

Summer 8-31-2000

# Betrayal

Department of Theatre, Florida International University

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# FIU THEATRE

Presents An All-Faculty Production of



Written by Harold Pinter

Aug. 24 - 27  
NEW THEATRE  
Coral Gables

# BETRAYAL

Aug. 31 - Sept. 3  
STUDIO THEATRE  
FIU - University Park

DESIGNED BY: A SIMPLE CONCEPT, INC. 305.559.9046

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES:

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One test of whether a play is worthy of the acclaim it has received is to rehearse it every day for a month and see whether it becomes boring and uninspired in the course of this intense scrutiny and repetition or sustains its initial promise and, if one is lucky, turns out to be even better than it first appeared to be. The latter is truly the case with Harold Pinter's *Betrayal*. The dialogue, pace and complex rhythms are all classic Pinter, yet the play is like no other he has written.

Part of the fascination with this play stems from the jolt of recognition in anyone who has ever loved and/or been betrayed in love. In this respect the play is very personal and very powerful. But the manner in which Pinter exposes the betrayals in this love triangle is what raises this play above the standard tale of illicit love. Starting at a point long after the affair between a woman and her husband's best friend has ended, the play tracks generally backward through time, ending with the moment when the affair first began.

Far from being merely a plot gimmick, this reverse sequence allows the playwright to highlight all kinds of ironies. It also creates an imbalance of knowledge that continually catches the individual members of the triangle off guard. These are things that could not have been achieved had Pinter stuck to a standard chronology. The dramatic tension this creates is palpable and, at certain moments, makes the very air crackle as if lightning were about to strike. Coexisting with this trembling tension is a poignancy that could make one weep.

Every scene reveals a new betrayal, sometimes more than one. Mixed in with these devastations are haunting memories of happier times, avowals of friendship and emotional desires and needs. Every happy moment is tinged with the damage that has been done. What we are left with is a vision of how all too human these three people are, how like them we are.

Marilyn Skow  
Director

## ABOUT THE PLAY

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*Betrayal* received its premiere in 1978 at the Lyttelton Theatre in London. It did not get good reviews. In fact, the critics generally ridiculed it and many thought the reverse time progression of the plot little more than theatrical trickery. Despite its inauspicious beginning *Betrayal* went on to become an international hit.

Twenty-two years after it was written it still seems fresh and modern and is considered by many to be one of the twentieth century's finest plays. It has been performed in many languages all over the world, and can be found in the current repertoires of such disparate places as Israel, Australia, and Switzerland. The play received a revival, updated by Pinter himself and directed by Trevor Nunn, on the occasion of its twentieth anniversary in 1998, again at the Lyttelton Theatre, but this time to mostly enthusiastic reviews. The criticisms of this production were directed at the set design and some of the acting, but the praise for Pinter's script was unanimous.

## ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

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Harold Pinter was born in London in 1930. He wrote his first three plays, *The Room*, *The Dumb Waiter*, and *The Birthday Party* in 1957. His first great success as a playwright came with his play *The Caretaker*, written in 1960. He followed this up with *The Homecoming* in 1964, *Old Times* in 1970, and *No Man's Land* in 1974. During the 1960's Pinter also took up screenplay writing, his earliest ones most notably including "The Servant" and "The Pumpkin Eater". In addition to his play and screenplay writing Mr. Pinter is also a published poet and novelist.

Pinter started his career in the theatre as an actor and occasionally returns to the stage as such. His most recent performance was in 1998, playing the role of Sir Thomas in a film adaptation of Jane Austen's "Mansfield Park."

Harold Pinter became the most successful of a new wave of playwrights that started contributing to British theatre in the 1950's and '60's. Along with Tom Stoppard, he is now recognized as one of the best living playwrights in England today.

# BETRAYAL

Directed by  
Marilyn Skow

## CAST

Jerry.....Wayne E. Robinson, Jr.  
Emma.....Lesley-Ann Timlick  
Robert.....Philip M. Church  
Waiter.....Stephen Neal

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Set and Light Design.....Douglas Molash  
Sound Design.....Ozzie Quintana  
Costume Coordination.....Marilyn R. Skow  
Stage Manager.....Lucia McArthur  
Sound Board Operator.....Claudia Latorre  
Wardrobe Mistress.....Lesley Sorzano  
House Manager.....Olga Christolodau  
Props and Set Running Crew.....Yvonne Perez, Brian Tyler, Megan Teske,  
Lesley Hosaing, Jodi Webster

**Phillip M. Church** (Robert) Phillip Church is primarily recognized as a director and teacher in the local community yet he began his career as an actor, at the Palace Court Theatre, Bournemouth, England. He went on to study at the London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art, after which time he worked with many distinguished actors amongst them Constance Cummings, Paul Massey, Barbara Jefford and Robert Morley. His roles have included Dysart in *Equus*, Morrell in *Candida*, Harry in *Relatively Speaking*, for which he was voted Best Actor by the Associated Writers & Critics for Southern California in 1981. He is presently working on establishing an exchange program between the FIU Department of Theatre and the Southampton Institute and Southampton University. He also will be establishing the High School Shakespeare Festival 2002, which will send the winning troupe for a week to England. He is also producing a unique series of Shakespeare plays in conjunction with WLRN Channel 17, *Shakespeare on 17* which will be aired to encourage pupils and parents to watch together. These are only three of many other reasons why Mr. Church decided a long time ago to forsake acting as a serious preoccupation!

