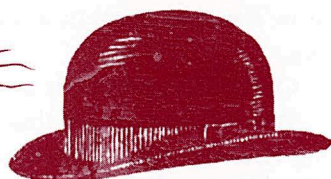
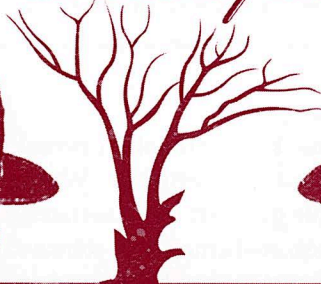


WAITING for GODOT

*a tragicomedy in two acts
by Samuel Beckett
directed by Pamela Poletti*



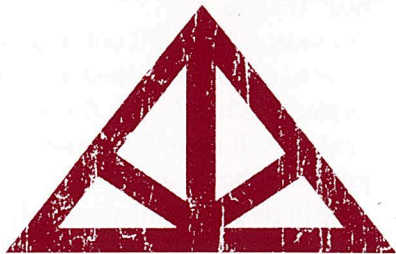
Mr. Vladimir



Mr. Estragon

with special guests Mr. Lucky, Mr. Pozzo and a boy

**APPEARING
TONIGHT**



**MCCOY THEATRE
RHODES COLLEGE**
Season 26 • 2006-2007

McCOY THEATRE STAFF

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Chair of Theatre/Artistic Director | Cookie Ewing |
| Managing Director | Kevin Collier |
| Associate Professor | David Jilg |
| Assistant Professor/Technical Director | Laura Canon |
| Assistant Professor | Dave Mason |
| Assistant Professor | Michelle Cook-Brown |
| Instructor | Teresa Morrow |
| Box Office Assistants | Megan Cian, Maggie Kelly |

Here at the McCoy, we can certainly sympathize with the plight of Didi and Gogo.

We've been waiting.

When plans were announced a few years ago about an addition to the theatre, we immediately began to envision what it would be like, and how it would affect us as an academic department and a kiln of creativity.

Our wait, however, is at an end.

When classes began this fall, the theatre opened its doors with a facility twice the size of its original incarnation. We're still in awe and getting used to this incredible gift, but we're settled in for the future.

With our own classroom, costume shop, rehearsal studio and faculty offices, the way we function has been fundamentally changed for the better. It took about 10 seconds for our students to acclimate to the change, and more than ever, they take pride in referring to the McCoy as "our" theatre.

In season 26, you'll witness a sample of what's to come. *Waiting for Godot* has been described as both "difficult" and "nonsense," as well as "perfect." What do you think? *Dancing at Lughnasa* will explore abandonment as well as joyful abandon. *Jesus Christ Superstar* is likely to ask more questions than it answers.

We hope to not only entertain, but also to challenge. Our possibilities have been opened wide, and you, our audience, are the first benefactor.

Last year, we opened with Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. Near the end of the play, Prospero states that their created world is "such stuff as dreams are made on."

That's where we are at the McCoy, and the dreams have just begun anew.

PRESENTS

WAITING FOR GODOT

by Samuel Beckett
directed by Pamela Poletti

Cast

Estragon.....Nate Smith
Vladimir..... Jason Hansen
Lucky Daniel Sturtevant
Pozzo..... Thomas Kelly
a boy.....David Mason

Act I:

A country road. A tree.
Evening.

Act II:

Next day. Same time.
Same place.

There will be a 15-minute intermission between Acts I & II.

Waiting for Godot is presented under special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

Crew

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Technical Director..... | Laura Canon |
| Stage Manager | Liz McClure |
| Assistant Stage Manager | Shannon King |
| Set Designer | Laura Canon |
| Costume Designer..... | Alli Robbins |
| Costume Shop Supervisor..... | Celia Mason |
| Lighting Designer | Laura Canon |
| Master Electrician | Steven Rintoul |
| Props | Alicia Queen |
| Set and Lighting Crew | Jane Metters, Sasha Petro Rebecca Bates, Nick Coffelt, Lindsay Johnson, Jane Kilgore, Camielle Smith, Andrew Whaley, Hesham Hassan, Yunhao Liu, Stephanie Cassel |
| Costume Crew | Shannon King, Michelle Luby |

Special Thanks

Bill Short
Bob Hetherington
Andy Saunders
Theatre Memphis
The University of Memphis

Director's Notes

Even as I type this, I am late for a deadline. I am, in fact, leaving the publisher waiting for my *Waiting for Godot* program notes. I am shamed but not surprised that I cannot think of anything pithy and cogent or brilliant and concise to say about Samuel Beckett's most extraordinary play. Brighter minds than mine have left scores of published criticisms, critiques and insights into this play about Vladimir and Estragon and Pozzo and Lucky and you and me and life and meaning and so on and so on. I could burble on about the delightful, exquisite language but the actors will be better ambassadors than I. And the audience will enjoy tackling symbolism and metaphor. Everything about this surprisingly joyful process has been challenging. And I was not greatly relieved when a colleague recently pointed out to me that *Waiting for Godot* is "the perfect play." I have come to agree with that assessment and accept the daunting implication that because it is a "perfect play" only I (or any director) can ruin it. Cheery thought. I hope that I have not ruined it, of course. I have tried to approach the play honestly, humorously and without embellishment or conceit. Michaelangelo wrote "beauty is the purgation of superfluities." *Waiting for Godot* strikes me as a living example of that ideal. And while the publisher steals another glance at his watch and impatiently taps his toe, I will add only that we are pronouncing Godot's name GODot, not to sound European, but because it struck me that GODot needs to rhyme with Pozzo and goDOT never would. But you will see for yourself. And I hope you enjoy your wait.

