Theatre UAB 2014-2015 Season

**CLYBOURNE PARK**  
by Bruce Norris  
Directed by Dennis McLemon  
The Sirote Theatre  
October 15-18 at 7:30pm & October 19 at 2:00pm

**WOMEN OF WAR**  
Created by Rebecca Harper and Karla Koskinen  
Directed by Rebecca Harper  
The Odess Theatre  
November 12-15 & 19-21 at 7:30pm & November 22 at 2:00pm

**IN THE NEXT ROOM (OR, THE VIBRATOR PLAY)**  
by Sarah Ruhl  
Directed by Jack Cannon  
The Sirote Theatre  
February 18-21 at 7:30pm & February 22 at 2:00pm

**THEATRE UAB TWELFTH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TEN MINUTE PLAYS**  
Produced by Lee Shackleford  
The Odess Theatre  
March 9-13 at 7:30pm & March 14 at 2:00pm

**AVENUE Q**  
Music and Lyrics by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx  
Book by Jeff Whitty  
Directed by Valerie Accetta  
Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi  
The Sirote Theatre  
April 8-11 at 7:30pm & April 12 at 2:00pm

ASC Box Office: 975-ARTS.  
Show information at http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/productions

The University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Department of Theatre  
Frank and Joan Dawson,  
Michael J. and Mary Anne Freeman  
and  
W.B. Philips, Jr.

In The Next Room  
(or The Vibrator Play)  
by Sarah Ruhl  
Directed by Jack Cannon

in the Alys Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Center
OVATION UAB
(Sponsored by Theatre Advisory Committee)

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 party 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 $40 - $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 UAB is a perfect way to assist our talented students and have lots of fun!

OVATION UAB Membership Forms are in our Theatre UAB Season Brochure or simply contact Program Manager, Mel Christian at 934-3237 or cmel@uab.edu. 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

2014-2015 Members
Peter and Miriam Bellis, Michael & Peggy Carlisle, Brenna Clark, Glen Conn, Frank & Joan Dawson, Dr. Ross E. Elcott, Ben & Ellen Erdreich, Michael J. & Mary Anne Freeman, Emanuel & Myrna Goldstein, Dr. Robert & Mrs. Barbara Glaze, Lanny & Darlene Gray, Dr. Ward & Mrs. Martha Haarbauer, Frank & Rona Harper, Rebecca Harper, Dr. James Hawk, Byron King, Sharea Lando, James Lopez, Anne S. Martin, Carol Odess, W. B. Philips, Jr., David & Beverly Radford, James & Dawn Ribe, Chrasonda Robinson, Allison Shackelford, Dorinda & John A. Smith, Julia Spring, Karla Stamps, John Swindall & Karla Koskinen, Garan Tinsley, R. Daniel Walker, Joyce Whitten

The Kennedy Center
THE JOHN F KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival™ 47, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by David and Alice Rubenstein.

Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; Dr. Gerald and Paula McIntosh’s Foundation; the National Committee for the Performing Arts; The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust; and Beatrice and Anthony Weltes and the Asbury Foundation.

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 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing 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
Ron Hubbard, Associate Professor..............................Film Studies/Stage Combat
Karma Ibsen..................................................Professor Emerita
Marlene Johnson, Associate Professor..........................Acting/Voice
Karla Koskinen, Professor...............................................Acting/Directing
June Mack, Associate Professor.................................Film Studies
Dennis McLernon, Professor..............................................Head of Performance
Amy Page, Assistant Professor.................................Costume Director
Kimberly Schnormeier, Associate Professor/Associate Dean...................Costume Design
Lee Shackelford, Assistant Professor............................Playwriting
Cliff Simon, Associate Professor...............................Head of Design & Production/Scene Design
Carolyn Violi..........................................................Musical Director and Accompanist
Vessela Warner, Associate Professor......................Theatre History
Will York ........................................................................Professor Emeritus
Ed Zuckerman, Associate Professor........................Production Manager/Technical Director

