Fall 11-5-2009

Blithe Spirit

Department of Theatre, Florida International University

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Blithe Spirit

By Noel Coward

Directed by Michael Yawney

09-10 season

NOVEMBER 05-08; 2009 and NOVEMBER 12-15, 2009
THU-SAT Performances at 8PM, SUN Performances at 2PM

Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center
10910 SW 117 Street, Miami, FL 33199
DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Who would expect a delightful comedy to come out of one of the darkest chapters in modern history?

That is the background behind Noel Coward's classic *Blithe Spirit*. Usually it is described as a light comedy, but the play was written in Britain during World War 2. Furthermore, the play is set in Kent—the county hardest hit by German bombers.

So what kind of comedy is this? It is one that laughs at death and sees destruction as a natural result of romantic love.

The program for the original production had the following note: *If an air raid warning be received during the performance the audience will be informed from the stage . . . those desiring to leave the theatre may do so but the performance will continue.*

And that is the play in a nutshell. The bombs may fall, but you can keep on laughing if you want to.

Michael Yawney
Director
“BLITHE SPIRIT” IS AN ASSOCIATE ENTRY IN THE KENNEDY CENTER AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATER FESTIVAL

THE KENNEDY CENTER AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATER FESTIVAL™ 2010

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The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

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The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KCACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KCACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C. in the spring of 2010.

KCACTF involves more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theatre department is sharing the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.
Dear Friend of FIU Theatre:

Thank you for attending this performance. Your decision to support the students and faculty in FIU Theatre is greatly appreciated.

We are dedicated to increasing resources available to students and faculty for the purpose of participating in creative and scholarly projects, enhancing student scholarship support, and improving and expanding facilities. To realize these goals, I am reaching out to you as Dean and requesting your support for FIU Theatre by contributing to one of the following three funds: Educational Excellence, Student Scholarships, and Naming Opportunities.

Once again, thank you for joining us and for considering my request. If you would like to learn more about FIU Theatre in the College of Architecture + The Arts, please contact me at (305) 348-3176, schriner@fiu.edu, or visit our website at carta.fiu.edu.

I am very grateful for your continued support, and I look forward to meeting and speaking with you.

Brian Schriner
Interim Dean
College of Architecture + The Arts

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