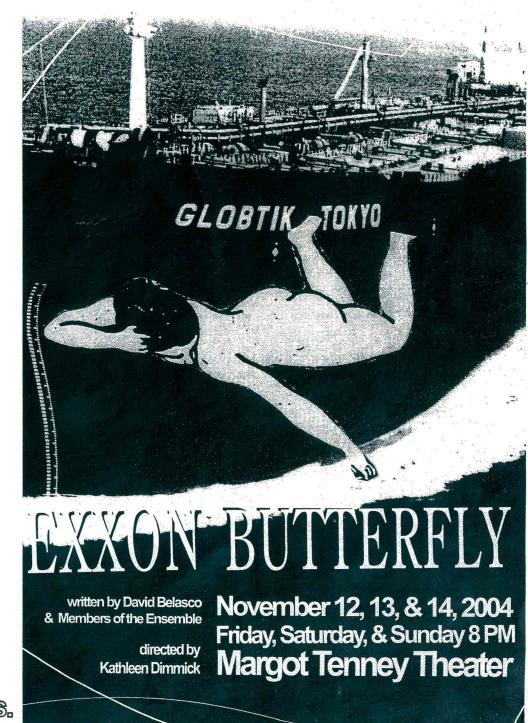
## DRAMA FACULTY AND STAFF

Andrew Cancellieri Kathleen Dimmick Kirk Jackson Dina Janis Linda Hurley Frank LaFrazia Garin Marschall Daniel Michaelson Sue Rees Jennifer Rohn Terry Teitelbaum



CXCS.

Exxon Butterfly is an exercise in the unlikely. As such, it means to mate a classic text with a story taken from today's headlines in such a way as to inspire fresh writing and surprising connections. Madame Butterfly and ExxonMobil are both long-running commercial hits. Known to most audiences as the popular opera by Puccini, Madame Butterfly actually started its life onstage as a hugely successful melodrama, written and produced in 1900 by New York theatrical entrepreneur David Belasco, who adapted his play from an 1898 novella of the same title by Philadelphia lawyer and writer John Luther Long, who himself had adapted his story from the novel Madame Chrysanthemum by the popular French writer Pierre Loti. ExxonMobil, of course, is the ubiquitous and hugely profitable purveyor of fossil fuels, with a name linked to oil spills and contemporary melodramas on public television. Lately, its name has been linked with a campaign to discredit the science behind global warming.

There may be a deeper commercial connection here. In Madame Butterfly, a man rents a woman for sex under a socially sanctioned financial agreement which allows him to ignore certain truths about the nature of human love. This willed ignorance and misunderstanding leads to the birth of a child named Trouble and to the heroine's demise. Likewise, in the business of oil extraction, narrowly drawn commercial agreements permit companies like Exxon to lease the earth and drill for profit, allowing them to ignore certain truths about the fragility and finitude of the environment and the necessity for a responsible stewardship. Such willed ignorance and misunderstanding has resulted in the birth of a very troublesome problem called Global Warming, which could conceivably, if hyperbolically, end in the death of the planet. Call it creative speculation or rash and invidious comparison, this connection gave birth to Tanker, the nautical vaudeville written by the ensemble to accompany Madame Butterfly.

## EXXON BUTTERFLY

## act 1 MADAME BUTTERFLY

by David Belasco (1900)

Madame Butterfly
Suzuki
Sultana Noon
Nakodo
Stephen Reinstein
Caleb Rupp
Yamadori
Danny Herter
Lieutenant B.F. Pinkerton
Kate/Yamadori's Servant
Lieutenant B.F. Pinkerton
Lieutenant B.F. Pinkerton
Lieutenant B.F. Pinkerton

## act 2 TANKER

by Members of the Ensemble

Captain Francis T. PinkertonDaniel TriggKitty CrudeKat YearyShermanCaleb RuppStolzDanny HerterDerwitzStephen ReinsteinSullyLara HoffmanMinkSultana Noon

Director Kathleen Dimmick
Writing Advisor Quincy Long
Stage Manager Alex Rosenberg
Composer Spencer Masterton
Costume Designers Nicole Asselin

Cara Chiaramonte
Set Designer Sue Rees

Lighting Designer Garin Marschall

Musicians Nick Trotter and

Alex Kalfian

Shrine PainterAaron FischerAsst. Stage ManagerCarlee McManusLight Board OperatorOberon RedmanSound Board OperatorLaura Kiefer

Stage Hands Claudia Sparrow and

Jes Condyles

Wardrobe Alexandra Toigo and