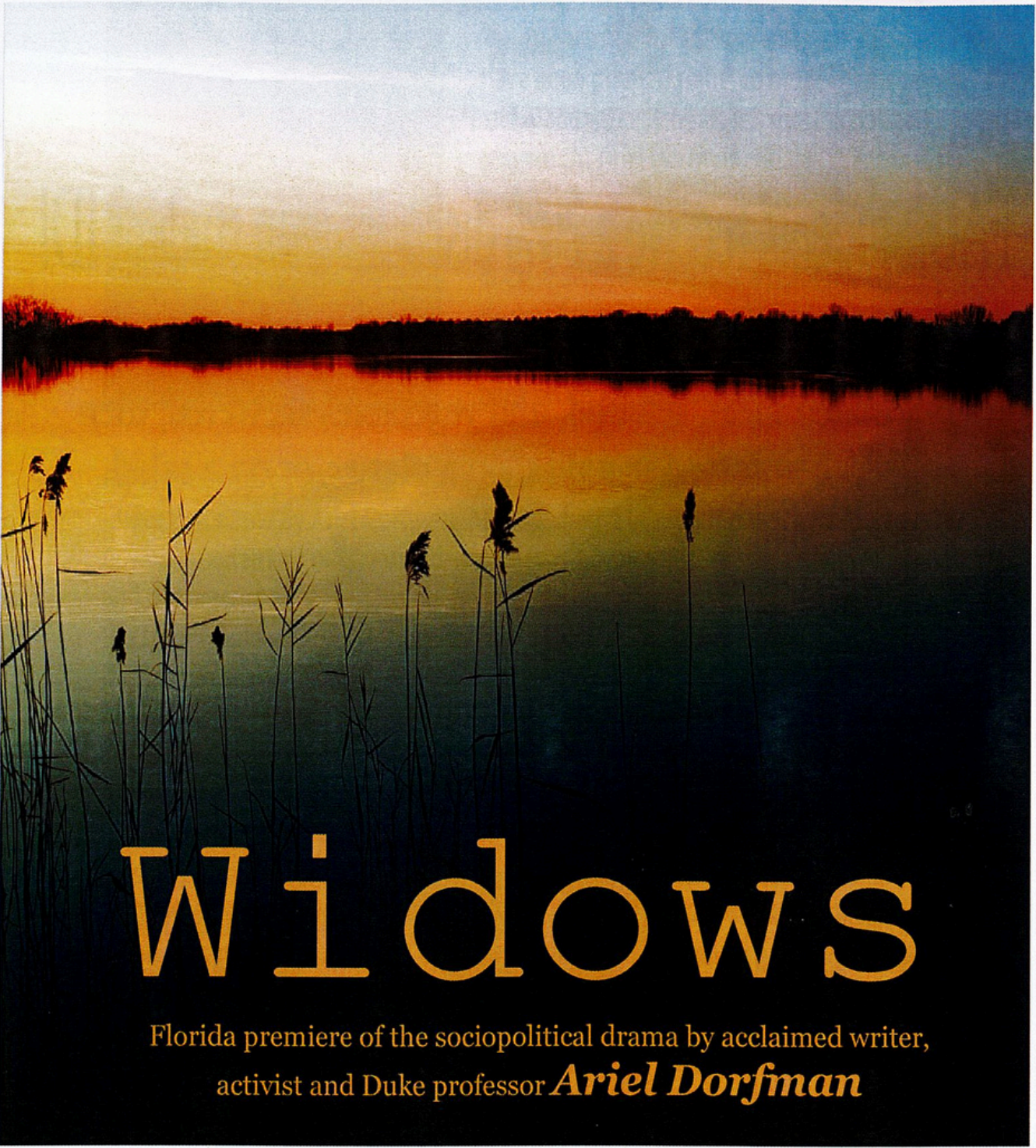


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Dorothy F. Schmidt
College of Arts and Letters
Florida Atlantic University

THE DEPARTMENT OF
THEATRE
AND *dance*



Widows

Florida premiere of the sociopolitical drama by acclaimed writer,
activist and Duke professor **Ariel Dorfman**

November 11-20 | Studio One Theatre

www.fau.edu/theatre

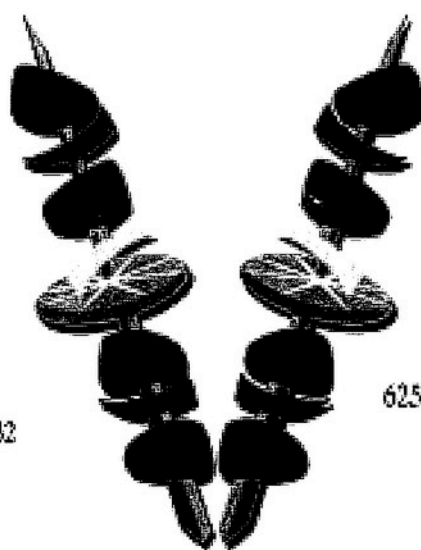
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Widows by Ariel Dorfman

Director's Note



Welcome to the Florida premiere of *Widows*. The Department of Theatre & Dance is honored to have been granted rights to produce this timely and eloquent play by Chile's most acclaimed playwright Ariel Dorfman. He has spent the greater part of his professional career as a voice of condemnation of the human rights violations in Chile and other regions around the world. He was for many years a political exile from his homeland. Most recently he has completed a book on his life and struggles as an exile.

