

PLEASE KEEP ALL CELL PHONES AND PAGERS TURNED OFF WHEN IN THE THEATRE. THANK YOU.

Please Note

- Food and drink must not be brought into the theatre
- The use of cameras or recording devices is strictly prohibited
- Smoking is not permitted in the Noel Fine Arts Center
- In the case of an emergency, ushers will assist audience members at each exit

Theatre & Dance Department productions are partially funded by the Student Government Association

The UWSP Department of Theatre & Dance is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre and the National Association of Schools of Dance.

2012-2013 Theatre & Dance Faculty and Staff

Jim Carpenter Associate Lecturer, Theatre	Pamela Luedtke Lecturer, Dance
Sandy Childers Assistant Professor of Theatre	Tyler Marchant Assistant Professor of Theatre
Barbara Cirmo Cutter/Draper	Gary G. Olsen Professor of Theatre
Ruth Daniels Academic Department Associate	Theatre & Dance Department Chair BFA Design/Tech Program Coordinator
Wendy Dolan Costume Shop Manager Associate Instruction Specialist	Stephen Trovillion Smith Professor of Theatre BFA Acting Program Coordinator
Michael Estanich Associate Professor of Dance	Jeffrey Stephens Assistant Professor of Theatre BA/BS Drama Program Coordinator
Jared Hanlin Assistant Professor of Theatre	John Strassburg Dance Program Accompanist
Jeannie Hill Associate Professor of Dance	Michael Trudeau Technical Director Scene Shop Manager
Joan Karlen Professor of Dance Dance Program Coordinator	Bradley Vieth Assistant Professor of Theatre BFA Musical Theatre Coordinator
Gregory Kaye Assistant Professor of Theatre	
Alan Patrick Kenny Assistant Professor of Theatre	

Director's Notes

Charles Mee on his writing:

I like plays that are not too neat, too finished, too presentable. My own plays are broken, jagged, filled with sharp edges, filled with things that take sudden turns, careen into each other, smash up, veer off in sickening turns. That feels good to me. It feels like my life. And then I like to put this chaotic stuff – with some sense of struggle remaining – into a classical form, a Greek form, or a beautiful dance theatre piece, or some other effort at civilization.

Recently I have come again and again to take the text of a classic Greek play, smash it to ruins, and then, atop its ruined structure of plot and character, write a new play, with all-new language, characters of today speaking like people of today, set in the America of my time – so that America today lies, as it were, in a bed of ancient ruins.

Big Love is based on one of the earliest extant Greek dramas, *The Suppliant Women*. It is a LONG way from that text, and only allusions are made to it. Mee's play is a very modern and theatrical re-telling of that early play by Aeschylus. Mee uses the ancient text as a jumping off place to explore sexual politics, strength, weakness, and love.

Mee writes plays that many people have come to call “collage theatre.” He is interested in the text that he has written, but he is equally interested in investigating other media to communicate an idea or feeling within the character (and subsequently, the audience). Dance, song, chant, dialogue, theatrical movement all come together and collide on stage often in direct conflict with what we have come to know as “naturalism.” These styles compete with each other for your visual and aural focus. Sometimes one overpowers the other; sometimes movement is more important than the voice; and sometimes the voice of the character is paramount. This is a theatrical play, housed in theatrical ways. I hope you embrace (and have fun) with the challenges the production provides an audience.

Mee wants you to explore your own feelings about his play in a visceral way. Within his language, you may be provoked, or perhaps even momentarily offended – but I think this is a passageway to discover what is at the heart of the play. And what is at the heart of the play is . . . well, I guess, Mee would hope it's a little something different for each of you. *Big Love* is a collage of theatrical forms, styles, and conventions.

I hope you embrace the journey.

Thank you for supporting live theatre!

Tyler Marchant
Director, *Big Love*

Costume Designer's Notes

My primary goal when approaching the costume design for *Big Love*, as it has been for many of the other shows I've been able to design at UWSP; was to create real, genuine people. Someone you could meet walking down a street. Someone who can exist outside of the realm of the play.

Additionally, the idea of natural beauty and how one achieves what they identify as beauty has been very important for this show. One thing that I have worked on, with the women in particular, is what is it that makes them feel the most beautiful? How they wear their hair, makeup, and what clothes they wear when they are going out and want to look their best? I feel that the looks you will see tonight on the brides are ones that include ideas that have come from them, not only my ideas of how they should look projected onto them. I worked closely with Tyler to create looks for all of the cast members to help them own their body, and feel comfortable in their own skin while they portray their particular character

One of the things that Tyler said during our first design meeting that resonated with me was "Amid the battle of the sexes, we can choose love." This quote has inspired me throughout the design process of this show, and has helped me to assist in creating the production that you are seeing tonight.

