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The Underpants

Department of Theatre, Florida International University

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FIU THEATRE presents

The Underpants
by Carl Sternheim

Never underestimate...
...the power of a glimpse!!

ADAPTED BY STEVE MARTIN

Directed by Stephen Neal
Asst. Direction by Denisse Schwartz

April 3-6, 2008
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY, UNIVERSITY PARK
WERTHEIM PERFORMING ARTS CENTER BLACK BOX THEATRE
SW 107th Avenue and the 16th Street Entrance
Miami, FL

April 10-13, 2008
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY, BISCAYNE BAY
MARY ANN WOLFE THEATRE
US1 and NE 151st Street Entrance
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COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE + THE ARTS
School of Theatre, Dance and Speech Communication
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DIRECTOR’S NOTES

Change can be terrifying or exhilarating, depending on your point of view. Just look at how the world has changed in the last hundred years. The first decade in the twentieth century was marked by the jockeying for world domination by the imperial powers of the time. Life in the Edwardian Era was serene on the surface, especially for members of the upper classes. Their daily lives were filled with the pursuit of personal pleasure, and the conspicuous consumption of the earth’s resources. But underneath, the social fabric of the world was beginning to feel the strain of a seething political rage and collective unrest that would eventually explode into a worldwide war with far reaching and devastating consequences. In contrast, the first decade of the 21st... All right, maybe that was a bad example. So let’s look at a few things that have changed over the years. For example, women’s underwear: in 1910, the year in which our play takes place, underwear was something private. Quaint as it may seem to a modern audience, it was actually worn under the clothing the public was allowed to view. For many people this practice inspired a good deal of creative activity in the imagination department. It can be argued that a Victoria’s Secret Catalogue inspires a similar degree of activity, but imagination would seem to be a much less important part of the equation. Another relevant change that was beginning to make a difference in 1910 was the emergence of women into full citizenship. Though some men are still as resistant to this change as Theo is [especially in Miami], we have come a long way in a hundred years. In his play THE UNDERPANTS, Carl Sternheim satirized the resistance to change in the working class families of Düsseldorf. In his adaptation of the play, Steve Martin reminds us that change can also be a lot of fun!

-Stephen Neal

WHO’ S WHO

Steve Martin (Adaptation): This actor, producer, comedian, composer, writer, musician, and playwright is a recipient of the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor and has been bestowed many accolades for his numerous and varied contributions to the entertainment industry. As a playwright, Martin created Picasso at The Lapin Agile and did an adaptation of Carl Sternheim’s The Underpants. On almost any day you can find Steve Martin mentioned somewhere in the world’s press either for his own activities or for his place as an icon in popular culture. Steve is known with affection world wide for his movies, his comedy, and his catch phrases. -Compleatsteve.com

Carl Sternheim (Playwright) was a German playwright and short story writer who lived from 1878-1942. One of the major exponents of German Expressionism, he especially satirized the moral sensibilities of the emerging German middle class during the Wilhelmine period. In addition to The Underpants, his works include: The Snob, The Fossil, The Cartridge and Citizens Schippel. -Wikipedia.com

Stephen Neal (Director) is on the faculty at FIU and holds an MFA in Directing from Florida State University. He is a member of Actors’ Equity Association, Screen Actors Guild and is a founding member of the Theatre League of South Florida. He has appeared on screen in Miami Vice and Wise Guys and several commercials and industrial films. He has directed, designed and/or performed in nearly a hundred plays in academic and professional regional theatre. Favorite roles include the Stage Manager in Our Town, Ross in The Goat, the title character in Tom Walker and Malvolio in Twelfth Night. Last summer he completed his fourth year as a company member of New Theatre’s Shakespeare Project: where he played Belarius in Cymbeline, Cassius in Julius Caesar and the Earl of Warwick in Shaw’s Saint Joan. Directing favorites include The Taming of the Shrew, The Mikado, The Sound of Music, Fiddler on the Roof, Oklahoma!, A Midsummer Night’s Dream and most recently, Affluenza!

Denisse Schwartz (Assistant Director) is a sophomore in the BFA program at FIU THEATRE. Denisse was recently seen in ELECTRICIDAD (FIU THEATRE), The Rise of David Levinsky (Regional Premier at New Vista Theatre Company), and other regional productions such as Jake’s Women, Man of La Mancha, and Gypsy. She is also an active participant in the 48 Hour Film Project.
THE UNDERPANTS
by Carl Sternheim
Adaptation by Steve Martin

Directed by
Stephen Neal

Assistant Direction by
Denisse Schwartz

Scenic Design
Jesse Dreikosen

Lighting Design
Philip Watson

Costume Design
Marilyn R. Skow

Assistant Costume Design
Patricia Almodóvar

Production Manager
Marilyn R. Skow

Stage Manager
Jennifer Jean-Louise

Technical Director
Celso Peruyera

Assistant Technical Director
Geordan Gottlieb

Sound Design
Jade Goodridge

This performance has been made possible through special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

CAST

Louise .................................................. Chelsea Duran
Theo ................................................... Cairo Cangas
Gertrude ............................................... Kat Moreno
Versati ............................................... Josh Dobarganes
Cohen .................................................. Paul Perez
Klingelhoff .......................................... Dixon Gutierrez
Kaiser Wilhelm ..................................... Matthew Mur

TIME

1910

PLACE

Düsseldorf, Germany.
Theo and Louise's flat.

