

Summer 6-21-2011

# Alternative Theatre Festival 2011 postcard

Department of Theatre, Florida International University

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# FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY Alternative Theater Festival 2011



Artistic Director: Phillip M. Church    Associate Director: Marina Pareja

## Educating Rita

by Willy Russell

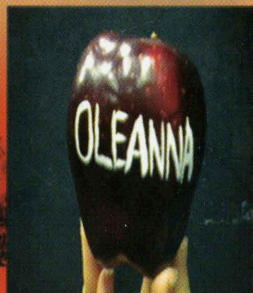


Directed by  
Ben Hawkins  
featuring actors from  
Southampton Solent  
University, UK

June 21, 23, 25 @ 8pm

## Oleanna

by David Mamet



Directed by  
Edward G. Excaliber  
June 22, 24 @ 8pm  
June 26 @ 5pm

## And Baby Makes Seven

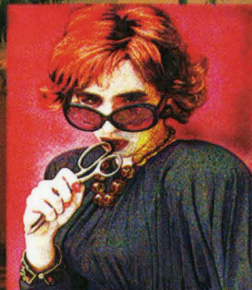
by Paula Vogel



Directed by  
Jeannette Galup  
July 7-9 @ 8pm  
July 10 @ 5pm

## Die! Mommy! Die!

by Charles Busch



Directed by  
Marina Pareja  
July 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30 @ 8pm  
July 24 & 31 @ 5pm

Tickets General \$12  
Faculty, Staff & Students \$8  
Events will take place in Studio Theater DM 15  
For information call: 305-348-0496

## STAGE & SOUNDSTAGE

Event coordinator: Victoria Collado

An integrated evening of original short plays & films

developed by local playwrights and filmmakers.

\$5.00 Admission (free popcorn, and soda)

Sunday, July 17 @ 7pm

# FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

## Alternative Theater Festival 2011

### Educating Rita

by Willy Russell,

directed by Ben Hawkins

June 21, 23 & 25 @ 8:00pm

For the first time ATF is hosting an overseas production by inviting Southampton Solent University from England to present *Educating Rita*. Originally commissioned by Shakespeare Company, this hilarious comedy follows a year-long relationship between young Liverpudlian working-class hairdresser and Frank Bryant, a tradition-bound professor facing a mid-life crisis. Dissatisfied with the routine of her work and social life Rita seeks inner growth by signing up for an "Open University" course in English Literature. Dr Bryant is impressed by Rita's earnestness and is forced to re-examine his own attitude and position in life. Rita, on the other hand begins to experience a newly awakened self-confidence which Bryant recognizes as the adoption of those very same pretensions of university culture that he despises. While comedy predominantly drives the action the production offers plenty of food for lengthy discussion.

### And Baby Makes Seven

by Paula Vogel,

directed by Jeannette Galup

July 4th - 9th @ 8:00pm, July 10th @ 5:00pm

An unconventional comedy from Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright, Paula Vogel (*How I Learned to Drive*) and *Baby Makes Seven* revolves around the lesbian relationship of Anna and Ruth, a lesbian couple who are expecting their first child along with Peter, the live-in gay father of the child. While all this might sound a little off-center this hilarious comedy provides the audience with an insightful look at the twists and turns of a 21st century family, and yes, there are lots of laughs. What's forefront on the agenda for this "non-traditional" family is that, before having a child they must first grow up and grow out of their own childish fantasy lives. Hilariously startling and brilliantly funny, this play redefines the meaning of family.

### Oleanna

by David Mamet

directed by Edward G Excalibur.

June 22 & 24 @ 8:00pm & June 26 @ 5:00pm

In stark contrast, David Mamet, arguably America's finest contemporary playwright, carves out an intense exploration of contemporary politics in *Oleanna*. Teacher and student meet. The pursuit and privilege of knowledge is questioned as the two collide. Oleanna offers a rare introspective look at the how's and why's of learning. Is it retained or snatched or advocated original thought? Even the sexual misconduct card is drawn. Education is put on trial as even the sexual misconduct card is exposed. And, whichever side you choose, you seem to be wrong.

### Die! Mommy! Die!

by Charles Bausch,

Directed by Marina Pareja

July 21 - 23 @ 8:00pm. July 24 @ 5:00pm

July 28 - 30 @ 8:00pm. July 31 @ 5:00pm

As the three exclamation marks in the title should indicate *Die! Mommy! Die!* is a comic melodrama evoking the movie thrillers of the 1960s featuring such aging cinematic icons as Bette Davis, Joan Crawford, Lana Turner and Susan Hayward. Faded pop singer, Angela Andrews, is trapped in a corrosive marriage to film producer, Sol Sussman. In her attempt to find happiness with her younger lover, an out of work TV star, Angela murders her husband with the aid of a poisoned suppository. In a plot that reflects both Greek tragedy and Hollywood folklore, Angela's resentful daughter, Edith, convinces Angela's emotionally disturbed son, Lance, to avenge their father's death by killing their mother. Lance, demanding proof of Angela's crime, spikes her after-dinner coffee with a certain controlling substance, triggering a wild hallucinogenic journey exposing more than a few of Angela's dark secrets. If you enjoyed Actor's Playhouse production of "39 Steps" then you are sure to love this laugh-a-second production of *Die! Mommy! Die!*