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The Hot L Baltimore

Department of Theatre, Florida International University

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FIU THEATRE PRESENTS
THE HOT L BALTIMORE
by Lanford Wilson
Directed by Wayne E. Robinson Jr.

Wertheim Performing Arts Center
Studio Theatre
March 3-6 &10-13, 2003

11200 SW 8th Street
Miami, Florida
FROM THE DIRECTOR

"A certain amount of skepticism is necessary to survive in today’s environment. You don’t want to be taking everything at face value. But for that questioning to be worth something it has to be connected to an element of energy and creative thought—that’s the thing that’s gonna have some impact. So that’s my approach: try to be wise about the way the world works. But at the same time, you need to find some way to turn those insights about what’s real and what’s true into some creative process, creative action.

That’s what we try to pass on to our audience so they don’t feel powerless. Tommy Morello, the guitarist from Rage Against the Machine, said in an interview that history is made in people’s kitchens, in living rooms, at night; it’s made by people talking and thinking things through. That, I think is true: You should throw your two cents in as best you can.

I’m always fighting against that feeling of helplessness. I can be overwhelmed by ambivalence, by the despair of the day. But that’s what people use music and film and art for; that’s its purpose. Its purpose is to pull you up out of that despair, to shine a light on new possibilities. And I think if you look at it pretty hard-eyed, it helps. That’s where the living is, that’s where life is. Regardless of what’s going on externally, those are the powers that you find within yourself to keep going and change things. To try to make some place for yourself in the in the world."

Bruce Springsteen, 2003

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Lanford Wilson was born on April 13, 1937 in Lebanon, Missouri. He started his career as a writer when he enrolled at the University of Chicago in 1959. When he graduated he moved to New York where he got involved with artists from Café Cino. This was a small coffee house off-Broadway that presented avant-garde works. Wilson’s talents were not only playwriting, although this is what he is known best for, but also acting, designing, and directing.

Shortly after producing his first play, So Long at the Fair at the Café Cino in 1963 he co-founded Circle Repertory Company. The first success for the company was Wilson’s The Hot L Baltimore in 1973, which was directed by Marshall Mason. The play ran for 1,000 performances and eventually made it to Broadway. The collaboration of both Wilson and Mason brought them great successes: The Mound Builders (1975), Serenading Louie (1970), and Talley’s Folly (1979).

In the fall of 1975, “The Hot L Baltimore” served as the basis of a television series of the same name on ABC-TV. It was produced by Norman Lear and featured James Cromwell and Gloria LeRoy. Sadly the show was cancelled after a run of four months.

Mr. Wilson’s power of dramatic observation, craftsmanship in creating dramatic dialogue and atmospheric scenes, his exploration of important themes about current malaise, and his sympathetic portrayal of marginal and eccentric characters are but a few qualities which have help to define him as a treasured American playwright. He has translated plays, including The Three Sisters and Ghosts, written the teleplays "Taxi!" and "The Migrants" and wrote the libretto for Lee Hoibe's opera of Summer and Smoke.

Wilson’s awards include the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, the New York Drama Critics Circle Award, the Vernon Rice Award, the Outer Circle Award, two Obbie’s, and Best Play Award from the American Theater Critics Association, along many others. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild Council and has made his home in Sag Harbor since 1970.
THE HOT L BALTIMORE
WRITTEN BY LANFORD WILSON
DIRECTED BY WAYNE E. ROBINSON, Jr.
SCENOGRAFY DESIGNED BY CRAIG A YOUNG
TECHNICAL DIRECTION BY DAVID WHITLOCK
COSTUMES DESIGNED BY HEATHER RAE MILLER

THE PEOPLE
MR. KATZ ................................................. Michael Anthony
MRS. OXENHAM ............................................ Julia LaVault
BILL ....................................................... Kristian Cardenas
PAUL GRANGER III ..................................... Yecid Benavides
MRS. BELLOTI .................................... Irma Claudette Reyes

THE RESIDENTS
MR. MORSE ....................................................... Zee Garcia
MILLIE ......................................................... Sarah Brohee
THE GIRL.............................................. Nicole Morales-Gomez
APRIL GREEN........................................... Alissa Rodriguez
SUZY ........................................................... Minette Perez
JACKIE.................................................... Sally Dane
JAMIE ...................................................... Daniel D. Gutierrez
CAB DRIVER ................................................. Carolyn Zeller
DELIVERY PERSON ................................. Jennifer Rumberger
SUZY'S JOHN ............................................ Alex Dominguez

SETTING
A recent Memorial Day in the lobby of the Hotel Baltimore

THERE WILL BE ONE INTERMISSION

"The Hot L Baltimore" is produced by special arrangement with Dramatist Play Service, Inc.

