intimate apparel by lynn nottage

Dramaturgy’s Note

Though maps of Manhattan in the early twentieth century seem to show us a city we would recognize today, a closer look reveals that the island was perhaps an entirely different world one hundred years ago. The Manhattan of 1905 was dirty, loud, and overcrowded: the 1900 census reveals the island’s population of 1.85 million (fully 15% higher than in 2010), a striking statistic given that the city had not yet truly begun to build upward. Public transportation, a far cry from the extensive subway network today, consisted of only a handful of slow trains running up and down the island. Horse and buggies were only just starting to be phased out, and the stench of manure swept to the side of the roads constantly lingered in the air. The city’s neighborhoods, clearly discrete realms today, were separated even further by the constant gridlock between them. Fifth Avenue, not a shopping strip but a collection of single-family mansions, was technically adjacent to the seedy Tenderloin red-light district, but the psychological and social space between them was a chasm. This was a city where corrupt policing enabled crime, where the temperance movement was in full swing but whiskey and brandy were considered medicinal, and where women of course had no sexual desires. This was a world with living memory of the Civil War, where in New York, African-American men were required to own property to vote, and where the $1,800 ($47,500 in 2012 dollars) Esther stashed in her quilt put her nearly two-thirds of the way toward fulfilling her dreams.

Charlie O’Leary*

From the Archives

Intimate Apparel (2000) is the first play by Lynn Nottage (born 1964) produced by us and is Kevin Dreyer’s third directorial contribution to FTT seasons. Known most notably as our resident professional lighting designer over the past two decades, Professor Dreyer first directed at Notre Dame his own translation of José Triana’s Night of the Assassins (performed in the Lab Theatre in Washington Hall). More recently in the fall of 2011, he directed Anne García-Romero’s (performed in the Lab Theatre in Washington Hall). Over his long and distinguished career at Notre Dame, he has also taken on duties as scene designer, master electrician, and technical director, while supervising the stage management program. He currently serves as Director of Theatre and Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Department.

Mark C. Pilkinton

Cast

Esther
George Armstrong
Mr. Marks
Mr. Dickson
Mrs. Van Buren
Georgie Armstrong (Saturday 4/20)
Zuri Esuhn*
KeiVarae Russell
Brook Switzer*
Christopher Brandt*
Natalia Cuevas*
Priscilla Nyanjokos
Katherine Dudas*

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

Artistic Staff

Kevin Dreyer
Patrick Fagan
Richard E. Donnelly
Marcus Stephens
C. Kenneth Cole
Lynn Holbrook
Sam Schubert*
Charlie O’Leary*
Brook Switzer*
Siiri Scott
Michael Thompson

Production Staff

Assistant Stage Manager
Light Board Operators
Sound Board Operators
Wardrobe Run Crew
Stage Hands
Kyle Aggarwal
Colleen McCartney*
Quincee Wilson
Bryce Wood
Michael Vaclav
Clarissa Schwab
Mariesel Wilber
Megan Ball

Intimate Apparel is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

Costume Shop Assistants
Karen Gilmore*
Abigail Hebert*
Elizabeth Konicek
Beatrice Park
Sam Schubert*
Elizabeth Sullivan
Brock Switzer*

Scene Shop Assistants
Dasuni Baptist
Alexander Bogunki-Baran
Melissa Flynn*
Guillermo Alonso Fourzán*
Matthew Gervais*
Sam Schubert
Kimberly Springstead*
John Yost

Scenery, Props, and Lighting Crew


We thank you for silencing all electronic devices.

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

*Denotes FTT major

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*Denotes FTT major
Laugh with the comics you grew up with as a child. Based on the strip "Peanuts" by Charles Schulz, "You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown" tells the story of an average day in the life of the famous comic strip hero and his friends. Don’t miss the chance to take a peek into the world of Charlie Brown, his dog Snoopy and the rest of the Peanuts gang for a fast-paced, lighthearted musical sure to entertain audiences of all ages!

**You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown**

by Clark Gesner and John Gordon

May 31*, June 1

at 7:30 p.m.

June 1 Matinee at 1 p.m.

*Tickets on sale April 22

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The Department of Film, Television, and Theatre presents

**intimate apparel**

by Lynn Nottage

April 17–21, 2013

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

Department of Film, Television, and Theatre

Faculty

James Collins, Chair
Ted Barron
Christine Becker
C. Kenneth Cole
Donald Craffon
William Doearuma
Richard E. Donnelly
Kevin Dreyer
Anne Garcia-Romero
Karen Heisler
Peter Holland
Scott Jackson
Anton Juan
Ted Mandell
Olivier Morel
Grant Mudge
Susan Ohmer
Mark Pilkinton
Yael Prizant
Siri Scott
Gary Sieber
Jeffrey Spoonhower
Marcus Stephens
Pamela Robertson Wojcik

Emeriti

Reginald Bain
Jill Godmilow

Staff

Geoffrey Carter
Lynn Holbrook
Jo Ann Norris
Stacey Stewart

Acknowledgments

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Ernestine M. Raclin School of the Arts Theatre Program
Saint Mary’s College Department of Communication Studies, Dance and Theatre
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Kathleen Werner