THE DRAMA DIVISION PRESENTS
A BENNINGTON WORKSHOP PRODUCTION

UNCHANGING LOVE
BY ROMULUS LINNEY

(The play is taken from Chekhov's story "In the Hollow")

MAY 30, 31, AND JUNE 1, 1991
BENNINGTON COLLEGE
LESTER MARTIN THEATRE
DIRECTOR’S NOTES

A Romulus Linney play will remind you of none you may have experienced before. Here is a sly, provocative intelligence capable of generating hilarity, stirring deep feelings, and dispensing disturbing truths in rapid order. Any comfort we take in his play’s realism is illusion, and often unsettled by intimations of unfettered possibilities, while somatic yearnings, uncertain identities, and webs of power struggle against distressing odds.

Unchanging Love simply may simply be a tale about greed versus innocence, but Linney is also saying something about the undeniable and underground role of nature, and the naturally eruptive power of forces that cannot be tamed with. We learn there is no rational argument that can assuage deepest feelings or hardly change them. There is the further implication that reason and reflection cannot alter the effect of a searing emotional experience after the fact of its occurrence.

Linney’s joyful command of language and vernacular, his Chekhovian breadth of character, his masterful comprehension of the human psyche, and his undeniable insight into fates of flesh and spirit, make this and other of his plays a feast for the senses. Pastake.

-Walter Rhodes

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Romulus Linney is the author of three novels and twenty-eight plays, which have been seen, over the past twenty years, in resident theatres across the United States, as well as in New York, Los Angeles, London, and Vienna. They include THE SORROWS OF FREDERICK, HOLT GHOSTS, CHILDRO BYRON, APRIL SNOW, and THREE POETS. Time Magazine picked LAUGHING STOCK as one of the ten best plays of 1984, his adaptation and direction of his 1982 novel HEATHEN VALLEY won the National Critics Award and appears in the BEST PLAYS OF THE YEAR 1987-88, and his play “2” was the same award for the season of 1988-89 in its Humana Festival production at the Actor’s Theatre of Louisville, and appears in the BEST PLAYS OF THE YEAR 1989-90. He has received two fellowships from NEA, as well as Guggenheim, Rockefeller, and the National Foundation for the Arts grants, an O Eis award, three Drama-Loge Awards, the Muslins Prize for Fiction, and in 1984, the Award in Literature from the American Academy and Institute of the Arts and Letters. He has directed his plays for the Milwaukee Repertory, the Alley Theatre, the Philadelphia Festival for New Plays, the Whole Theatre Company, the San Francisco Bay Area Festival, the Actor’s Studio, and the Theater for the New City. He is a member of the Ensemble Studio Theatre, the Executive Board of American PEN and a Director of the Corporation of Yaddo. A graduate of Oberlin College and the Yale School of Drama, he teaches playwriting, screenwriting and fiction at Columbia and the University of Pennsylvania. He lives in New York City.

UNCHANGING LOVE

BY ROMULUS LINNEY

DIRECTED BY WALTER RHOADES
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR RAMAA MOSLEY
STAGE MANAGER JENNIFER KUBIK

MUSIC DIRECTOR MICHAEL DOWNS
CHOREOGRAPHER BARBARA ROAN
GUITARIST DAN RUNNING

SET DESIGN BY COURTNEY BAKER
LIGHT DESIGN BY MARIA ROSENBLUM
COSTUME DESIGN BY TAVI SCHLOSS

CAST

THE MUSGROVE FAMILY
SINGER: N. THESEUS RABEEM
ANNIE: MIA ADAMS
JUDY: HOLLY ADRIENNE NORRIS

THE PHIMANS
BENJAMIN: WALTER RHOADES
BARBARA: MARGARET WEAVERS STAPLETON
avery: OWEN D. O'CATHAIN
LEENA: HESTER ANN TINTI
SHELBY: JAMES MEYER

CRUTCH HOLSTON: MICHAEL K. DESEN
OATS FYATT: JON BAILEY

*MEMBER OF ACTORS EQUITY ASSOCIATION