatre

## **HAY FEVER**

by Noël Coward

Directed by Dennis McLernon

February 20-23 at 7:30pm

February 24 at 2:00pm

The Sirote Theatre

## **FESTIVAL OF TEN MINUTE PLAYS**

Produced by Lee Shackleford

March 4-8 at 7:30pm

The Odess Theatre

## **SAVAGE**

An Original Musical Conceived & Developed by Karla Koskinen

Book and Lyrics by Tommy Newman

Music by Jaime Lozano and Tommy Newman

Translations provided by Dr. Kazadi Wa Mukuna

Directed by Valerie Accetta & Karla Koskinen

Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi

Choreography by Roy Lightner

April 10-13 at 7:30pm

April 14 at 2:00pm

The Sirote Theatre

**ASC Box Office: 975-ARTS**

**Show information at <http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/productions>**