

# ON THE VERGE or THE GEOGRAPHY OF YEARNING

By Eric Overmyer

## DIRECTOR’S NOTE

In an interview with the *Saturday Evening Post*, Albert Einstein, who contributed more than his fair share to the collective knowledge of the human race, told his interviewer: “Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world.”

As the explorers of *On the Verge* discover, there is nowhere within or without of the circles of the world that their collective imaginings cannot take them. Armed with their unflagging and unflappable imaginations, Fanny, Mary, and Alexandra find they are not bound by any restraints, physical or chronological.

This show captures what I find to be the essence of theatre—the discovery that a shared game of pretend can not only change the landscape of the world around you, but also the geography of your heart. A sojourner never embarks on a trek expecting to come out the other side unchanged, to have discovered nothing new. She knows that a journey, whether through Terra Incognita, or through a six-week rehearsal process, is necessarily transformative. The stories we live, create, and share are stories that remake us. This is the magic of the imagination, the magic of theatre: a magic that weaves a story which takes us on a journey into a new world, into a new self.

We thank you for coming to join in on our adventure; we hope the show ignites a spark of wanderlust and inspires your imagination; and we pray that all your travels be manioc-free.

–Renée Roden\*

## DRAMATURG’S NOTE

In the Victorian Era, women did not have the right to vote, sue, or own property. Second to their husbands and chained to the expectation that their emotional fulfillment correlated with domesticity, women shied away from the public sphere. The home was their kingdom where they were queens, cooking, cleaning, baking, decorating, washing within four sturdy walls.

Mary, Alex, and Fanny lift up their long skirts to walk better through the grass, mud, and sand of an uncharted terrain.

–Katherine Dudas\*

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

Notre Dame first produced *On the Verge* in April 1996 as an advanced directing project of student Ruth Diemer under the supervision of Professor Reg Bain. This is the first production of Overmyer’s play as part of the regular season.

–Mark C. Pilkinton

## CAST

Fanny: Elizabeth Charles

Alex: Emily Dauer\*

Mary: Katie Mullins\*

Alphonse/Yeti/Grover/et al.: David Díaz\*

*There will be one 15-minute intermission.*

## ARTISTIC STAFF

Director: Renée Roden\*

Lighting Designers: Matt Gervais & Patrick Fagan

Set Designer: Samantha Schubert\*

Costume Designer: Karen Gilmore

Sound Designer: Chau-Ly Phan

Props: Kathleen Clark

Dramaturg: Katherine Dudas\*

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Manager: Erin McMannon

Technical Director: C. Kenneth Cole

Costume Shop Manager: Lynn Holbrook

Assistant Stage Manager: Emma Kusters

Light Board Operator: Amanda Bartolini

Wardrobe Run Crew: Malaika Lund & Caitlin Geary

Sound Board Operator: Yomara Acevedo

## COSTUME SHOP ASSISTANTS

Alex Ciesla

Regina Gilmour

Elizabeth Konicek

Samantha Schubert\*

*\*Denotes FTT major*

*We thank you for silencing all electronic devices.*

*Video and/or audio recordings of this performance by any means whatsoever are strictly prohibited.*

## SCENE SHOP ASSISTANTS

Dasuni Baptist

Alexander Bogunki-Baran

Michael Burns

Melissa Flynn\*

Matthew Gervais

Moises Martinez

Samantha Schubert\*

Kimberly Springstead

William Woodley

## SCENERY, PROPS, AND LIGHTING CREW

Kendrick Asril Lee

Victoria Babcock

Monica Barboza

Heather Bartlow

Amanda Bartolini

Ranford Bivin

Ryan Busk

Anna Busse

Jose Sanchez Bustillo

Ye Lim Choo

Timothy Coen

Mary Connolly

Christopher DeGrave

Dayton Flannery

Omar Hunter

Trevor Hurley

Megan Kilbride

Kyle Kozak

Caroline Kurtz

Kelly Laco

Paul Lipari

Alexandra Lowery

Jewell Loyd

Nathan Luong

Mary Katherine Marino

Bruno Mediate

Christian Metzler

Alexander Meyer

Bethany Pacheco

Mary Patano

Kristen Ringwall

Nidia Ruelas

Kenneth Sabacinski

Ryan Sakowich

Joseph Salvi

Ricardo Sanchez

Elijah Shumate

Brian Talcott

Sienna Wdowik

William Woodley

Julia Zanutelli

Jacqueline Zink

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Daniel and Marie Messina Endowment for Performing Arts

