

Fall '08

THE VISIT

BY FREIDRICH
DÜRRENMATT

gunn studio theatre

gala: nov 13th

6:45 \$20

regular shows:

nov 14th, 15th,

20th, 21st,

22nd

8:00 \$8

matinee:

nov 19th

3:30

\$4



PRESENTED BY THE HENRY M. GUNN,
HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE DEPARTMENT

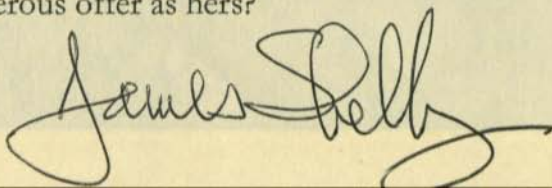
From the director...

Welcome to Goodland, Kansas, 1934, where times are hard, and hope, like the factory jobs, has evaporated. But there is a glimmer of opportunity... Clara Walker, having left Goodland decades before, is finally paying a visit to her hometown. Now she's the fabulous and mysterious Claire Zachanassian who, after a stunning succession of short lived but lucrative marriages, is the wealthiest woman in the world. Goodlandians fervently hope that she has not forgotten her humble beginnings. If only she had...

The satiric, unheroic and bizarre theatre emerging from Europe following World War Two was an artistic response to the moral and intellectual chaos of the times. Swiss playwright Friedrich Dürrenmatt is entirely in this vein with *The Visit*, which he penned in 1956. He writes "In the Punch and Judy show of our century there are no more guilty or responsible men. It is always, 'We couldn't help it' and 'We didn't really want that to happen.' We are all collectively guilty, bogged down in the sins of our fathers and our forefathers..."

Dürrenmatt might just as easily have been writing of our own sub-prime mortgage crisis, the recent decimation of Wall Street, and record unemployment. During rehearsals we talked about Shirley Jackson's brilliant and horrible 1948 short story "The Lottery," in which we see a sweet little New England town blithely following a tradition which implicates all of its citizens. Can an entire group of citizens be guilty? If we all do it, is it really wrong?

In relocating Dürrenmatt's original Guellen "somewhere in central Europe" to Goodland, KS, we've taken "a little trip" straight to America's heartland. Well, gosh darn it, why don't you join us in welcoming "our Clara" back home for her visit. In the face of such unimaginable largesse, who among us could really refuse such a generous offer as hers?

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James Bell". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

The Gunn Theatre Department Presents:

The Visit

by Friedrich Dürrenmatt

Director: Jim Shelby

Technical Director: Jessie Hawkins

Student Director: Annie Fox

Stage Manager: Rivka Kelly

...

There will be two ten minute intermissions.

Please no food, drink, photography, beeping or chirping
devices in the Studio Theatre

*Please turn cell phones off (Silencing won't work!);
When your cell phones are on, their signals interfere with the speakers and
cause a disruption to our sound system. Mike and Max will "take care" of
any patrons failing to observe this simple request. Thanks!*

Buy tickets at www.gunntheatre.org
Video Advertisement by Josh Kelly
Poster by Maribeth Rohman

CAST

Visitors:

Claire Zachanassian (maiden name: Clara Walker)... Maev Lowe

Bobby..... Ella Cooley

Pedro..... Daniel Wallach

Max..... Daniel Brouillet

Mike, Cameraman..... Blake Vesey

Lobby (*First Blind Man*)..... Ben Bowmer

Kobby (*Second Blind Man*) Catherine Volpe

The Schills:

Thomas Schill..... Austin Lewis

Mathilda Schill (*Wife*)..... Leilani Graham

Karl Schill (*Son*)..... Holt Bowmer

Olive Schill (*Daughter*)..... Lauren Hart

The Town:

Gretchen Crawford (*Mayor*)..... Chloe Fuller

Muriel Anderson (*Teacher*)..... Shalini Bathina

Albert Hodge (*Sheriff*) Matt Mallory

Lucas Leedy (*Pastor*)..... Franzesca Mayer

George Avery (*Doctor*)Michelle Lalonde

Art Capper (*Painter*)..... Nick Ziebell

Mark Hackney (*First Man*)..... Josh Kelly

Christopher Gate (*Second Man*)..... Angela Marcinik

Timothy Willard (*Third Man*)..... Sarah Alcabes

Charlie Thompson (*Fourth Man*)..... Ben Gardiner

Mabel Parker (*First Woman*)..... Shaina Davis

Kathy Redford (*Second Woman*) Sophia Christel

Athlete, Truck Driver Galen Poulton

Station Master, Townsperson Heather Wood

Conductor, Radio Reporter, Townsperson Lee Friedman

Townspeople, Reporters, Various Ensemble Members:

Townsperson, Reporter..... Ben Bendor

Townsperson, Mayor's Husband..... Kyle Lian

Mayor's Grandchildren:

Tiffany Chen, Kayla Neumeyer

Choristers:

Sneha Bathina, Liane Chabansky, Tiffany Chen,
Kayla Neumeyer, Emily Simon, Alice Walton

Choral music composed by Lauren Hart and Emily Simon

CREW

Assistant Stage Managers

Kanika Khanna, Karen Reitman

House Managers

Eve Kelly, Rahul Kerur

Construction

Master Carpenter: Rahul Kerur

Crew: Valentin Bonnet, Daniel Brouillet, Tomas Diaz, Torrie Hood, Oren Kreps, Matt Mallory, Noa Miller, Galen Poulton, Cameron Rost

Costumes

Head: Sonya Raymakers

Crew: Shany Albalak, Sarah Alcabes, Morgan Beggs, Shaina Davis, Angela Marcinik, Franzesca Mayer, Ronit Roodman, Emily Simon

Hair and Makeup

Head: Reade Levinson

Advisor: Sonya Raymakers

Crew: Bayley Azevedo, Laura Grumbrecht, Megan Zhang

Lights

Head: Jeremy Brouillet

Crew: Max Bazan, Eve Kelly, Michelle Lalonde, Karen Reitman, Lukas Schleuniger

Paint

Head: Noa Miller

Crew: Grace Choi, Chloe Fuller, Sarah Powell, Catherine Volpe

Props

Head: Kanika Khanna

Crew: Alec Bite, Daniel Brouillet, Eve Kelly, Leonard Woo,
Megan Zhang

Publicity

Head: Meghna Dholakia

Sound

Head: Axel Suvani

Special Thanks to...

Amy and Lee Christel

Lisa and Bill Kelly

Tim Farrell

Lea Bowmer

Carol Brouillet

Peet's Coffee

Don Anderson

Mae Matos at Hillbarn Theatre

Selix Formalwear

Dean Bunderson, Spangenberg Theatre

The Oracle

Scott Bonneville

A-1 Party Supply

...and all the wonderful Gunn Theatre Boosters!

Coming Soon...

The Mystery of Edwin Drood

Gunn's Spring Musical

March 12-21 in Spangenberg Theatre!

Student-Directed One Acts

May 14-23 in the Studio Theatre

Psst... Are ya comfortable?

How's your seat? Is the back broken? Any sharp edges?
Are you OK sitting in this seat all through the show?
Does the seat feel like it's about to slide off its base?

Help the Gunn Theatre Boosters beautifully repair,
refurbish and restore all the seats in this theatre, and
name a seat for a family member or student with a
beautiful commemorative plaque permanently attached to
the new maple armrest...

But wait...there's still time!

A few seats are still unclaimed for naming rights...

For further information, interesting stories, hair-raising
pictures, online donation instructions and more, look for
the picture in front of the theatre tonight, and visit:

www.gunntheatre.org