Adjunct Faculty
Lee Adlaf...............................................................Scenery Technology
Charlotte Lantz..........................................................Dance
Sharon Morgan ..............................................................Costume Technology
Jessica Winters.............................................................Ballet

Mel Christian.............................................Program Manager/Tour Coordinator
Chris Humphries, Doctorre McDade..............................Audio/Visual Technicians
Nora Whitten..........................................................Administrative Associate
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Department of Theatre
Frank and Joan Dawson,
Michael J. and Mary Anne Freeman
and
W.B. Philips, Jr.
Present

In The Next Room
(or The Vibrator Play)
By Sarah Ruhl
Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Dr. Givings............................................Kyle Hulcher
Catherine Givings.................................Olivia Skillern
Sabrina Daldry.......................................Alora King
Mr. Daldry...........................................Calvin Nielsen
Annie.............................................Taylor Richardson
Elizabeth............................................Carla Maureen Smith
Leo Irving............................................Scottye Moore

CAST

Place: The home/office of Catherine and Dr. Givings located in a prosperous spa
town outside of New York City, perhaps Saratoga Springs.
Time: The dawn of the age of electricity, and after the Civil War, circa 1880’s.

There will be one fifteen minute intermission.

Director's Notes:

In the Next Room is set in a prosperous spa town outside of New York City in the
1880s. It is the dawn of the age of electricity, contrasted against a society of strict
social and moral standards. At the center of this world is a newly married couple,
Catherine and Dr. Givings. The good doctor, son of a famous abolitionist and a leader
in both the medical and social communities, opens a new home office where he treats
the condition of women’s hysteria with a newly invented medical device, the vibrator.
However, Dr. Givings, capable of healing the physical and emotional needs of his
patients, remains emotionally distant and impassive to the very same needs of his
spouse.

For a wife who has only been educated by a society that constrains women
emotionally, intellectually, and sexually, Catherine Givings is a woman ahead of her
time. In this newly enlightened age of science and philosophy – Catherine is an
explorer who knows no direction but forward. What the world and her husband
refuse to tell her, to show her, to allow her to experience she can and will discover on
her own. Catherine embraces the world innocently, with little bias or any
preconceived notion of the restrictive morality placed upon her by a husband who
hesitates in the expression of intimacy. It is left to Catherine to heal her doctor, to
awaken him to the intimacy shared between two people without shame but with the
full expression of love – the sharing of two souls as one. Playwright Sarah Ruhl puts
it this way,

"The play is not a sex farce about vibrators. It's about wet nurses; it's about the
body... In terms of sexuality, I was aiming less for self-consciousness than for a
kind of innocence. In some ways people then were innocent of sexuality compared to
the biological knowledge we've acquired about the subject since. I didn't want the
play to be too knowing. Ultimately the play is about intimacy."

Why the warning of adult content, sexual situations and partial nudity in In The
Next Room?

There actually is no nudity in this production of In the Next Room. Characters (and
actors) are always presented in their underwear even when it may be perceived that
they are exposing themselves to another character or the audience.

Continued on next page.
The medical procedures presented in the play, the treating of hysteria with a vibrator to produce a paroxysm in a patient, were actually administered while a patient was still wearing their underwear. Underwear of this time was constructed with discreet openings that did not require complete removal for actions such as using the bathroom, similar to the openings on modern men's underwear. Doctors often would never look at a patient while they were in their underwear as a sign of professional ethics.

Dr. Givings employs a wet nurse for his wife, Catherine, who is unable to adequately nurse their new born child. Elizabeth, the wet nurse, nurses the baby several times during the play.

The final scene of the play reveals Catherine undressed to her undergarments and her husband in the act of fully undressing. While it is not necessary for the audience to see Dr. Givings' without underwear, it is important for the audience to see Catherine experiencing her husband fully naked for the first time, vulnerable and without shame. In that moment, the two discover the shared intimacy between husband and wife, without repression, resistance or questions—a sharing of two souls.