**Wayne E. Robinson, Jr.** (Jerry) is an Associate Professor at Florida International University. He is a graduate of Northwestern University and the National Theatre Conservatory; and studied with the American Conservatory Theatre. At New Theatre he has appeared in *Never the Sinner* and the House of Seven Gables. At FIU, he has directed *Eleemosynary*, *The Rose Tattoo*, *All in the Timing*, *Talking With....*, *5<sup>th</sup> of July*, the *House of Blue Leaves*, and the musical *Company*. Wayne's theatre career, which includes acting or directing in more than 50 productions, has taken him to Chicago, Boulder, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and now Miami. Locally, professional projects include directing *Line* and *All in the Timing*, and acting in *Tally's Folly* and *King Lear*. This Fall, Wayne will direct the musical *Gypsy* for FIU Theatre.

**Marilyn R. Skow** (Director) Marilyn has worked in all areas of theatre, but her main focus has been in theatre education and, professionally, in costume design. She received her

undergraduate degree in theatre and English at University of Northern Iowa. After teaching in Illinois for a few years, she traveled to Berlin, Germany where she studied for her Masters degree in theatre arts and completed an apprenticeship in scene painting. Upon her return to the U.S. she worked as a professional designer and became the resident designer at Vassar College. She returned to further graduate studies in the selective scholar/artist program at Columbia University in New York, where she also worked professionally as a designer and a stage manager. Since joining the FIU faculty in 1982, she has devoted much of her time to helping to develop the growing theatre program. In addition to designing 3-4 productions at FIU a year, she has designed for Momentum Dance Company and Florida Shakespeare Festival. After having used *Betrayal* for years in her dramatic literature class, she is pleased to have the opportunity to direct one of her favorite plays.

**Lesley-Ann Timlick** (Emma) Associate Professor teaches acting, voice and movement. She has an M.F.A. in Acting from the University of California at Davis, did post-graduate study in theatre voice coaching at the National Theatre Conservatory and is a certified Feldenkrais Practitioner. She has studied with top voice specialists such as Patsy Rodenburg, Arthur Lessac, Cecely Berry, Kristen Linklater, Andrew Wade and Katherine Fitzmaurice. She has presented workshops on her unique approach to physical and vocal training at regional and national conferences. She has worked professionally as an actor and vocal coach in both the U.S. and Canada. She has coached for such companies as Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Florida Shakespeare Theatre, Denver Center Theatre Company and the American Repertory Theatre. Favorite roles include the Countess in *The Women*, Jackie in *Hot-L Baltimore*, and Miss Fellows in *Night of the Iguana*. Lesley-Ann performed the role of Emma as an undergraduate student many years ago. She is thrilled to have the opportunity to reprise the role with more age and experience.

**Douglas Molash** (Set Designer) is an assistant professor of design and Head of the Design Program at Florida International University. He has studied Theatrical Design at the graduate level at Northwestern University and holds a MFA degree in Design from Mankato State University. Before coming to South Florida, Doug taught and designed at Amherst College, Mt Holyoke College, Mankato State University and Milikin University. He has designed professionally in Minnesota, Massachusetts, Massachusetts, Illinois and most recently in the Miami area where he designed lights and sets for the New Theatre productions of *Miss Julie* and *One Flea Spare*, and the premier of Richard Janaro's adaptation of *The House of Seven Gables*. He also designed the setting for the el Circulo Multicultural Stage's production of Jose Triana's *La Noche de los Asesinos*. Doug is a member of the United Scenic Artists Local 829 and is active in the USITT on both regional and national levels where he is the National Coordinator for the Student Portfolio Review Program.

**Stephen Neal** (Waiter) teaches acting and Theatre Appreciation at FIU's Biscayne Bay Campus. He earned his MFA in Directing at Florida State and a BA in Theatre from L.S. University. He has directed over a hundred productions including *Oklahoma!*, *Arms and the Man* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. His acting credits include the Stage Manager in *Our Town* (directed by Joe Adler), Charlie in *The Foreigner* and a variety of roles in a reading of *The Shadow of a Sparrow* that was recently staged by colleague Phillip Church. Steve recently celebrated 20 years of marriage with his wife Mary Ann. They have two children Hali, age 12 and Zachary age 9.

