

ANNOUNCING

Theater Emory's 2010-2011 Season!

A TOUR OF PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING PLAYS!

The smash Broadway
hit musical **RENT**
Book, Music
and Lyrics by Jonathan Larson
(IN CONCERT)

Kaufman & Hart's classic comedy
**You Can't Take
It with You**

Buried Child
By Sam Shepard

The Playwriting Center of Theater Emory
Brave New Works
Biennial New Play Series

April 1-11, 2010  Theater Emory Presents

Rodgers and Hammerstein's **OKLAHOMA!**

Music by RICHARD RODGERS
Book and Lyrics by
OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II

Based on the play "Green Grow the Lilacs" by Lynn Riggs
Original Dances by Agnes de Mille
Directed by John Ammerman



Theater Emory 2009-2010 Season

Theater Emory, the professional company in residence at Emory, produces a wide range of drama, from classics to new works. It enables our liberal arts undergraduates to work with professional directors, actors, designers, playwrights, dramaturgs, choreographers, composers, music directors and stage managers. Theater Emory poses questions, challenges assumptions, and examines values in search of lasting truths: that is the inspiration for its artistic research and theatrical experiments in productions, workshops and readings.



Theater Emory is affiliated with the Department of Theater and Dance, for which it is the producing organization. It is a member of the Atlanta Coalition of Performing Arts and operates under a season agreement with Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.

THEATER EMORY STAFF

John Ammerman, *artistic director*

Rosalind Staib, *managing director*

Lisa Paulsen, *director of the Playwriting Center of Theater Emory*

Robert Schultz, *production stage manager*

Scott Little, *technical director*

Marianne Martin, *costume shop manager, cutter/drafter*

Robert J. Turner, *master electrician/sound engineer*

Cynthia Church, *costume shop assistant*

Leslie Taylor, *resident set & costume designer*

Joseph P. Monaghan III, *resident lighting & sound designer*

Sara Ward, *resident scenic artist & properties coordinator*

Alice N. Benston, Michael Evenden, Donald McManus, *resident dramaturgs*

Janice Akers, John Ammerman, Tim McDonough, Donald McManus,

Vincent Murphy, Lisa Paulsen, *resident actors/directors*

Hunter Hanger, *program coordinator, Theater Emory*

Doris Muellner, *office manager, Theater at Emory*

Pat Miller, *administrative/artistic associate*

Katie Pittman, *box office manager*

Stephanie Patton, *assistant box office manager*

Sally Corbett, *marketing and public relations, Arts at Emory*

Rebecca Herring, *arts associate, Arts at Emory*

Jessica Moore, *communications coordinator, Arts at Emory*

Randy Fullerton, *operations consultant*



EMORY
arts

Theater Emory Presents
Rodgers and Hammerstein's
OKLAHOMA!

Music by **RICHARD RODGERS**

Book and Lyrics by **OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II**

Based on the play "Green Grow the Lilacs" by Lynn Riggs

Original Dances by Agnes de Mille

Directed by: John Ammerman†

Music Director/Conductor: Scott Stewart†

Singing and Vocal Coach: Michael J. Monroe†

Choreographer: George Staib†

Set Designer, Scenic Charge Artist,

and Properties Designer: Sara Ward†

Costume Designer: Marianne Martin†

Lighting Designer: Joseph P. Monaghan III†

Sound Designer: Robert J. Turner†

Dramaturg: Michael Evenden†

Stage Manager: Julie A. Richardson*

Professional Assistant Stage Manager: Maureen Downs†

Fight Choreography and Roping: John Ammerman†

Acting Coach: Lisa Paulsen†

Fight Captain: Adam Fristoe*

Dance Captain: Denise Arribas†

OKLAHOMA! is presented through special arrangement with
R&H Theatricals: rnhtheatricals.com.

Please note: Gunshots and water-based haze will be used in this production.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT AND RECORDING DEVICES ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED,
AS ARE SMOKING, EATING, AND DRINKING INSIDE THE THEATER.

