

Drama Faculty & Staff

Andrew Cancellieri
Kathleen Dimmick
Linda Hurley
Kirk Jackson
Dina Janis
Michael Giannitti
Danny Michaelson
Jean Randich
Sue Rees
Gladden Schrock
Terry Teitelbaum

COMING NEXT...

drama
at
bennington
presents

PLAY

By Samuel Beckett
Directed by Rachael Hayes

April 23 & 24 @ 8 PM
Margot Tenny Theater



poster and program design
by charlotte sullivan

DRAMA AT BENNINGTON PRESENTS

SINCERITY FOREVER

By Mae Wellman



April 9-11, 2004
Fri, Sat, Sun 8 PM
Lester Martin Theater

Bennington College Drama Presents
SINCERITY FOREVER

By Mac Wellman
Directed By Kirk Jackson

Set design: Andrew Cancellieri
Light design: Michael Giannitti
Costume design: Joseph Mazzarelli
Sound design: Hans Buetow & Zevin Polzin

CAST

Sincere young people & members of the Invisible Nation

Judy.....Shannon Payne
Molly.....Sara Jayne Harvey
Tom.....Lawson Wulsin
Hank.....Danny Herter
George.....Jeremy Davis
Lloyd.....Jake Bandman
Melvin.....Luke Fredland

Two Furballs, of the tribe of Belial and Abaddon.....Mac Young & Kimberly Bocchiaro
Jesus H. Christ.....Toni-Kay Dawkins

Stage Manager: Caitlin Loehr
Assistant Stage Manager: Mollie Remillard
Assistant Director: Mariah Angele
Master Electrician: Frank La Frazia
Major Sound Help: Mike Rugnetta
Costume Shop Supervisor: Terry Teitelbaum
Technical Director: Andrew Cancellieri
Master Carpenters: Will Heyser & Morgan Bender-Demoll
Light Board Operator: Lucy Skeen
Sound Board Operator: Laura Wallace
Stagehand/Wardrobe: Emily Bonneau

Light Crew: Patrick Davison, Lila Hartelious, Catherine Hessing, Molly Kenefick,
Tugce Kurtis, Mollie Remillard & Eva Schmidt

Scene Shop Crew: Bev Fox, Sara Harvey, Dana Liebowitz, Becca Lifton, Aaron
Miner, Jacob Perkins, Amy Ross, Boaz Sender, Oriana Shaplin, Katie Stoop & Mac Young

Costume Crew: Dana Brzezinski, Cpt. Rachel DeCavage, Xtina Lowery

Special thanks to Mr. Wellman & LeBlanc's Auto.

MAC WELLMAN - damnable scribbler - has received numerous awards: NEA, NYFA, Rockefeller, McKnight and Guggenheim Fellowships. He has received three Obie Awards including one for Sincerity Forever in 1991 and the 2003 Obie for Lifetime Achievement.

Wellman dedicated Sincerity Forever (inspired, like several of his plays, by Old Testament Apocrypha) to the NEA's two most visible opponents, Sen. Jesse Helms and Donald Wildmon, leader of the ultra-conservative American Family Association. He complimented them "for the fine job you are doing of destroying civil liberties in These States." The AFA then published excerpts from the play without the author's permission, describing the character of Jesus H. Christ as a "foul-mouthed bigot", prompting the following from Mr. Wellman to Mr. Wildmon:

"A bigot, for your information, is a person who is intolerant, particularly of other people's beliefs and ways of life. It is you and not Jesus...who hates gays and lesbians, black people, Jews and everyone else who isn't lily-white, born-again, and xenophobic. The Bible is a great book, a very great book indeed; it was conceived and written by some of the most inspired men and women who ever lived. But you have ignored the whole marvelous textual complexity of the Good Book, and have committed the sacrilege of treating it all as some moronic tract like the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, a vehicle for marginalizing minorities and subjecting them to slander and vilification. I repeat, it is you, not me, who is the foul-mouthed bigot; and certainly not the Jesus H. Christ of Sincerity Forever, who merely enjoins people not to be "so goshdarned pleased with themselves" and not to put "words in my mouth concerning they fears."***

Subsequently (mysteriously), Mr. Wellman was enjoined by the NEA to remove any reference crediting the agency for their support through the Playwright Fellowship, the reason having to do with details regarding dates. Thus the following:

"The National Endowment for the Arts has requested that I remove credit to them for my play Sincerity Forever, although I received a 1990 Playwriting Fellowship. Accordingly, the author would like to amend the error of his ways: I was wrong, Sincerity Forever was not made possible by the generous assistance of the NEA. I don't know what I was thinking... Mac Wellman. 9/30/90"

* Furballs are produced when a cat has been nuzzling itself too much and the stray bits of its own fur, lodged in its throat, clog its craw.

** "These people hate freedom. We love freedom. That's what's going on here." G.W. Bush explains it all for you, earlier this week.