The play is in one act with an uninterrupted run time of 90 minutes.
Flash photography and the videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ADMINISTRATION

Chair/Artistic Director ......................... Lesley-Ann Timlick
Administration ................................... Marianna Murray
Marketing Coordinator ......................... Laverne Cuzzocrea
Marketing Assistant ........................... DeAnna Drayton
Box Office Manager ............................. Bryan Rivas
Office Assistant ................................. Monique Tavares

PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant to the Scenic Designer ............... Damian Charkiewicz
Assistant to the Technical Director ............ Elaine Bryan
Sound Board Operator ............................ Melissa Hubicsak
Electrics Crew .................................... Michelle Cote, Aaron Goldenberg
                                    John Guzman, Benedict Heaps
                                    Fernando Lamberty
Set and Paint Crew ............................. Kylah Ashe, Clarissa Brillembourg
                                    Chi Cam, Greg Contreras, Caleb Gonzalez
                                    Dixon Gutierrez, Morgan Howland-Cook
                                    Denisse Schwartz, Natasha Suarez
                                    Witnie Bresil, Jennifer Laventure
                                    Theatre Lab Classes
Prop Mistress ..................................... Michelle Fraioli
Assistant Prop Mistress ......................... Natalie Ceballos
Costume Construction Crew .................... Jackie Martinez, Jason Torres
                                    Giovanni Velazquez, Marlisa Mendoza
                                    Theatre Lab Classes
Wardrobe Master ............................... Douglas Reilly
Wardrobe Crew .................................. Angelina Esposito, Gerald Fisher-Young
                                    Krista Jamison, Yesenia Lauzurique, Michelle Moreno
                                    Ruthmarie Tenorio, Melissa Santana, Harold Trenhs
                                    Jancarloas Vasquez, Danny Nieves
Make-Up .......................................... Raiza Licea
Hair ................................................ Michelle Fraioli
House Manager ................................. Ashley Alvarez
Marketing and Publicity ....................... Dixon Gutierrez, Bertha Leal
                                    Ryan Rodriguez, Ashley Alvarez
                                    Ginelle Rosenberg, Victoria Collado
Poster/Postcard Design ....................... Morgan Howland-Cook
Ushers .......................................... Jennifer Gonzalez, Min Ozbay, Lily Paez
Box Office Assistant ......................... Sonia Sheron
Will Call/Concession ......................... Alain Mesa, Shane Ramkissen

THEATRE AT FIU

The Department of Theatre at FIU offers a Bachelor of Arts (BA) and a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree. The program offers a wide range of courses taught by qualified faculty and provides an environment for a well-rounded education through academic work and hands on experience with our productions. FIU Theatre currently presents four productions annually.

The Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center is home to FIU Theatre and includes a beautiful 200 seat prosenium theatre, a large black box studio theatre, a costume shop, a scene shop and two dressing rooms.

If you are interested in learning more about the program, our course listings, theatre rental or how to be involved with FIU Theatre, please call or write to:

FIU Theatre, WPAC 131
11200 SW 8th Street
Miami, FL 33199
305.348.2895

SPECIAL THANKS

Lesley-Ann Timlick
Marilyn R. Skow
Elaine Bryan
Michael Yawney
Marianna Murray
Jessica Rodriguez
The Entire Theatre Faculty and Staff
FIU THEATRE ANNOUNCES ITS 2008-2009 SEASON

Forty years of Cuban history seen from a kitchen in Havana.

SPRING’S AWAKENING – NOV. 6-16, 2008
The original play, which was the basis for the musical, is an even more searing exploration of youthful sexuality crushed by society.

THE BIRDS – FEB. 12-22, 2009
A free-flying adaptation of the classic Greek comedy - with musical numbers and a Vegas lounge act!

PERICLES – MAR. 12-22, 2009
Shakespeare’s timeless adventure tells of a family separated and reunited by the power of the sea.

SUPPORT FIU THEATRE

Ticket Sales cover less than half of production costs for plays like the one you are seeing tonight. For this reason, FIU THEATRE depends on the generosity of the community to maintain our standards of production.

You can join our supporters by signing on for one of the Donor Packages listed below:

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$200 Lear Level: • 10 VIP Tickets per season • A Backstage Tour of FIU Theatre on Opening Night • Invitation to VIP Reception on one Opening Night

$100 Prospero Level: • 8 VIP Tickets per season • Invitation to VIP Reception on one Opening Night

If you would like to subscribe to one of our packages, be on our mailing list, or make a donation, please fill out this portion of your playbill and turn it in to the ushers. All donations are tax deductible!

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Exp: ______ Amount: _______ x _____________ Signature

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