My first encounter, more than twenty years ago, with the story of *Widows* was a novel under that name by Ariel Dorfman. After reading it I thought it was a particularly powerful statement on the world-wide issues surrounding human rights violations and the practice of "disappearing" people as a tool of terror. For this reason I thought the story would make an interesting play or film. I did not know at that time that Dorfman was also developing a stage play under the same name. Then in the summer of 1991, I caught a news story on National Public Radio about a major professional production of the play soon to open at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles and fortunately I intended to be there while the play was running.

This play is written in the style of the ancient Greek Tragedies and has a most contemporary message. Through its mythical and even magical expressions, this play reveals the politics and impact of human rights violations on common people. The story is told in 27 scenes which wander through the real world of human suffering into the world of dreams, visions and sometimes nightmares.

Ariel Dorfman describes the practice of "disappearing" people as "first arresting them and then deny the arrest to the relatives. This form of repression – practiced extensively by Adolf Hitler – denied to the survivors the knowledge of the whereabouts of their loved ones and, in case of death, even their bodies – allowing the government to terrorize the populace while publicly whitewashing itself of any blame." (*continued*)

Widows by Ariel Dorfman

Director's Note – continued

This play of fiction based in fact, deals with the impact of this government-sanctioned terrorist practice on a small mountain village in Chile shortly after the death (assassination/suicide) of Marxist president Salvador Allende during the regime of Augusto Pinochet in Chile from 1970 until 1990. These practices continued even after Pinochet stepped down as president to become the leader of the Chilean Military Junta until 1998. This brutal dictatorship was supported for many years by U.S. aid (\$146.1 million) through the CIA out of American fear that another Marxist regime would find a foothold in our hemisphere. So due to these protectionist policies once again a brutal dictatorship was supported by President Richard Nixon and carried out by his Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

The result of government oppression in Chile lead to the immediate arrest of over 13,000 people claimed to be communists, sympathizers or dissidents. 3,000 were immediately executed. Before the reign of terror ended, in a three to six year period over 100,000 people were jailed in makeshift concentration camps, of which the National Soccer Stadium was the most notorious, where thousands were held without legal recourse and many thousands became the "Desaparecidos" (the disappeared). At the time of Dorfman's writing of this play, after 17 years of dictatorship, bodies began to appear all over the country, as Dorfman describes "unearthed in the desert, in abandoned mine shafts, dug up in secret cemeteries by the sea, discovered on the rocky banks of the nation's rivers. The prophecy of my novel has come true. The bodies come from the earth."

And so it was that the play *Widows* emerged and was first professionally presented at the Mark Taper Forum with the collaboration of fellow playwright Tony Kushner and director Robert Egan.

Jean-Louis Baldet
Director

Department of Theatre and Dance - School of the Arts
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

presents

Widows

by Ariel Dorfman

Directed by Jean-Louis Baldet

Scenic Design
Den Kopani

Lighting Design
Dr. Richard Gamble

Stage Manager
Ryan Mahannah**

Costume Design
Kassiopia Ragoonanan
Jane Lynch

Sound Design
Ryan Mahannah**

Assistant Stage Managers
Eduardo Rivera
Sydney Miller

Technical Director
Thomas M. Shorrock

Widows by Ariel Dorfman

Directed by Jean-Louis Baldet

CAST

The Fuentes Family

Sofia Fuentes	Kathryn Lee Johnston*
Alexandra	Audra Yokley
Yanina	Ryan O'Shea
Fidelia	Lynn Wilhite
Alexis	Alex Salup
Alonso	Wade Appleton

The People of the Valley

Teresa	Ariana Chapman**
Katherina	Kayla Smith
Rosa	Sydney Miller
Mariluz	Joanna Mandel**
Amanda	Valentina Villamizar
Lucia	Shannon Ouellette**
Ramona	Tamara Brown
Cecilia	Stephanie Amico
Father Gabriel	Darrick Penny

The Kastoria Family Cartel

Philip Kastoria	Darrick Penny
Beatrice Kastoria	Shannon Ouellette
Kastoria's Brother	Kaleb Marazon

The Army

The Captain	David Meldman
The Lieutenant	Taylor Darden
Emanuel, the orderly	Jordon Armstrong
The Doctor	John Maher
Solder 1st	Stephen Rochet
Soldier 2nd	Will Taylor
Soldier	Darrick Penny, John Maher, Kaleb Marzon, Wade Appleton

