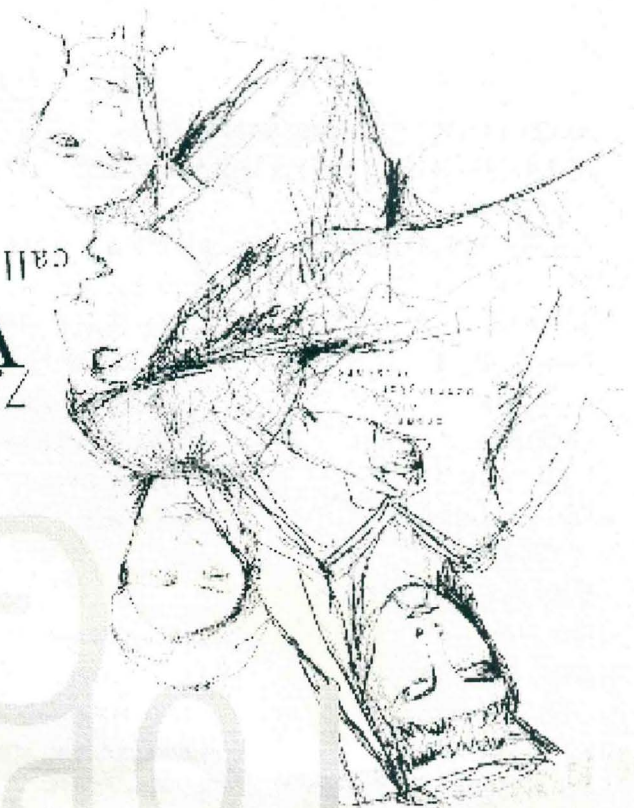




Friday, May 6
Saturday, May 7
7:30 & 9:30 both nights
VAPA d207
call 442.4572 for reservations

by carol k. jordan



POPE JOAN'S POEM:

How sweet, to watch from the shore the wind-whipped ocean
Toss someone else's ship in a mighty struggle;
Not that the man's distress is cause for mirth -
Your freedom from those troubles is what's sweet;
And sweet, to see great lines of soldiers marshaled
In the plains of war, when you are free from peril;
But nothing is sweeter than to dwell in the calm
Temples of truth, the strongholds of the wise.
You can, from there, look down upon others wandering
Randomly, straying, seeking the path of life.
Warring with all their talent, wrestling for rank,
Night and day straining with the utmost toil
To fight their way to the heights of wealth and power.
O pitiable minds of men, O blind intelligences!
In what gloom of life, in how great perils
Is passed all your poor span of time!
Not to see that all nature barks for is this:
That pain be removed away out of the body,
And that the mind, kept away from care and fear,
Enjoy a feeling of delight

-Titus Lucretius Carus, from De Rerum Natura (II,I)
Translated by Anthony M. Esolen

TOP GIRLS

by Caryl Churchill

ACT ONE: SCENE ONE, A LONDON RESTAURANT IN THE 1980S

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE*

Marlene	Julia Kobos
Waitress	Abbi Westwood
Isabella Bird	Ayla Kapiloff
Lady Nijo	Caitlin Monahan
Dull Gret	Mollie Remillard
Pope Joan	Emma Givens
Patient Griselda	Leah Bell

PRODUCTION

Director	Janis Young, inspired by Kelly Muzzi
Asst. Director	Mac Young
Stage Manager	Ryan Smith
Asst. Stage Mgr.	Gaia Rikhye
Set Design	Caitlin Loehr
Lighting Design	Tor Puckett
Costume Design	Daniel Michaelson's Introduction to Costume Design Class
Poster Design	Charlotte Sullivan
Documentation	Sue Rees

CREW

Light Board Operator	Cristian Panaite
Sound Board Operator	Roger Gordon
Wardrobe	Kyle Mosholder
Light Hang Crew	Lani Rook, Jami Marshall-Lively, Sebastian Naskanis, Alex Bleek, Jessica Little, Nedjo Spaich

*THE CHARACTERS

Isabella Bird:	(1831-1904) lived in Edinburgh, traveled extensively between ages of 40 and 70
Lady Nijo:	(b. 1258) Japanese- Emperor's courtesan and later Buddhist nun who traveled Japan on foot
Dull Gret:	subject of a Brueghel painting 'Dulle Griet' (c. 1568) in which a woman charges through hell
Pope Joan	disguised as a man, is thought to have been Pope between 854 - 856
Patient Griselda	the obedient wife whose story is told by Chaucer (c.1344-1400) in 'The Canterbury Tales'

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Dina, for the idea; Mike Rancourt and Linda Hurley for extra help; the drama faculty - Jean, Michael, Danny, Kirk, Jenny, Gladden - for steadfast support; Hope Barry, Joan Edwards and Susan Huggins for pitching in; Elissa Tenny, for making it happen, and to all of Kelly's friends and family.

Kelly: this one's for you!



“When I make work in the theatre, I bring a lot of excitement and passion to the process..it is strength in that it gives me the energy to get through the grind.I love brainstorming ideas and exploring the possibilities of a scene..”

“I want to give actresses the opportunity to work with such incredibly rich, challenging material.The characters come together from across history to form a group that surprises us with its similarities.”

“Marlene has created a women’s only space, a kind of back stage to real life. Here, these women’s experiences are validated in a way that was not possible in their actual life times.”

“The themes explored through their stories are the same issues that Marlene is grappling with in her real life: estrangement from family, finding meaning in life, loss of children, loss of father, failed love relationships, loneliness, and success through adversity.”

Kelly Muzzi on *Top Girls*

For Kelly

*'To them I said, 'Gentle ones, how you will
remember till old age what we did together in
our brilliant youth! For many things holy and
beautiful we did then.'*

Sappho c. 620-565 b.c.e.

*You have shared with us your enthusiasms for so many
things, your zest for life that could only be contained in
such a large heart, and your abiding faith in the process.
We thank you for those gifts.*

*May this passage be testimony to your enduring spirit,
felt by everything and everyone you touched.*

*"From beneath her wings she pours forth a
clear shrill song,*

*When she shouts down the outspread
perpendicular blaze*

Of the noonday sun."

Sappho
