Department of Theatre
2009-2010 Season

A Streetcar Named Desire, by Tennessee Williams
Directed by Dennis McLemon
October 7-10 7:30pm, October 11 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

Eurydice, by Sarah Ruhl
Directed by Karla Koskinen
November 11-14 & 18-21 7:30pm, November 22 2:00pm
The Odess Theatre

Joe Turner's Come and Gone, by August Wilson
Directed by Cheryl Hall
February 10-13 7:30pm, February 14 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

How I Learned To Drive, by Paula Vogel
Directed by Dustin Cañez
March 3-6, March 10-12 7:30pm, March 13 2:00pm
The Odess Theatre

The Miser, by Moliere
Directed by Dennis McLemon
April 21-24 7:30pm, April 25 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

For Individual Tickets please call ASC Box Office
975-2787

Alabama Shakespeare Festival & Theatre UAB
Present:
Camp Shakespeare Extreme: In Birmingham
Teen Summer Shakespeare Intensive
UAB Alys Stephens Center
Grades 7-12
June 15-19 9 am - 4 pm
$200 Workshop Fee

Instructors from UAB staff will lead this intensive camp for students who are prepared to dig deeper into Shakespeare’s world and his text, explore complex characters and discover new levels of theatrical expression.

For Information Contact Greta Lambert at 334/271-5393 or Meg Lewis at 334/271-5326. Camp information online at www.asf.net
OVATION UAB
(Sponsored by Theatre Advisory Committee)

Opening nights at Theatre UAB are OVATION UAB nights. OVATION UAB sponsors a box dinner and conversation with the director and designers before the show, as well as a post-performance party with the cast and crew.

Join us! You will be able to invite your friends to enjoy a tasty meal before the plays, be already parked and ready to settle back for an evening of live theatre.

OVATION UAB has the mission to support and sponsor the students working backstage and performing in Theatre UAB. Membership dues, ranging from $10 - $2500, are used to off-set the costs required of each student to participate in the productions.

To become a member of OVATION UAB, please pick up a brochure in the lobby outside the theatre and complete the form. Follow mailing directions listed in the brochure.

Help us support our rising stars!

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

2008-2009 Members
Mr. and Mrs. Bert Brouwer, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Carlisle, Louise Cecil, Mel Christian, Glenn Conn, Melanie A. Crane, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dawson, Linda DeRocher, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Erdreich, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Freeman, Pat Fresk, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Glaze, Darlene Gray, Dr. and Mrs. Ward Haarbauer, S. David Herring, Patty McDonald, Carol Odess, Herb Patterson, W. B. Philips, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Rentschler, Dr. and Mrs. John Smith, Martha Moore Sykes, Dr. John Van Sant, Joyce Whitten and Will York

Theatre UAB Production Staff

Production Manager .......................................................... Kelly Allison
Technical Director .......................................................... Ed Zuckerman*
Costume Studio Supervisor .............................................. Elizabeth Ayres Pollard
Program Manager ........................................................... Mel Christian
Stage Electrics Director ...................................................... Sarah Jordan
Properties Master ............................................................. Phillip Anderson*
Scenic Studio Foreman/Master Carpenter ................................. Lee Adlaf
Assistant Costume Studio Supervisor ...................................... Sharon Morgan
Scenic Studio Assistants ..................................................... Atom Bennett*, Jordan Bohl*, Kirstie Crumley, Britta McCaffrey
Lighting Assistants .......................................................... Tim Craig*, Kate Jolly, Jonathan Offutt*, Connor Strickland
Media Relations ............................................................... Shannon Thomason
House Manager ............................................................... Jerry Sims
Associate House Manager ..................................................... Ed Rosendahl

Theatre UAB Advisory Committee

Russell S. Drummond
Dr. Ward Haarbauer
Jonathan Harrison
Patty McDonald
Bob Rentschler
Nancy Rentschler
Holly Tourney
Pierre Tourney
Joyce Whitten, Chair
Chalethia Williams
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Department of Theatre
and
Patty McDonald and W.B. Philips, Jr.
present

Rhinoceros

By Eugene Ionesco
Translated by Derek Prouse
Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

CAST

Berenger.............................................. Jon Prensner*
The Old Gentleman.................................. Muhammad Al-Kahlout
The Housewife....................................... Elena Ray
Jean.................................................... Benoit Johnson*
The Waitress......................................... Catie Cole
The Logician........................................ Brenton Bellomy
The Grocer’s Wife................................. Julie Gafnea
The Café Proprietor............................... Jerome Lewis*
Daisy................................................. Emilie Soffe*
Dudard................................................ Matthew Sanford
Botard................................................ Daniel Norwood
Mr. Papillon........................................ Daniel Martin*
Mrs. Boeuf.......................................... Whitney Rooks
Firemen............................................... Brenton Bellomy, Jerome Lewis*

Synopsis of Scenes

Act One
Scene One: A square in a small French provincial town. Midday on a Sunday in Summer
Scene Two: The office of a firm of law publications. The following morning.

Act Two
Scene One: Jean’s Room. The Afternoon of the same day.
Scene Two: Berenger’s room. A few days later

The play will be performed with one fifteen minute intermission.

