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

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 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

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 Shackleford, Associate Professor.....................Scene Design
Cliff Simon, Professor.....................................................Musical Director/Accompanist
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
Carlon 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...

ACT
Alabama Conference of Theatre

NAST
The National Association of Schools of Theatre

The Kennedy Center
AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATER FESTIVAL

SETC
SOUTHEASTERN THEATRE CONFERENCE
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
Department of Theatre
Frank and Joan Dawson
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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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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.*
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

Elana Brooks (Scenic Design/Scenic Charge)
Home Town: Enterprise, AL
Education: Enterprise High School

Sean Allan Doyle (Sound Design)
Home Town: Alexandria, VA
Education: BA Theatre Arts Lehigh University

Tanier Dutton (Sandy Tyrell)
Home Town: Carbon Hill, AL
Education: Transfer: Bevill State Community College, A.S. Psychology, Carbon Hill High School

Brett Everingham (Simon Bliss)
Home Town: Atlanta, GA
Education: Hoover High School

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

Clara Vetta Holmes (Judith Bliss)
Home Town: Grand Blanc, MI
Education: Grand Blanc High School

Marlene Johnson (Voice & Dialect Coach)
Home Town: Allentown, PA
Education: MFA, Virginia Commonwealth University

David Parker (Richard Greatham)
Home Town: Birmingham, AL
Education: Paul W. Bryant High School

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

Kaylee Radney (Assistant Stage Manager)
Home Town: Oxford, AL
Education: Oxford High School
Hay Fever Production Biographies

Tyler Stidham (Stage Manager)
Home Town: Chelsea, AL
Education: Chelsea High School

Rachel-Marie Strazza (Assistant Stage Manager)
Home Town: Bronx, NY
Education: Wilton High School (CT)

Spencer Webb (Lighting Design)
Home Town: Madison, AL
Education: Bob Jones High School

Anna Whitlock (Clara)
Home Town: Alabaster, AL
Education: Thompson High School

Evan Wilson (David Bliss)
Home Town: Homewood, AL
Education: Homewood High School

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

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

Mature Audiences Only
Theatre UAB 2018-2019 Season

THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE
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