## SPOTLIGHT PROFILE

### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Former FIU Student Andy Senor Stars in Broadway's *Rent*

Andy Senor, a Miami native, is currently starring in the role of Angel in the internationally recognized award winning Broadway smash musical *Rent*. Andy received his pre-Broadway training from the Department of Theatre and Dance at FIU where he can be remembered for his outstanding performances in *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *The Rose Tattoo* and *She Stoops to Conquer*. Previously Andy was working with the national touring company of "Rent" as well as productions in London and Los Angeles.

"We are very excited that Broadway is now recognizing this new, young talent," commented Dr. Leroy Clark Department Chairman. "Not only do we see this as a confirmation of the strengths of our training programs but also of the high quality of the talents of the students who have chosen to study with us," continued Dr. Clark. "It's very gratifying that the nation will now have an opportunity to experience the talents of this Cuban-American native of Miami."

*Rent* is a bohemian rock opera based on the life and death of its creator, Jonathon Larson. The story follows the tribulations of several young adults living rent-free in New York City apartment. Since it's Broadway opening on April 26, 1996 the show has played to sold-out houses and rave reviews. Senor is delighted that he is able to be part of this long running tradition and has signed a one-year contract with the Broadway company.

## FIU THEATRE NEWS

FIU Theatre will be holding Open-Auditions for its fall productions of *Gypsy* and the *Cripple of Inishmaan*. All Actors are welcomed to audition. Prepare a 1-2 minute contemporary monologue and 16 bars of a Broadway show-tune. Bring your own sheet music and an accompanist will be provided. August 28 & 29, 2000. Call to schedule an appointment: (305) 348-3789.

We are pleased to welcome Abel Cornejo, a new faculty member, who will serve as our new Business and Marketing Director. Congratulations to Phillip Church named Best Director and the entire company of *Marat/Sade* name Best Dramatic Production by Miami newspaper *Sunpost*. Claire Tyler was featured in *Arms and the Man* and critically-acclaimed *Popcorn* at GableStage. Wayne Robinson and Robert Maxwell performed in *Never the Sinner* at New Theatre. Doug Molash, Marina Paraja and Israel Garcia received excellent reviews for *The House of Seven Gables*. And kudos to Lucia McArthur and Claudia Latorre for their work this summer at New Theatre

## Department of Theatre and Dance

The Theatre program offers two degrees: a Bachelor of Arts (BA) and a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA). The program is ideal in size, large enough to be able to offer a wide range of courses taught by varied, well-qualified faculty and to support an active production program, yet small enough that every student receives personal attention.

The Theatre and Dance Department has an active production program. We currently present four Main Stage and two Second Stage productions a year. Plus one Main Dance Presentation consisting of choreography by FIU Dance Faculty and several guests. In addition to the Department productions there are student produced shows presented by the Showcase Players.

The Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center is home to both the Department of Music and the Department of Theatre and Dance it includes a beautiful 250-seat proscenium theatre, a large black box Studio Theatre, a costume shop, a scene shop, 2 dressing rooms and a green room.

Now forming and seeking interested individuals to help organize Friends of FIU Theatre. This is an excellent opportunity to help us enhance the programs and facilities at FIU. Some of the goals include acquiring new furniture for the Green Room, framing posters from previous productions, putting on fund-raising events and generating community involvement.

If you are interested in learning more about the program or becoming a friend of FIU Theatre, please call or write for more information.

Florida International University  
Department of Theatre and Dance Wertheim Performing Arts Center  
University Park Campus, PAC 131  
Miami, FL 33199  
Phone (305) 348-2895 Fax (305) 348-1803  
Theatre Box Office: (305) 348-3789

Department of Theatre and Dance  
Takes great pleasure in  
announcing our 2000-2001 Season

**BETRAYAL**

By Harold Pinter  
Directed by Marilyn Skow  
August 31-September 3  
Studio Theatre

**GYPSY**  
The Musical

Book by Arthur Laurents, Music by Julie Styne, Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim  
Directed by Wayne E. Robinson, Jr.  
October 12-15 & 19-22  
Main Stage Theatre

**PTERODACTYLS**

By Nicky Silver  
October 26-29 DM150 (Second Stage Production)

***The Cripple of Inishmaan***

By Martin MacDonagh  
Directed by Therald Todd  
November 9-12 & 16-19

***Dinner with Dorang***

January 25-28 DM150 (Second Stage Production)

**THE TEMPEST**

By William Shakespeare  
Directed by Phillip Church  
February 8-11 & 15-18  
Main Stage Theatre

**Dance 2001**

March 1-4 & 8-11  
Main Stage Theatre

***Shakespeare's Journey***

By Leroy Watson Clark  
Directed by Leroy Watson Clark  
April 5-8 & 12-15  
Studio Theatre