– Pamela Poletti

The Artists

Laura Canon (Technical Director, Set and Lighting Designer) Laura is a theatre professor and has designed the lighting and sets for numerous McCoy productions. Most recently she received an Ostrander Award for best lighting design for *Hamlet*.

Jason R. Hansen (Vladimir) Jason, a junior theatre major with minors in history and American studies, is from Yonkers, NY. He has been seen at the McCoy in *The Tempest*, *Higher Ground*, and *The Woolgatherer*. He was also a co-director for last year's student production of *Extremities*.

Thomas Kelly (Pozzo) Thomas is a senior theatre major from Knoxville, TN. He was a member of the ensemble in last year's production of *Ubu Roi* at the McCoy. He was also a dancer in *Miss Julie*. Thomas is a member of the Rhodes improvisation troupe Contents Under Pressure. He is a friend of the London Handlebar Moustache Club.

Shannon King (Stage Manager) Shannon, who enjoys crossword puzzles and cookies, is a sophomore from Memphis, TN. She was last seen at the McCoy as Sky in *Real Rhodes*. Shannon played Trinculo in last season's production of *The Tempest*. She also worked on costume construction for last season's productions of *Ubu Roi* and *The Tempest*. Shannon is a Fine Arts Scholar.

Celia Mason (Costume Shop Manager) Celia has been involved in costuming the McCoy productions of *On the Verge*, *The World Goes Round*, *La caja misteriosa*, and *The Tempest*. When she's not slaving away for us, Celia may be found quilting, watercoloring, enjoying photography or creating collage. She also likes an occasional bit of travel.

Liz McClure (Stage Manager) Liz is a senior theatre major. Her hobbies include...theatre. She was seen onstage at the McCoy as the Nurse in *Equus*. Liz was an assistant stage manager for *Big Love* and a co-director of *Extremities*.

Pamela Poletti (Director) Pamela is the Upper School acting teacher at Hutchison. She was seen on the McCoy stage a million years ago as Kate Nickleby in *The Life and Times of Nicholas Nickleby*. More recently, she played Isabella in *Measure for Measure* at Theatre Memphis's Next Stage. Pamela was the director for *Child's Play* on the Lohrey Stage at Theatre Memphis, *Art on the Next Stage* at Theatre Memphis, and *Harvey* at Germantown Community Theatre. Her major hobby is keeping up with her 3-year-old daughter Mimi.

Alli Robbins, '97, (Costume Designer) Alli is the Visual Arts & Theatre teacher at Ridgeway Middle School, and has been recognized by the Memphis Theatre Awards for her costume designs of *Pirates of Penzance* and *Blues in the Night*. Alli holds an M.F.A. in scenic painting from the North Carolina School of the Arts.

Liam "Nate" Smith (Estragon) Nate is a junior theatre major who plays drums for the local band Energy D. He was last seen onstage at the McCoy as Captain Bordure in *Ubu Roi*. Previously, he played Caliban in *The Tempest* and Bartolo in *La caja misteriosa*, both at the McCoy. Nate also acted in *Metamorphoses*, the McCoy's joint production with University of Memphis.

Daniel Sturtevant (Lucky) Daniel is a junior psychology major from Louisville, KY, where he was seen onstage as the Artful Dodger in *Oliver*. His hobbies include filmmaking and community service. Daniel is a Rhodes Service Scholar and is involved with the Kinney Program.

UPCOMING SEASON 26 PERFORMANCES AND DATES

WAITING FOR GODOT

by Samuel Beckett

directed by Pamela Poletti

September 29 & 30; October 5-8

DANCING AT LUGHNASA

by Brian Friel

directed by Jerre Dye

November 10 & 11; 16-19

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

music by Andrew Lloyd Webber

lyrics by Tim Rice

directed by Cookie Ewing

musical direction by Tim Sharp

March 30 & 31; April 12-15

Benefactors*

Norfleet Turner
Frank Wilbourn

Patrons*

Robert Llewellyn

Supporters*

Tara and Gray Burkhart
Patty Moore

*At time of printing

The Noreen Cathey Mallory Theatrical Fund – We are grateful to the Neely Mallory family for this endowment gift which will underwrite one production a year.

The McCoy Theatre infrared hearing system is the gift of the Menke Foundation in honor of Edwin Howard.

The McCoy Theatre is the producing component of the academic program of the Department of Theatre. In order to continue producing plays, our production costs must be met through gifts and subscriptions, as well as single ticket sales. Through your financial support and your intellectual curiosity, you are literally giving life to this important developmental stage of an incredibly valuable art form. We extend our deepest thanks to our supporters and hope that others will consider becoming a Benefactor or Patron of the McCoy Theatre.



Rhodes College

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