Because of the nature of live theatre and the individual perceptions of audience members this production comes with the following content warning: This play contains adult situations, sexual content and partial nudity.

Jack Cannon, Director
In The Next Room (or The Vibrator Play)
In The Next Room Production Biographies

J. Marc Quattlebaum (Properties Design)
Hometown: Lexington, SC
Education: MFA Wayne State University 2009, BA Newberry College 2005

Taylor Richardson (Annie)
Home Town: Corner, AL
Education: Corner High School

Kimberly Schnormeier (Costume Design)
Hometown: Gambier, OH
Education: MFA in Scenography from Northwestern University. BFA in Graphic Design, Miami University
Recent Production Work: Costume Design: Clybourne Park, Urinetown: The Musical, Big Love, Charley’s Aunt, Don’t Trifle With Love, Caucasian Chalk Circle (UAB.) Beauty and the Beast, The Legend of Sleepy Hollow (Birmingham Children’s Theatre.)

Olivia Skillern (Catherine Givings)
Hometown: Madison, AL
Education: Bob Jones High School
Recent Production Work: Acting: The Last Illusion, Alice in Wonderland (Bob Jones HS), Legally Blonde the Musical (Lyrique Music Productions.)

Carla Maureen Smith (Elizabeth)
Home Town: Birmingham, AL
Education: Ramsay High School / Transfer from: Howard University

Ed Zuckerman (Scenic Design)
Home Town: Philadelphia, PA
Education: MFA, Wayne State University

Special Thanks:

Dr. Edward L. Jones, D.D.S.
Theatre UAB Production Staff

Production Manager/Technical Director ............................................. Ed Zuckerman
Costume Studio Supervisor ............................................................. Sharon Morgan
Stage Electrics Director .................................................................... Sarah Jordan
Properties Master .............................................................................. J. Marc Quattlebaum
Assistant Technical Director .............................................................. Lee Adlaf
Scenic Studio Assistants ................................................................. Diego Faulkner, Ben Lundy, Jessica L. Mathews, Holly Morgan, Taylor Richardson
Electrics Assistants .......................................................................... Derrick Byars, Emily Harris, Noah Parsons, Andrew David Taylor, Rachel A. Walsh
Costume Assistants .......................................................................... Carron Clem, Samantha Helms, Phoebe Miller, Victoria J. Morales, Lauren Seale, Paulina Watts
Properties Assistants ........................................................................ Lauren Edwards, Ali Ribe
Media Relations .................................................................................. Shannon Thomason
House Manager ................................................................................... Jerry Sims
Associate House Manager .................................................................. Derek Purifoy

Theatre UAB is a proud member of...

Staff for this Production

Assistant Stage Managers ................................................................. Carron Clem, Cara Matzke
Cutter Draper, Senior Costume Technician ..................................... Amanda Mattes
Assistant Costume Design ............................................................... Samantha Helms
Student Technical Director ............................................................. Jessica L. Mathews
Scenic Painters .................................................................................. Kristin A. Ciancio, Ali Ribe, Paulina Watts
Scenery/Properties Running Crew ..................................................... Caylin Cobb, Crystal Sanders
Costume/Craft Construction ............................................................ Madelyn C. Biles, Diamond D. Carson, Noah Duffy, Daisean L. Garrett, Emily A. Harris, Kenya J. Mims, Mackenzie Runager, Ashley G. Sanders, Olivia K. Skillern, Kylee E. Williams
Dressers ............................................................................................... Sean Adams, Kenya Mims, Phoebe Miller
Properties Construction ................................................................. Elizabeth Frazier, Roxana Munoz
Light Board Operator ....................................................................... Brady Grimm
Sound Board Operator ...................................................................... Rachel A. Walsh
Cover/Poster Design ......................................................................... Cliff Simon

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

Created and moderated by Lee Shackleford