UAB THEATRE DEPARTMENT'S
SUMMER 2000 WORKSHOP

Acting for Stage
Singing
Dancing
Stagecraft
Acting for Film
Voice and Diction

Session I
Ages 6-9 Years
June 5-16 (Mon-Fri)
Morning Program
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Or
Afternoon Program
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Fee: $150.00

Session II
Ages 10-17 Years
June 19-30 (Mon-Fri)
Full Day Program
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Fee: $225.00
Lunch program will be available at additional cost.

Formerly UAB Town and Gown Academy of Musical Theatre.
All Classes will be held at UAB Bell Theatre.
Auditions for Summer Youth Musical will be held for participants after Session II.

FOR INFORMATION CALL 934-3236

The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Department of Theatre
at the Morris K. Sirote Theatre
in the Alys Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Center

Desire under the Elms
by Eugene O'Neill

1999-2000 season
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE
2000-2001 SEASON

ASSASSINS
Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Book by John Weidman
Based on an original idea by Charles Gilbert
Sirote Theatre, October 25 through 29, 2000

To Be Announced
Odess Theatre, November 7 though 12, 2000

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST
By Oscar Wilde
Sirote Theatre, February 21 through 25, 2001

FLYIN’ WEST
By Pearl Cleage
Odess Theatre, May 1 through 6, 2001

A MAN’S A MAN
By Bertolt Brecht
Sirote Theatre, May 16 through 20, 2001

Director’s Notes

Eugene O’Neill, arguably America’s greatest playwright, opened Desire Under the Elms in New York on November 11, 1924, produced by the Provincetown Players whose continued support would make him famous. The play was admired for its raw power and condemned for its content. It was subsequently banned in Boston and Great Britain, and the cast was arrested in Los Angeles until the production was found to be artistically meaningful by a citizen committee appointed by the mayor. O’Neill felt that this notoriety attracted the wrong kinds of audience.

While there are themes here concerning America’s obsession with ownership and our futile attempt to control nature, the true center of O’Neill’s work is not his themes but his people. He believed that, “Where the theatre is concerned, one must have a dream, and the Greek dream in tragedy is the noblest ever.” Accordingly, his characters are Greek in magnitude, giant beings—often almost more than human—thrashing their way through their worlds in an attempt to understand their lives and to contest with their fates for survival.

As in Greek tragedy, Dionysus—the Greek god who offered ecstasy—contrasts here with Apollo—the Greek champion of self-control and order. Abbie and Eben give themselves to nature, and Ephraim struggles to master nature on the farm. Perhaps to each of them fate leaves no other choice. Like the Greek tragic heroes, each will suffer punishment but each has risen above it. Abbie and Eben turn to each other for salvation—and find it. What begins in lust ends in love. “When all is lost, the only good is in finding another being, equally lonely and alienated, in whose presence comfort can be gained and loneliness forgotten for a time.” That is Eugene O’Neill.

Joseph Wood Krutch, one of the most important drama critics of the past century, wrote of him:

The meaning and unity of his work lies not in any controlling intellectual idea and certainly not in a “message,” but merely in the fact that each play is an experience of extraordinary intensity.

In O’Neill’s world, and in our own, it is the human ability to face and accept the terrifying which makes us magnificent. If there is anything which calls for the play to be banned, it is its revelation of the ferocity which can be awful to recognize within ourselves.

Ward Haarbauer
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Department of Theatre
Presents

Desire Under The Elms

By
Eugene O'Neill

The play is produced through special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

Cast
(In Order Of Appearance)

Singer ................................................. Adrienne Reid
Eben Cabot ........................................... Michael Hicks
Simeon Cabot ....................................... Stephen Wilcoxson
Peter Cabot ......................................... Douglas O'Neil, Jr.
Ephraim Cabot ...................................... C. David Loggins
Abbie Putnam Cabot ................................ Rachel Steele
Townspeople ......................................... Jana Harris
Kent Skates
Daniel Duffany
Christopher Reeves
Misty Stoves
Morgan Eiland
Blakely Holland
Rebecca J. Bozarth
Fiddler ................................................ Leo McDermott
Sheriff .............................................. Christopher Reeves

Directed by
Ward Haarbauer

Opening Night, Wednesday, May 10, 2000, 7:30 p.m.

Setting: The Cabot farm in New England, 1850.

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.

This production is funded in part by The UAB Cultural Activities Committee.
UAB Academy of Youth
Musical Theatre Workshop Production

How To Eat
Like A Child
and
Other Lessons In Not Being A Grownup

July 20-22, 2000, 7:00 p.m.
Call 975-ARTS for Tickets.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CLASS PROJECTS (Free to Public)
In the Odess Theatre
Excerpts from “The Clearing”
May 20 and 21, 7:30 p.m.
Excerpts from “Godspell”
May 25-27, 7:30 p.m.
(For Information Call 934-3236)

Technical Staff For This Production

Production Manager.............................................Kelly Allison
Technical Director.............................................Ed Zuckerman
Master Electrician/Electronics Technologist............Russ Friedrikis
Props Master...................................................Phillip Anderson
Shop Foreman/Master Carpenter........................C. David Lorgins
Production Electrician.......................................Michael Rawlins
Dialect Coach..................................................Will York
Assistant Director.............................................Elizabeth Ellis
Movement Coach..............................................Lucie Irene McLeRoy
Assistant Lighting Designer.............................R. Daniel Walker
Assistant Stage Manager....................................Amy Newman
Light Board Operator.......................................Jamie Emerson Cottle
Electricians.....................................................Brian Lee, James Michael Vickers
Scene Shop Assistants .....................................Jessica Holbert, Spencer Simpson,
                                           David Wiedereh
Construction Crew..........................................Lisa Bryant, Kevin Fuller, Glen A. Griggs,
                                           Amy McKeever, Brian Lee
Props Crew....................................................Joann Marshall, Brian Lee

Costume Staff for this Production

Costume Studio Supervisor.................................Russell S. Drummond
Wardrobe Assistants..........................Tritano Evans, Nikia Lightfoot, Gregg Michele
Costume Assistants..........................Walter Allen, Rebecca Bozarth, Elizabeth Ellis,
                                           Bridget Hennessy, Lydia Milman, Rodney Pickens, Spencer Simpson
Dressers....................................................Royce G. Garrison, Joyce Hall, Mary Elizabeth McCown

Production Staff

Graphic Design/Cover Design..............................Walter Allen
House Manager................................................Jerry Sims
Media Relations...............................................Helen Hays Todd

Department of Theatre Supporters
Marie J. Cameron and Verl L. Cameron
Jack and Carol Odess

THANK YOU
Reliable Tin-James Langston and
Karl Zier and the ASC Technical Staff for their support.