

FAU SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

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

THE DEPARTMENT OF
THEATRE
AND *dance*



THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST



BY OSCAR WILDE

November 15 - 24 | Studio One Theatre

www.fau.edu/theatre

Kathryn L. Johnston | A Note From the Director

Life is far too important a thing ever to talk seriously about. — Oscar Wilde

I was having one of those, “What is the world coming to!?” moments about a year ago: A couple of Kardashians were receiving the Key to the City of North Miami. The local news station I was watching decided that this occurrence was “breaking news” and covered it live...and went back to the reporter covering it for “updates.” On the positive side, it was a momentary distraction from the previous week’s announcement that Hostess Bakeries would be closing leaving a traumatized America without its beloved Twinkies...

I decided to turn off my television lest I heave a heavy object at it.

I happened upon my old copy of *The Importance of Being Earnest* a short time later and realized that times really haven’t changed much since 1895. Oscar Wilde subtitled his comedic gem, “A Trivial Comedy for Serious People” and, with razor-sharp wit, lampoons upper-class Victorian Society where surfaces are all-important and serious problems are nothing more than an inconvenience. Reading it seemed a better way to soothe my issues with The Noon News than writing a vitriolic diatribe to an unsuspecting (so-called) News Director.

As contemporary society’s fascination with the shallow demonstrates, Wilde’s themes – morality, class distinctions, etiquette, hypocrisy, the state of Marriage -- could be utilized as easily in a contemporary play as they are in this Victorian comedy-of-manners. The only difference might be the beautiful, witty language that Wilde employed when he wrote it; language that audiences have loved and actors have relished speaking for over a hundred years. On that note, I was quite pleasantly surprised at the number of students in our department who professed their love for this play when it was announced as part of our current Main Stage season.

Exploring the manners and mannerisms of the period (for which I am greatly indebted to Jana Tift) while employing Oscar Wilde’s marvelous words was a great deal of fun for me and the cast of this production. I hope you enjoy this performance as much as we’ve enjoyed preparing to present it to you.

Special Thanks - LeBron Benton, Broward College

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

presents

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

BY OSCAR WILDE

Directed by Kathryn L. Johnston

Scenic Design
Melina Oikonomou

Costume Design
Larry Bauman

Lighting Design
Ariana Chapman*

Technical Director
Thomas M. Shorrock

Stage Manager
Kristine Madden*

Sound Design
Holly Tatem

** Member of Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Honors Society*

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

BY OSCAR WILDE

CAST

John Worthing, J.P.	Scott Wells
Algernon Moncrieff.....	Wade Appleton**
Rev. Canon Chasuble, D.D.	Michael Empson
Merriman, Jack's Butler.....	Bradley Wells*
Lane, Algernon's Manservant.....	Kyle Barrett*
Lady Bracknell.....	Elizabeth Price
Hon. Gwendolen Fairfax.....	Katy Slaven
Cecily Cardew.....	Jenna Wyatt
Miss Prism.....	Sujotta Raquel *

SETTING

ACT I . . . Algernon Moncrieff's flat in Half Moon Street, Woolton

ACT II . . . The garden at the Manor House, Woolton

ACT III..Drawing-room of the Manor House, Woolton

TIME . . . Summer, 1895

PLACE . . . London

** Member of Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Honors Society*

***Officer of Alpha Psi Omega*

PRODUCTION STAFF

Scene Shop Foreman.....	Chris Evans
Costume Shop Manager.....	Jessica Cowden
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Olivia Hancock
House Managers.....	Melissa Betterly-Sherman, Shannon Ouellette*
Box Office Supervisor	Nikki Horbach
Scenic Artist.....	Melina Oikonomou
Dramaturge.....	David Meldman
Movement Coach.....	Jana Tift
Properties Master	Steven Kennedy**
Master Electrician.....	Gabi Jones
Sound Engineer	Harold Petion
Wig Design.....	Jane Lynch
Assistant Shop Managers	Alissa Kane, Courtney Pakula, Gerald Arroyo Prada**, Virginia Rodrigues, AJ Taylor
Lighting Assistant	Ariana Chapman*
Publicity Assistant.....	Lisa Rosen
Office Assistant.....	Sujotta Raquel*
Scene Shop Assistants.....	Michael Empson, Connor Hammond*
Properties Assistants.....	Elizabeth Price, Mandalyn Stevens
Costuming Assistants.....	Larry Bauman, Katy Slaven*, Scott Wells, Jenna Wyatt
Publicity Staff.....	Ryan Mahannah*
Run Crew	Andrew Armas, Vanessa Floriva
Properties Crew	Bridget Parente
Dresser.....	Chase Kennedy, Dinah Laster
Wardrobe.....	Shane Blouin
Ushers.....	Shanice Broomfield, Chris Boike, Meghan Faiella, Faye Francis, Racquel Goldman, James Lavia, Jasmine Williams
Golf Carts.....	Erica McGriff, Vandalia Bryant Scott

**Members of Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Honors Society*

***Officers of Alpha Psi Omega Theatre Honors Society*

– UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS –

Two Gentlemen of Verona by William Shakespeare

FEBRUARY 14-23 | STUDIO ONE THEATRE

Shakespeare's first romantic comedy, this comedy deals with the themes of friendship and infidelity, the conflict between friendship and love, and the foolish behavior of people in love.