Cece Hill
Costume Designer, *Big Love*

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Department of Theatre & Dance

Presents

Big Love

By

Charles L. Mee

Director

Tyler Marchant*

Choreographer

Jessica Lanius

Stage Manager

Jessica Barnhill

Sound Designer

Gary G. Olsen*

Costume Designer

Cecelia Hill

Properties Designer

Christina Newby

Lighting Designer

Sean Baldwin

Scenic Designer

Emily Lotz

Technical Director

Michael Trudeau*

*Denotes Faculty/Staff

Big Love

Cast

Thyona	Mona Maclay
Olympia	Hanna Gaffney
Lydia	Tori Mittelman
Constantine	Bryce Dutton
Nikos	Alex Gudding
Oed	John Ford-Dunker
Giuliano	Erik Schneider
Eleanor	Katie Bates
Bella	Rachel Flahive
Leo	Peter Hargarten
Piero	Stephen Campbell

Brides

Molly Adams	Courtney Holly
Allegra Berglund	Haley Moser
Silvia Bond	Tatyana Nahirniak
Chelsey Graunke	Marielle Schuchardt
Haley Haupt	Kelsey Yudice

Grooms

Blake Abram	Tyler Sandblom
Brandon Bogenschutz	Joseph Tufte
Luke Bradt	Samuel Skalbeck
Matt Dominguez	Micah Wallace
Jake Konrath	Cole Witter

The performance will run without an intermission

Production Staff

Assistant Director.....	Justun Hart
Assistant Choreographer.....	Emily Janik
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Nicole Cucinello, Jaclynn Joslin
Hair/Make-up/Special Effects.....	Lindsey Paquette
Assistant Lighting Designer.....	Marisa Abbott
Dance Captains.....	Allegra Berglund, Micah Wallace
Properties Technician.....	Carl Swanson
Costume Run Crew.....	Korinne Griffith, Gretchen Hoehn, Alison Moerke
Deck Run Crew.....	Abbey Immer, Emmily Thompson, Ameara Wahhab
Costume Shop Manager.....	Wendy Dolan*
Cutter/Draper.....	Barbara Cirmo*
Scene Shop Manager.....	Michael Trudeau*
Costume Shop Assistants.....	Molly Adams, Emily Billington Kiah Fischer, Hanna Gaffney, Sarah Helms, Cece Hill, Emily Lotz Emily Lowney, Amanda Martin, Daniel Rigamer, Christy Siebers
Scene Shop Assistants.....	Tom Bebeau, Nicole Card, Oriana Dentici Ryan Eggers, John Ford-Dunker, Alex Gudding, Abbey Immer Hayden Kraus, Jordan Krsnak, Brandon Mix, Ashley Stock Carl Swanson, Joseph Tufte
Scene & Costume Shop.....	Theatre & Dance Practicum Students
Academic Department Associate.....	Ruth Daniels*
Theatre & Dance Office Student Assistants.....	Allegra Berglund Kailey Field, Sarah Godlewski, Tori Mittelman
House Managers.....	Michelle Gress, Courtney Groves Mark Hanna, Britni Hart, Larissa Petersen
Public Relations Assistants.....	Theatre & Dance Practicum Students

* Denotes Faculty/Staff

Meet the Company

- Abram, Blake** (*Groom*) Freshman BFA Acting major from White Bear Lake, MN.
- Adams, Molly** (*Bride*) Junior BFA Acting major from St. Louis Park, MN. Recipient of the Peet-Faust Scholarship.
- Baldwin, Sean** (*Lighting Designer*) Senior BS Biochemistry major from Fremont, WI.
- Barnhill, Jessica** (*Stage Manager*) Senior BA Drama major from Tomahawk, WI. Recipient of the Theatre in London Scholarship.
- Bates, Katie** (*Eleanor*) Senior BFA Musical Theatre major from Mequon, WI. Recipient of the Backstage Musical Theatre Scholarship.
- Berglund, Allegra** (*Bride/Dance Captain*) Junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Fargo, ND. Recipient of the Arlen & Florence West Scholarship and the Honors Internship.
- Bogenschutz, Brandon** (*Groom*) Freshman BFA Acting major from Egg Harbor, WI. Recipient of the Theatre Arts Incoming Freshman Acting Award.
- Bond, Silvia** (*Bride*) Freshman BFA Acting major from Lake Mills, WI.
- Bradt, Luke** (*Groom*) Junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Maplewood, MN.
- Campbell, Stephen** (*Piero*) Freshman BFA Musical Theatre major from Cedarburg, WI. Recipient of the Theatre Arts Incoming Freshman in Musical Theatre Scholarship.
- Cucinello, Nicole** (*Assistant Stage Manager*) Sophomore BS Biology major from Brookfield, WI.
- Dominguez, Matt** (*Groom*) Freshman BFA Acting major from Kenosha, WI. Recipient of the Theatre Arts Incoming Freshman in Acting Scholarship.
- Dutton, Bryce** (*Constantine*) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major from Detroit Lakes, MN. Recipient of the Incoming Freshman in Musical Theatre Scholarship.
- Flahive, Rachel** (*Bella*) Sophomore BFA Acting major from Kenosha, WI. Recipient of the Anne Gilfry Schierl Fine Arts Award in Acting.