Dramaturgical Notes
by Jordan Reeves

Although heralded as one of the greatest Romanian playwrights, Eugene Ionesco (1909-1994) lived most of his life in France and wrote drama in French. Ionesco holds a special place in the post-World-War-II avant-garde movement known as Theatre of the Absurd. The dramatic trend he started with his first play, The Bald Soprano (1948), emphasizes the “absurdity of human existence by employing disjointed, repetitious, and meaningless dialogue, purposeless and confusing situations, and plots that lack realistic or logical development” (The Free Dictionary, online). Ionesco’s Rhinoceros (1959) demonstrates all of these characteristics but also adds a significant dose of social criticism and political awareness.

On January 25, 1960, Rhinoceros premiered at the Odéon in Paris under the direction of famous actor-director Jean Louis Barrault. Shortly after that it was produced in London under the direction of Orson Welles, starring Lawrence Olivier in the part of Berenger. The peculiar collaboration between these two powerful creative forces inspired Austin Pendleton’s full length play Orson’s Shadow. At first, Rhinoceros was not well-received, but it gained world fame with its Broadway production, starring Zero Mostel and Eli Wallach. In 1974, the play was made into a film by famous Broadway director Tom O’Horgan, with Zero Mostel as Jean and Gene Wilder as Berenger.

Continued on next page.
Theatre UAB Faculty

Kelly Allison, Professor .................................. Head of Design and Production
Jack Cannon*, Assistant Professor .................. Acting/Intro to Theatre
Ward Haarbauer ........................................ Professor Emeritus
Cheryl Hall*, Assistant Professor .................... Intro to Theatre
Ron Hubbard, Associate Professor .................. Movement
Karma Ibsen ............................................... Professor Emerita
Marlene Johnson*, Assistant Professor ........... Acting/Voice
Karla Koskinen, Associate Professor ............... Acting/Directing
Dennis McIernon, Associate Professor .............. Head of Performance
Elizabeth Ayres Pollard, Assistant Professor ....... Costume Technology
Kimberly Schnormeier, Associate Professor/Associate Chair ... Costume Design
Lee Shackleford*, Assistant Professor .............. Playwriting
Cliff Simon, Associate Professor ..................... Scene Design
Vessela Warner, Assistant Professor ............... Theatre History
Will York*, Professor .................................. Chair
Ed Zuckerman*, Associate Professor ............... Technical Director

Adjunct Faculty
Bethe Ensey ................................................. Acting, Intro to Theatre
Martha Haarbauer ........................................ Acting, Intro to Theatre
Billie Sheldon ............................................... Administrative Associate

Dramaturgical Notes, continued
by Jordan Reeves

Rhinoceros undoubtedly reflects Ionesco's personal experience and worldview. The writer struggled through his childhood, trying to understand his place in a broken bicultural family. For the rest of his life, Ionesco was seeking to reconcile his "conflicting cultural and linguistic natures"—the Romanian and French one—which ultimately made him see the world as estranged, kaleidoscopic, and absurd (Matei Calinescu, East European Politics and Societies: Ionesco and Rhinoceros). At age of 13, Ionesco moved to Romania, where his father was able to provide him with a good education. During the 16 years he spent in Romania, Ionesco witnessed the rise of Fascism and the succumbing of local people, including his father, to this inhumane ideology sustained by a primitive and bureaucratic state. The writer solidified his political and social positions which heavily influenced his later works, including Rhinoceros.

Our production invites the viewers to engage in self-investigation of their own political and moral beliefs as they watch Berenger's conflict with a unifying, menacing, and ludicrous social environment.

(For more information on the play, visit Dramaturgy Page at: http://theatre.hum.uab.edu/shows/08-09/rhinoceros.htm)

Special Thanks to: David E. Crutcher

Staff for this Production

Cutter/Draper .............................................. Sharon Morgan
Assistant Stage Managers ......................... Taylor Campbell*, Megan King*
Dramaturge .................................................. Jordan Reeves*
Audio Design Assistant ......................... Lindsay Allen*
Scenic Design Assistant ......................... Kate Jolly
Lighting Design Assistant ....................... Kirstie Crumly
Master Properties Artisan ....................... Jonathon Offutt*


Scenic Artists .................. Jordan Bohl*, Taylor Campbell*, Kirstie Crumly, Kate Jolly, Rachel Landress, Cristal Laraé, Jonathon Offutt*, Reid Patton

Scenery/Properties Running Crew ...... Denicia Farmer, Haley Zuckerman

Costume/Craft Construction ........ Allison Bramer, Jasmine Cunningham, Heather Consuegra, Hillary Evans, Casey Hicks, Alana Jordan, Megan King*, Cristal Laraé, Cody Moore, Kristina Pearce, Chelsi Stancil, Marci Turner-Holcombe, Haley Zuckerman

Dressers ........................................ Trista Baker, Lauren Bowling

Properties Construction .......... Brett Matthew Blaylock, Benoit Johnson*, Natalie Kinsaul, Cristal Laraé, Roderick Williams

Light Board Operator ............... Jared Funderburg
Audio Board Operator .................. Kirstie Crumly

Cover/Poster Design .................. Cliff Simon