Rhinoceros by Eugene Ionesco

APRIL 4-APRIL 13 | STUDIO ONE THEATRE

Over the course of three acts, the inhabitants of a small, provincial French town turn into rhinoceroses where ultimately only one does not succumb. This play will take you on a journey of philosophy, mass movements and morality.

Dances We Dance Directed by Clarence Brooks

DECEMBER 6 & 7 | UNIVERSITY THEATRE

A capstone experience for student dancers performing a wide array of dance genres

– All tickets for the above shows on sale by phone or online at **800-564-9539**
or **www.fauevents.com** –

– UPCOMING ALPHA PSI OMEGA PRODUCTIONS –

Ambrose; The Dumb Doctor By Gvozden Kopani and Jerre Bolnick

NOVEMBER 21 -23, 7PM | STUDIO TWO THEATRE

NOVEMBER 24, 1 PM

"Feelin' a little bored, lethargic, mentally disconnected or just have a slight case of dementia praecox? Have Dr. Ambrose administer a dose of his special prefrontal enema. It will fix ya right up!" Tickets are FREE but we suggest you make your reservations by emailing **FAUStudioTwo@gmail.com**!

– Get free tickets by emailing your name and number of ticket requests
to **FauStudio2@gmail.com** –

SUPPORT THE *School of the Arts*

Memberships support areas of greatest need within FAU's School of the Arts, or they may be designated to an area of specific interest to the donor.

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ President's Club
(\$10,000 and up) | ☐ Patron (\$1,000 – \$2,499) |
| ☐ Scholar
(\$5,000 – \$9,999) | ☐ Talon (\$500 – \$999) |
| ☐ Associate
(\$2,500 – \$4,999) | ☐ Fellow (\$250 – \$499) |
| | ☐ Friend (\$100 – \$249) |
| | ☐ Contributor (\$35 – \$99) |

GIFT DESIGNATION

- ☐ Galleries ☐ Music ☐ School of the Arts ☐ Theatre and Dance
(greatest need)
- ☐ Visual Arts/Art History

Note: A portion or all of your contribution may be tax-deductible based on any goods or services received in exchange for your contribution (e.g., value of VIP seating) according to IRS regulations.

- ☐ I want to waive any tickets for which I am eligible, making my contribution 100% tax deductible.
- ☐ I understand that the value of any tickets for which I am eligible will be deducted from my contribution making the remainder a tax-deductible donation.

PAYMENT METHOD

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

- ☐ Check made payable to the FAU Foundation, Inc./Cultural Arts Prodigy Program
- ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ Security Code _____

Print name as it appears on card _____

Signature: _____

Credit card numbers are destroyed after processing.

The Florida Atlantic University Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. All gifts are tax deductible.

Mail to: Laurie Carney, Development Officer, Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, FAU,
777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33431 | 561-297-3606 | lcarney@fau.edu

FAU SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

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



THE DEPARTMENT OF **THEATRE** AND *Dance*

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

Department of Theatre and Dance Faculty and Staff

Thomas Atkins, Professor
Jean-Louis Baldet, Professor
Melissa Betterly- Sherman, House Manager
Clarence Brooks, Associate Professor &
Director of Dance
Susan Cato, Adjunct Professor
Jessica Cowden, Costume Shop Manager
Timothy Dial, Associate Professor
Chris Evans, Scene Shop Manager
Susan Fulks, Courtesy Appointment
Desmond Gallant, Associate Professor
Richard Gamble, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Kathryn L. Johnston, Assistant Professor
Gvozden Kopani, Department Chair &
Associate Professor
James R. McDonough, Jr., Theater Manager
Constance McIntyre, Ph.D, Adjunct Professor
David Meldman, Visiting Professor
Judith Page-Sarfati, Senior Secretary
Crystal Patient, Adjunct Professor
Thomas M. Shorrock, Associate Professor
Jana Tift, Adjunct Professor

Department of Theatre Office
561-297-3810

www.fau.edu/theatre

Find **The Department of Theatre
and Dance** on Facebook and Twitter.



CLASSICAL 89.7 | 90.7
SOUTH FLORIDA



FAU
DIVISION OF
STUDENT AFFAIRS
Florida Atlantic University

 **PALM BEACH COUNTY
CULTURAL COUNCIL**

SunSentinel

 **Palm Beach County Florida**
THE BEST OF EVERYTHING®
A TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FUNDED PROJECT