

COMING SOON...

OPEN SPACE-A STUDENT CONCERT 3/2-4

THE BURIAL AT THEBES - A VERSION OF SOPHOCHLES' ANTIGONE By Seamus Heaney
3/15-18, 3/20-23

VANGUARD VARIATIONS A diverse evening of performance explorations
by the 2012 class of BFA students
3/16-3/18

HEAVEN Rennie Harris World Premiere
4/19-4/22
A hip hop take on Stravinsky's "Rite of Spring"

FRINGE FESTIVAL 4/27-4/29
Produced by CU Onstage
<http://cuonstage.edublogs.org>

DANCE SHOWCASE
4/27 & 4/28

The Theatre & Dance department is deeply grateful for support from these individuals who help make our season of courses, workshops & performances possible:

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Shannon Shadbolt
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Melancholy Play

A Contemporary Farce
by Sarah Ruhl

ARTISTIC TEAM

Director HEIDI SCHMIDT
Assistant Director DANIEL LEONARD
Lighting Designer MICHAEL BATEMAN
Costume Designer AMANDA CLARK
Projection Designers LENA ZIMMERMAN
MICHAEL BATEMAN
KELLY McDERMOTT
Music Director MATHIEU D'ORDINE
Fight Choreographer DANIEL LEONARD

PRODUCTION TEAM

Stage Manager MEGAN CHANEY
Scenic Construction KELLY McDERMOTT
Light Board Operator SAWYER HAMILTON
Deck Hand KEVIN MCKECHNEY

UNIVERSITY THEATRE, LOFT

February 29-March 3 @ 7:30 pm
March 3 & 4 Matinee @ 2:00pm
March 4 @ 6:30 pm

DAILY
CAMERA



University of Colorado **Boulder**

THEATRE
&
DANCE

Director's Note

The first time I read this play, I fell in love immediately. I laughed out loud over and over again. This was awkward, as I was sitting by myself in a coffee shop at the time. There was something about the play that I found so unexpected, and I delighted in the ways playwright Sarah Ruhl could surprise me with what comes next – what new, fantastical leap she would ask me to make with her. I loved it on the page, but I desperately wanted to see and hear actors bring it to life.

Sarah Ruhl is famous for creating whimsical worlds in which anything can happen, and often does. *New York Times* critic Charles Isherwood called her plays “weird and wonderful.” Her plays are extravagantly theatrical. In *Eurydice*, a father builds his daughter a room out of string. This takes time, and it is oddly mesmerizing to watch.

In *The Clean House*, a woman tells a lengthy joke entirely in Portuguese. It’s never translated, but still manages to be funny.

In *Melancholy Play*, an emotional experience can conjure a cello, falling in love can be exultant or excruciating, and can happen in an instant.

People are compared to almonds, and that’s just the beginning. Anything can happen, and the logic that we think governs our lives in the real world generally doesn’t apply. Ruhl is not interested in duplicating our world, but in creating a parallel world that opens up a door (or a window) to a different way of seeing and experiencing our world. She takes the familiar, and makes it outrageous, silly, and sometimes transcendent. Ruhl once told her mentor, Pulitzer Prize winning playwright Paula Vogel, that she’s not interested in clarity and being able to explain everything – she’s far more attracted to moments that are “beautiful, but you didn’t know why.”

My appreciation for the play has evolved since those first few coffee shop readings. In the process of bringing it to life, there are moments of sadness and fragility that breathe life into the delightfully ridiculous moments within the play.

The absurdity makes me laugh, but the emotional truth underneath it makes me care.

I hope you feel the same.

Setting

Place: ILLINOIS

Time: PRESENT MOMENT



Cast

Tilly RYA SERENE DYES

Frank DAVID BURRIS-DEBOSKEY

Frances SARAH JOY ADLER

Lorenzo BRENDAN MILOVE

Joan STACEY COOPER RYAN

Julian MATHIEU D'ORDINE



Special Thanks To:

OLIVER GERLAND, TAMMY MENEGHINI, CHIP PERSONS,
ANDRYN ARITHSON, CONNIE LANE, JOVANNA AVILA

AND

THE BUFF BIKE STATION

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Scene Shop Foreman	STEPHEN BALGOOYEN
Costume Shop Foreman	BRENDA KING
Costume Storage/Rental Manager	SARA HILDEBRAND
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