PRODUCTION STAFF
STAGE MANAGER ........................................ Michelle Catin
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER ......................... Jonathan Gonzalez
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER ......................... Nadya Vera
VOCAL COACH ........................................... Lesley-An Timlick
ASST. VOCAL COACH ................................. Katie Perry
MAKE UP ARTIST ....................................... Kea McElfresh
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR ............................. Elizabeth Ferrer
SOUND RECORDING ................................... Yecid Benavides
SOUND BOARD OPERATOR ............................. Lauren Hardie
PROPS MASTER ........................................ Amanda Smith, Natalia Romero
PROPS RUN ............................................. Jonathan Gonzalez
MASTER ELECTRICIAN ................................. Fletcher McCune
RUNNING CREW ......................................... Christina Pla, Amber Wilson
LIGHTING CREW ........................................ Ilena Alvarez, Elizabeth Ferrer, Ian Lausell
SET CREW .............................................. Nicolas DeLeon-Bellco, Jeannette Taylor
COSTUME CONSTRUCTION ......................... Sarah Brohee, Robert Friedman
COSTUME HEAD CREW ................................. Wally Suarez
COSTUME RUN CREW ................................ Maria Areiza, Jessica Mendez
HOUSE MANAGER ...................................... Natasha Malakoff, Cristina Suarez
USHERS ............................................... Heather Brummer, Lisa La Grande, Susan Murray
PUBLICITY ............................................. Meshaun Arnold
POSTER DESIGN ......................................... Daniel Suarez

ADMINISTRATION
DEPARTMENT CHAIR ..................................... Leroy Clark
BUSINESS MANAGER ................................... Abel Cornejo
SENIOR SECRETARY .................................. Marianna Murray
SECRETARY ............................................. Nathalie Brenner
OFFICE ASSISTANT ..................................... Floribeth Arrautt
**FIU Theatre Faculty**

**Leroy Clark** (Directing/Playwriting/Theatre History) Professor and Director of Theatre, Chair of the Department of Theatre, Dance and Speech, earned the BA degree from the University of Maine, the MFA from the University of Oklahoma, and the PhD from Kent State University.

**Therald F. Todd** (Directing, Script Analysis) Holds a Ph.D. from the University of Oregon and a BFA from the University of Utah.

**Phillip M. Church** (Acting) M.F.A. from the University of California at Irvine and a graduate of the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art.

**Marilyn Skow** (Costume Design/History) received her B.A. from the University of Northern Iowa, her Masters from Schiller College in Berlin, Germany, and her M.Ph. from Columbia University.

**Lesley-Ann Timlick** (Acting, Voice, and Movement) earned her M.F.A. in Acting from the University of California Davis, and completed her post-graduate study in Theatre Voice Coaching at the National Theatre Conservatory and is a certified Feldenkrais Practitioner.

**Wayne E. Robinson, Jr.** (Acting and Theatre Movement) is a graduate of Northwestern University and the National Theatre Conservatory (MFA) and has studied with the American Conservatory Theatre.

**Craig Young** (Design Program) studied Lighting Design and Scenography at Virginia Tech University (MFA) and has previously taught at the University of Buffalo.

**Abel Cornejo** (Management) received his MFA in Performing Arts Management from Brooklyn College under the direction of Stephen Langley author of *Theatre Management and Production in America*.

**Rafael de Oliveira** (Adjunct, Acting, Voice, Movement) is a graduate of FIU Theatre and received his MFA from Rutgers University.

**Stephen S. Neal** (Adjunct, Acting and Theatre Appreciation) is a graduate of Florida State University with a Master of Fine Arts emphasis in Directing.

**Israel Garcia** (Adjunct, Acting) received his MFA in Acting from Florida Atlantic University.

**Florida International University**

Department of Theatre and Dance Wertheim Performing Arts Center
University Park Campus, PAC 131
Miami, Fl 33199 (305) 348-2895

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 Mainstage 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 Dramatic Paws.

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.
Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival XXXIII
Presented and Produced by
the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
Supported in Part by
The Kennedy Center Corporate Fund,
The US Department of Education,
Delta Airlines, and
The National Committee for the Performing Arts

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KC/ACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KC/ACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in KC/ACTF programs involving awards, scholarships, and special grants for actors, playwrights, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KC/ACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KC/ACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC in the spring of 2001.

Last year more than 900 productions and 18,000 students participated in the American College Theater Festival nationwide. By entering this production, our department is sharing in the KC/ACTF goals to help college theater grow and to focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

Stay tuned for our up-coming
2003-2004 Season Announcement
Visit our website at www.fiu.edu/~thedan