The Joseph A. McCabe Endowment for Excellence in Dramatic Arts

## SPECIAL THANKS

C. Kenneth Cole

Richard E. Donnelly

Kevin Dreyer

Yael Prizant

Marcus Stephens

*Produced through special arrangement with Broadway Play Publishing Inc. The script to this play may be purchased from BPPI at BroadwayPlayPubl.com. Originally produced on January 5, 1985, at Center Stage, Baltimore, Stan Wojewodki, Artistic Director, Peter Culman, Managing Director.*

DEPARTMENT OF FILM, TELEVISION, AND THEATRE FACULTY

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 Grant Mudge

Susan Ohmer  
 Mark Pilkinton  
 Yael Prizant  
 Siiri Scott  
 Gary Sieber  
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 Marcus Stephens  
 Pamela Robertson Wojcik

EMERITI  
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STAFF  
 Geoffrey Carter  
 Lynn Holbrook  
 Jo Ann Norris  
 Stacey Stewart

THE 2013-2014 THEATRE SEASON IS PRESENTED IN MEMORY OF  
 FREDERIC WINKLER SYBURG, 1924-2013.

His 1969 production of *We Bombed in New Haven* garnered praise from its famous author, Joseph Heller. His former colleagues still regard his 1972 staging of *The House of Blue Leaves* as legendary. But it was March 1988's *Amadeus* that sold out all five performances and achieved a rare mark of distinction for campus events — rumors of an activity otherwise known only to football: ticket scalping.

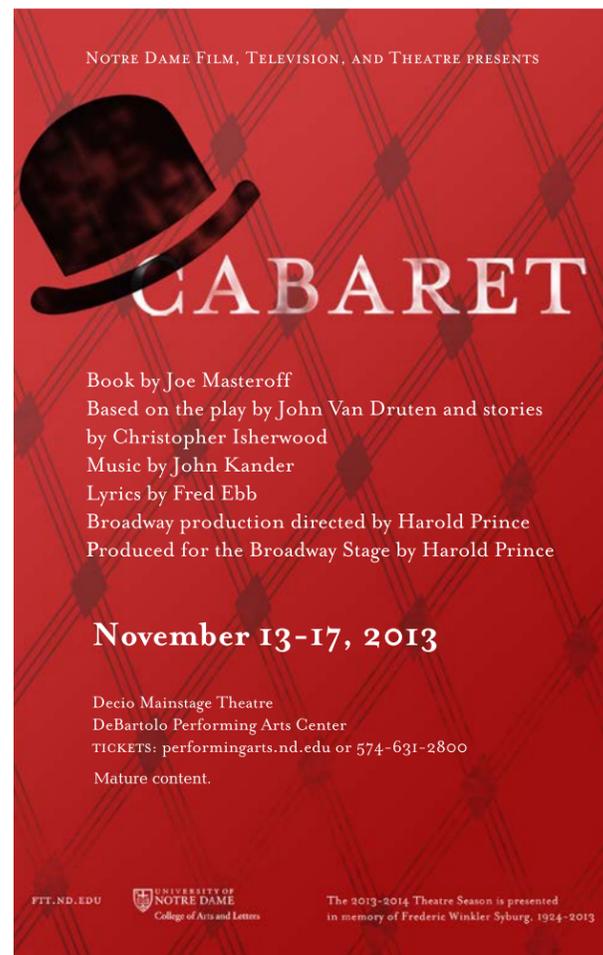
Though he always thought of himself as an actor first, in his 37-year teaching career Frederic Syburg '62M.A. directed 40 shows at Notre Dame. He oversaw 39 while teaching and one more, Moliere's *Tartuffe*, 12 years after his retirement in 1991. His work at Washington Hall began with lighting and set design for Father Art Harvey's *Detective Story* in 1954 and ended with his own unassuming performances on stage, including a turn as God in Professor Mark Pilkinton's version of *Christ's Passion*. "You do theatre, that's the main thing," he once told *Scholastic* magazine.

A native of Milwaukee, where he died February 15 at age 88, Syburg was thoughtful and soft-spoken — "Sobriety itself" in the words of one appreciative student — and "so well-versed in history and literature that he supported brilliantly every artistic decision he ever made," Pilkinton wrote.

Siiri Scott, a Saint Mary's College alumna on the Notre Dame faculty who starred in *The Good Woman of Setzuan*, Syburg's last pre-retirement play, told the *South Bend Tribune* how she aced her master degree's comprehensive exams in dramatic literature by studying her notebook from Syburg's class. Students long valued Syburg for qualities that transcended both classroom and stage. "Silence, somehow, is never embarrassing in his presence," that anonymous admirer wrote in 1969. "He's a lot like my father in that respect."