Meet the Company (continued)

Ford-Dunker, John (*Oed*) Junior BFA Musical Theatre major from Fargo, ND. Recipient of the Theatre and Dance Incoming Freshman in Musical Theatre Scholarship.

Gaffney, Hanna (*Olympia*) Junior BFA Acting major from Oconomowoc, WI.

Graunke, Chelsey (*Bride*) Freshman BFA Acting major from Bloomington, MN.

Gress, Michelle (*House Manager*) Sophomore BA Arts Management major and Communications minor from Sheboygan, WI.

Groves, Courtney (*House Manager*) Senior BFA Musical Theatre major from Coon Rapids, MN.

Gudding, Alex (*Nikos*) Junior BFA Acting major from Fargo, ND.

Hanna, Mark (*House Manager*) Junior BA Arts Management major and Business minor from Moorhead, MN.

Hargarten, Peter (*Leo*) Senior BFA Acting major from Sherwood, WI.

Hart, Britni (*House Manager*) Senior BA Drama major and Business Administration minor from Oshkosh, WI. Recipient of the Theatre Arts Incoming Freshman in Design Technology Scholarship.

Hart, Justun (*Assistant Director*) Senior BFA Musical Theatre and Business Administration major from Oshkosh, WI. Recipient of the Roger Nelson Musical Theatre Scholarship.

Haupt, Haley (*Bride*) Freshman BFA Musical Theatre major from Brookfield, WI.

Hill, Cecelia (*Costume Designer*) Senior BFA Design Technoloy major from Mequon, WI. Recipient of the Anne Gilfry Schierl Fine Arts Award In Design Technology and the James Vorland Technical Theatre Scholarship.

Holly, Courtney (*Bride*) Junior BFA Acting major from Manitowoc, WI.

Janik, Emily (*Assistant Choreographer*) Junior BA Dance Major from Wisconsin Rapids, WI. Recipient of the Anne Gilfry Schierl Arts Award in Dance, Kathryn Bukolt Dance Scholarship and the Theatre Arts Incoming Freshman in Dance.

Joslin, Jaclynn (*Assistant Stage Manager*) Junior BA Drama major and Business Administration minor from Madison, WI.

Konrath, Jake (*Groom*) Freshman BFA Acting major from Waukesha, WI.

Meet the Company (continued)

- Lotz, Emily** (*Scenic Designer*) Junior BFA Design Technology major from Glendale, WI.
- Maclay, Mona** (*Thyona*) Junior BFA Acting major from Richland Center, WI. Recipient of the Theatre in London Scholarship.
- Mittelman, Tori** (*Lydia*) Junior BFA Acting major from Richmond, VA. Recipient of the Theatre in London Scholarship, Anne Gilfry Schierl Fine Arts Award in Acting and the Honors Internship.
- Moser, Haley** (*Bride*) Freshman BFA Acting major from East Bethal, MN.
- Nahirniak, Tatyana** (*Bride*) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major from Cottage Grove, WI.
- Newby, Christina** (*Properties Designer*) Sophomore BFA Design Technology major from Cable, WI.
- Paquette, Lindsey** (*Hair/Make-up/Special Effects*) Junior BA Drama and Business major from Brookfield, WI. Recipient of the Anne Gilfry Schierl Fine Arts Award in Drama and the Sentry Scholarship.
- Petersen, Larissa** (*House Manager*) Junior BA Arts Management and Drama major from Neenah, WI.
- Sandblom, Tyler** (*Groom*) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major from Hubertus, WI.
- Schneider, Erik** (*Giuliano*) Senior BFA Musical Theatre major and Dance minor from Amherst Junction, WI.
- Schuchardt, Marielle** (*Bride*) Freshman BFA Acting major from Sheboygan, WI.
- Skalbeck, Samuel** (*Groom*) Freshman BFA Musical Theatre major from Pleasant Prairie, WI.
- Swanson, Carl** (*Properties Technician*) Junior BA Drama major from Hawley, MN.
- Tufte, Joseph** (*Groom*) Freshman BFA Acting major from Oconomowoc, WI.
- Wallace, Micah** (*Groom/Dance Captain*) Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre major from Brodhead, WI.
- Witter, Cole** (*Groom*) Sophomore BFA Acting major from Hector, MN.
- Yudice, Kelsey** (*Bride*) Sophomore BFA Acting major from Madison, WI.

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The Department of Theatre & Dance welcomes support for our educational and artistic activities through a variety of programs, including existing scholarships and endowments, special projects support, bequests and planned gifts. For more information about contributing to the Department of Theatre & Dance, please refer to the enclosed Backstage envelope, or contact Tricia Lee at 715-346-3056.

A special thank you to our 2012-2013 Backstage supporters!
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Backstage (continued)

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