PLACE: A peasant village in a third world country

TIME: Anytime in the past or present

There will be one 10-minute intermission

PRODUCTION STAFF

House Manager	Lysette Pérez
Asst. House Manager.....	Melissa Betterly
Set Construction Assts.....	Ryan O'Shea, Darrick Penny, David Meldman, Matthew Morrell
Asst. Shop Managers.....	Cynthia Armaya, Blaze Powers, Melissa Leach, Stephanie Amico
Set Construction Crew.....	Production Hour Classes
Set Run Crew.....	Kenna McLendon, Jessica deFreitas, Teynron Powell
Costume Design Supervisor.....	Tim Dial
Costume Assts.....	Larry Bauman, Lynn Wilhite, Audra Yokley
Wardrobe.....	Noelle Dibble, Shamariah Reneau, Kate Dickerson
Dressers.....	Micah G. Phillips, Jonathan Printers Jr., Teresa Douberley
Master Electrician/ LBO.....	Tony Bartley
Lighting Crew.....	Richard Gamble & Lighting Production class
Sound Board Operation.....	Morgan Woods
Properties Master.....	Taylor Darden, Alex Salup
Properties Run Crew.....	Carly Levy
Scenic Artist.....	Den Kopani
Graphic.....	Den Kopani, Nicole Jacobsen
Voice/ Accent Coach.....	Kathryn L. Johnston
Publicity.....	Eric Jaffe**, Taylor Staniforth, Meaghan Lehrer
Ushers.....	Katelyn Elliot, CJ Iglehart, Alex Sherman, Cedric Dumornay and Jenny Chevy
Golf Carts.....	Alana Ernst, Ryan McInerney

* Appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association

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FAU GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

Larry Bauman, Taylor Darden, David Meldman, Ryan O'Shea
Darrick Penny, Taylor Staniforth, Lynn Wilhite, Audra Yokley

Coming Events



Dances We Dance: Celebrating the Holidays

UNIVERSITY THEATRE

Friday, December 2, 7 pm

Saturday, December 3, 7 pm

Tickets: All tickets - \$10

FAU Repertory Dance Theatre Ensemble

UNIVERSITY THEATRE

Friday, February 10, 7 pm

Saturday, February 11, 1 pm

Saturday, February 11, 7 pm

Sunday, February 12, 1 pm

Tickets: Single \$20; Faculty, staff and alumni
\$16; FAU Students \$12; Groups 15+ \$14

Wonder of the World

by David Lindsay-Abaire

STUDIO ONE THEATRE

February 17, 18, 24, 25, 7 pm

February 19, 25, 26, 1 pm

Tickets: Single \$20; Faculty, staff and alumni
\$16; FAU Students \$12; Groups 15+ \$14

Visit www.fauevents.com or call
1-800-564-9539 for tickets.

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and Dance"* on Facebook and Twitter.

Dances We Dance

Celebrating the Holidays

- Department of Theatre and Dance
- University Theatre (Boca Raton Campus)
- Showcasing Student Dancers
- Fri. 12.2.11 @ 7pm
- Sat 12.3.11 @ 7pm
- Admission: Adults: \$10
Under 13: \$5



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Dorothy F. Schmidt
College of Arts and Letters
Heather Coltman, Interim Dean

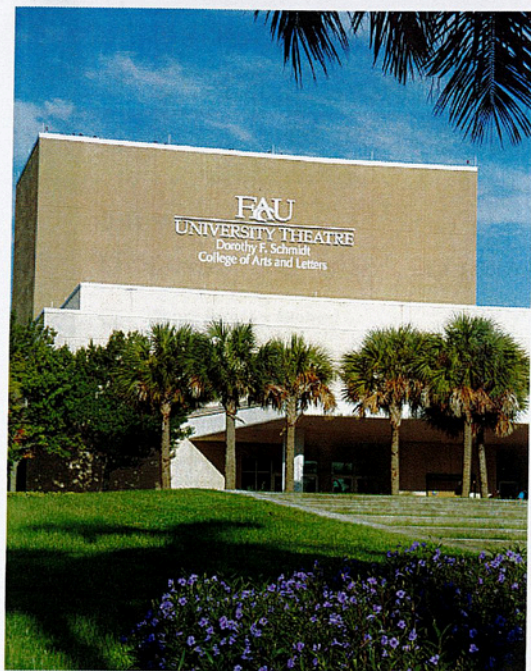
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and Associate Professor

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Jean-Louis Baldet, Professor
Clarence Brooks, Assistant Professor
Timothy Dial, Associate Professor
Desmond Gallant, Associate Professor
Richard Gamble, Associate Professor
Kathryn Johnston, Visiting Professor
Thomas Shorrock, Associate Professor
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