*A member of Actors' Equity Association

† A professional artist or member of the Emory faculty or staff

WELCOME TO THEATER EMORY

This has been a remarkable season for Theater Emory as we have ventured from a trio of MISS JULIES to the premiere offering of HOMINID, then to a 'puppet bound' FRANKENSTEIN, and now a great American musical icon. With this spread of styles and tastes, we hope to continue our experimentation next season with a variety of American dramatic gems by celebrating a season of Pulitzer Prize-winning plays, along with the return of our festival of journeys into new and original plays with Brave New Works. Look for the announcement of our 2010-2011 season on the back of the program. It promises to be a most exciting, thought provoking, and challenging offering. Please join us again next season as we move forward by recognizing some of our country's most striking and prolific dramatists.

-John Ammerman, Artistic Director, Theater Emory

A NOTE FROM THE DRAMATURG

Although it is now recognized as a central turning point in American popular theater, fueled by connections to opera, operetta, modern dance, and folk art, at the time of its 1943 premiere, *Oklahoma!* seemed doomed. The combination of jazzily clever tunesmith Richard Rodgers and washed-up operetta playwright/lyricist Oscar Hammerstein II was unproven; the source material, Lynn Riggs' *Green Grow the Lilacs* (1931), a folk play with traditional songs, while it had provoked interest from a number of artists (including George Gershwin), was unprecedentedly humble and serious subject matter for a musical entertainment. Yet the resulting work exploded on the Broadway stage, breaking performance records and changing the American theater.

Part of the secret was that composer and lyricist talked endlessly about how to adapt Riggs' play and to create organic opportunities for songs, with Hammerstein offering a completed lyric before Rodgers went rapidly to work. As a result, Rodgers wrote music unlike anything he had composed before—simpler rhythms, more lyrical and stirring tunes, less ironic sentiment. Hammerstein in turn developed the courage of his dramatic convictions (founded in European verismo opera), writing lyrics that were concrete and character-specific, expressed in dialect and full of colorful details lifted directly from Riggs' dialogue. Equaling their innovation, the brilliant and challenging young choreographer Agnes DeMille, [and] Paris-trained musical arranger Robert Russell Bennett and resourceful Russian-American stage director Rouben Mamoulian wove in their contributions with helter-skelter invention and risky dramatic integrity.

In so doing, they uncovered and even enlarged the integrity of Lynn Riggs' original play—a tribute to his own family's history in turn-of-the-century Indian Territory, where the waves of cattle ranches that arrived after the Civil War had met an invasion of farmers through the Homestead Act of 1889, and the challenge of making a harmonious community in the American West reflected itself in the romantic lives of cowboys and farm girls looking to a new future. If audiences in World War II watched this tale of fighting to create and protect an American future with particular feeling, the underlying urgency of its questions--and hopefulness--can still stir us.

-Michael Evenden, Production Dramaturg

THE COMPANY

Claire Rigsby ‡	Laurey
Zechariah Henry Pierce †	Curly
Kathleen McManus *	Aunt Eller
Rebecca Lipman	Ado Annie Carnes
Joshua Izaak ‡	Will Parker
Scott E. DePoy *	Ike Skidmore
Andrew Allen	Jud Fry
John Casavant	Ali Hakim
Ronn K. Smith *	Andrew Carnes
Michael Strauss *	Cord Elam
Sophia Edwards	Gertie Cummings
Patrick Agrippina	Slim
Jessica Levis	Ellen
Gillian Kramer	Kate
Elise Harvey †	Virginia
Shoshana Golden	Vivian
Denise Arribas †	Aggie
Timothy Harland	Fred
Daniel Schroeder	Joe
Hunter Hanger †	Tom
Adam Fristoe *	Sam
Nicholas Surbey ‡	Dream Curly
Kala Seidenberg	Dream Laurey

Time: 1906 | Place: Oklahoma
There will be one ten-minute intermission.