- Notre Dame Magazine

NOTRE DAME FILM, TELEVISION, AND THEATRE PRESENTS



**CABARET**

Book by Joe Masteroff  
 Based on the play by John Van Druten and stories by Christopher Isherwood  
 Music by John Kander  
 Lyrics by Fred Ebb  
 Broadway production directed by Harold Prince  
 Produced for the Broadway Stage by Harold Prince

**November 13-17, 2013**

Decio Mainstage Theatre  
 DeBartolo Performing Arts Center  
 TICKETS: performingarts.nd.edu or 574-631-2800  
 Mature content.

FTT.ND.EDU UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME College of Arts and Letters The 2013-2014 Theatre Season is presented in memory of Frederic Winkler Syburg, 1924-2013

2013-2014 **BETHEL COLLEGE THEATRE SEASON**

**THE DIARY OF Anne Frank**

BY FRANCES GOODRICH AND ALBERT HACKETT  
 NEWLY ADAPTED BY WENDY KESSELMAN

Oct. 31, Nov. 1\*, 2 and 8 at 7:30 p.m. • Nov. 2 matinee at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$15 adult, \$13 seniors/students  
 Tickets on sale Sept. 30

To escape the horrors of Nazi persecution, Otto Frank hides with his wife and two daughters in the attic rooms above an Amsterdam warehouse. For two years, the Franks, along with the Van Daan family and a dentist named Mr. Dussel, try to live a normal life in their cramped quarters, while always fearing being discovered by the Gestapo. Anne Frank records the story of their trials in her diary, leaving a lasting account of what life was like in war-torn Amsterdam.

\*This performance interpreted for the d/Deaf community

**THE SOUND OF MUSIC**

MUSIC BY RICHARD RODGERS • LYRICS BY OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II BOOK BY HOWARD LINDSAY AND RUSSEL CROUSE SUGGESTED BY "THE TRAPP FAMILY SINGERS" BY MARIA AUGUSTA TRAPP

Feb. 13, 14\* and 15 at 7:30 p.m. • Feb. 15 matinee at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$15 adult, \$13 seniors/students  
 Tickets on sale Jan. 6

Rodger's and Hammerstein's final collaboration brings audiences "The Sound of Music," the classic story of love, family and finding your dream. Set in Austria during World War II, a free-spirited postulant named Maria leaves the monastery to become a governess. As Maria tries to befriend the seven children of widowed Captain Von Trapp, she struggles to find her place on a path she wasn't expecting to take. This musical includes a collection of favorite songs such as "Edelweiss," "Climb Every Mountain" and, of course, "The Sound of Music."

\*This performance interpreted for the d/Deaf community

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY Jesus**

Dec. 5-7\* at 7:30 p.m.  
 Dec. 7 matinee at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$8 adult, \$7 seniors/students  
 Tickets on sale Oct. 28

Our Christmas concert for 2013 is a celebration of Christ's birthday featuring Bethel's Concert Choir, The Collegians, Voices Of Triumph, the Chamber Orchestra and many other faculty members and students. This annual Christmas concert will joyfully reflect the wonder and life-changing gift God sent to us on that holy night, 2000 years ago. What a miracle! What a gift! Jesus Christ is born!

\*This performance interpreted for the d/Deaf community

**AND THEN THERE WERE NONE**

BY AGATHA CHRISTIE

May 30 and 31 at 7:30 p.m. with a matinee at 1:00 p.m. on the 31st  
 Tickets: \$15 adult, \$13 seniors/students  
 Tickets on sale April 21

Ten strangers arrive for a weekend at the mysterious Indian Island, invited by a host they have never met. After a mysterious voice accuses each of them of getting away with murder, one guest falls to the floor, poisoned by cyanide in his drink. The remaining people resolve to find the murderer, but when they can't find anyone else on the island, they realize the killer is one of them. When the murderer is not content with one victim, the number of guests diminishes and the 10 ceramic figurines above the fireplace start to disappear...

**BETHEL COLLEGE INDIANA** SEASON TICKETS available now!  
 \$45 adults, \$40 seniors/students

CALL 574.807.7080 M - F, 1 - 5 P.M. FOR TICKETS OR VISIT [BETHELCOLLEGE.EDU/TICKETS](http://BETHELCOLLEGE.EDU/TICKETS)

Notre Dame Film, Television, and Theatre presents ND Theatre Now!



**ON THE VERGE**

BY ERIC OVERMYER

Thursday, October 3 – Sunday, October 6, 2013  
 Tuesday, October 8 – Sunday, October 13, 2013

Philbin Studio Theatre  
 DeBartolo Performing Arts Center



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