ORCHESTRA

Conductor: Scott Stewart†	Percussion: Corey Eiges, Nicholas Langerford
Assistant Conductor: Kevin Harrell	Violin: William Li, Wency Zhao
Flute: Wei Wang	Viola: Marta Lanier
Oboe: Mary Kate Reischmann	Cello: Kristen Bielling, Clifford Redwine
Clarinet: Matthew Hungerford, Kevin Ma	Bass: Joshua Keller
Horn: Ross Friedman, Peter Boudreau	Harp: Andria Whitley
Bassoon: Sandra Bailey	Keyboard: Diana Barbour, Joel Thompson
Trumpet: David Kilgore, Derrick Montgomery	
Trombone: Arthur Moore	

COWBOY CHORUS

Kathryn Breazeale, Rachel DelGaudio, Marissa Lambert

*A member of Actors' Equity Association
† A professional artist or member of the Emory faculty or staff
‡ A member of Alpha Psi Omega, the national theater honor society

PRODUCTION STAFF

Rehearsal Accompanists: Diana Barbour, Joel Thompson

Assistant to the Director: Shaheen Sharif

Assistant Conductor: Kevin Harrell

Assistant Singing Coach: Elise Harvey†

Project Manager: Leigh Clemmons‡

Assistant Stage Managers: Christina Barber, Ruth Cano, Courtney Greever‡, Carl Kubilis‡, Cristina Rivera, Elisa Storyk

Head Properties Carpenter: Cat Babb†

Master Carpenter/Shop Forman: Malina Rodriguez‡

Set Production Crew: Marie Bangura, Christina Barber, Elizabeth Brown, Scott Choi, Atish Chhabria, Courtney Greever‡, Samantha Grow, Kathleen Hess, Matthew Jackiewicz, Christopher James, Varun Kathait, Mahmood Khan, Jenna Lamoreaux, Samuel Lee, Andre Lumpkin, Kristina Matarrese, Kayla Mills, Christopher Platt, Luke Reimer, Rachel Shuey, Chaundra Thorp

Light Board Operator: Christina Barber

Sound Board Operators: Courtney Greever‡, Robert J. Turner†

Follow Spot Operators: Samuel Lee, Kristina Matarrese

Lighting and Sound Crew: Leigh Clemmons‡, Luisa Cuervo, Jenny Fernandez

Properties Construction and Paint Crew: Matt Jackiewicz, Ryan Lacey, Andre Lumpkin, Tennessee Nathanson, Jocelyn Pettway‡

Wardrobe: Eliana Marianes‡, April Donaldson†

Costume Shop Assistants: Emily Li, Elisabeth Woods, Amy Xu

Stitchers: April Donaldson†, Dana Schultz‡

House Manager: Andre Turner†

Assistant House Manager: April Powell

Box Office Assistants: Brandon Bedford, Julia Commander, Grace Kim, Martha Kim, Maura Klein, Daniel Williams, Jessica Williams

Office Assistants: Olivia Farley, Samantha Grow, Kerleisha Jones, Dasha Kirillova, Emily Kleypas

Graphic Designer: R.M. Spaugh† of HammerHead Design, Inc., Atlanta

† A professional artist or member of the Emory faculty or staff

‡ A member of Alpha Psi Omega, the national theater honor society

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

North Springs Charter High School
Paul Pierce

The Springer Opera House
WMRE

George & Judi Lee, Paris on Ponce
Tack Trolley Horse & Pet

JOIN US APRIL 13, 2010

Free screening of the 1955 film of *Oklahoma!* starring Shirley Jones and Gordon MacRae.

7:00 p.m.: Talk by Jonathan Prude and Andy Ferrell about Agnes De Mille

7:30 p.m.: Screening of *Oklahoma!*, followed by a reception. White Hall 205, Emory University

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