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Spring 1991

# A Lesson from Aloes

School of Theatre and Dance  
*Illinois State University*

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Illinois State University  
College of Fine Arts  
Department of Theatre  
presents

# A Lesson from Aloes

by Athol Fugard

**ALLEN THEATRE**

March 22, 23, 26-30 at 8 pm

March 24 & 31 at 3 pm

1991

# A LESSON FROM ALOES

Director  
SANDRA ZIELINSKI

Set Designer  
ARMELLA N. NEFZGER\*

Lighting Designer  
ANGELA M. WEBER

Costume Designer  
JENNIFER NOE\*

Sound Designer  
MIKE ZAWISLAK

Original Music  
HANS DAMKOEHLER

Technical Director  
DAN BROWDER

\*Master of Fine Arts Candidate

The action of the play moves between two areas representing the backyard and the bedroom of a small house in Algoa Park, Port Elizabeth.

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— There will be one 15-minute intermission —

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

## CAST

Piet Bezuidenhout . . . . .	ROBERT CAISLEY*
Gladys Bezuidenhout . . . . .	KEYTHA GRAVES*
Steve Daniels . . . . .	REGINALD C. HAYES

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Manager . . . . .	KATHRYN E. CAMPBELL
Assistant Director . . . . .	DAWN KRISTEN FLOOD
Assistant Stage Managers . . . . .	DIANN L. BRODESS
Properties Master . . . . .	LAURA L. STEIB
Master Electrician . . . . .	JON D. JENKINS
Assistant Costume Designer . . . . .	DEBRA K. STIER
Dialogue Coach . . . . .	BARBARA ACKER
Faculty Advisors . . . . .	KENT GOETZ
	J. WILLIAM RUYLE
	DAN WILHELM

### AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATRE FESTIVAL XXIII

Presented and produced by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts  
Supported in part by the Kennedy Center Corporate Fund,  
the U.S. Department of Education, and Ryder System

This production is an Associate entry in the American College Theatre Festival (ACTF). The aims of this national theatre education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theatre production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for adjudication by a regional ACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in ACTF programs involving awards, scholarships and special grants for actors, playwrights, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Last year approximately 800 productions and 17,000 students participated in the American College Theatre Festival nationwide. By entering this production, our department is sharing in the ACTF goals to help college theater grow and to focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

## PRODUCTION CREWS

**Set Crew:** Gwen Druyor, Rachel Kasper, Lara Kristine Keero

**Light Crew:** Ryan Bertrand, Nora Cortright, Mark Daraskevich, Le Ann Hurley, Jill Lewandowski, Jeff Popaeko, Leigh Ann Ruyle, Melisa Sipolt

**Light Board Operator:** Daniel L. Cress

**Sound Board Operator:** Hillary Gorrell

**Costume Crew:** Shawn Harrington, Sara Walsh

## THEATRE STAFF

General Manager .....Peter Guither  
Costume Shop Supervisor .....Beverly Norcross  
Scene Shop Supervisor .....Dennis Mays

**COSTUME SHOP — Graduate Personnel:** Lorraine Anderson\*, Amy Khongkhakul, Jennifer Noe\*, Teresa S. Pruitt\*, Tona Schenck\*, Missy Skelton\*;  
**Undergraduate TA:** Debra Kay Stier; **Undergraduate Personnel:** Karis Frenchak, Susan Hayes, Anne Latta, Kelly VanKirk, Jennifer Wilson, Larry Wisowaty

**SCENE SHOP — Carpenter:** Thomas Thompson; **Graduate Personnel:** Scott Cavin\*, Armella Nefzger\*, Angela Weber; **Undergraduate Personnel:** Kristi Batt, Gina Diehl, Ethan J. Goldspiel, Dianne Guariniello, Seth Hible, Timothy Mann, Laura Steib

**MANAGEMENT — Box Office Managers:** Kati Brazda\*, Mickey DiPiero, Troy Dunn\*, David C. Morgan; **Marketing Director:** Sarah Zwick-Tapley; **Asst. Marketing Director:** Daniel Cress; **House Managers:** Daniel Cress, Suki Schierholz; **Asst. to the General Manager:** Eric Weaver; **Photographer:** Max Gerwick

## DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE FACULTY

**Chairperson:** John Stefano

Barbara Acker, Nancy Benjamin, Julie Brinker, Dan Browder, Kathy D'Alessandro, Connie de Veer, Kent Goetz, Peter Guither, John Kirk, Ron Mottram, Patrick O'Gara, Kim Pereira, Pam Ritch, Rebecca Rovit, J. William Ruyle, Jean Scharfenberg, John Sipes, John Stefano, Lee Templeman, Frank Vybiral, Dan Wilhelm, Sandra Zielinski

**Office Staff:** Caroline Gordon, Betty Stephenson, Rosemary Stockle

**Dean, College of Fine Arts:** Alvin Goldfarb

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The characters and situations in *A Lesson From Aloes* emerge from Port Elizabeth in the 1960's to give audiences a universal look at the human capacity for endurance and survival through separation and isolation.

The South African society that Athol Fugard describes must be regarded as but one reflection of modern man's isolation from his fellowman in an indifferent universe. However, Fugard believes, as he stated at a national conference held in June 1990 at Smith College, "...a human being conquers his fate the moment he starts to make a noise about it. And obviously, the most supreme noise a human being can make is the spoken word. After the crying comes the word, the articulated word."

Fugard has chosen to be a practitioner of the spoken word—to discover a way of speaking about the brotherhood of man through the South African plight. As he wrote in his Notebooks, "the plays must be done...for the sake of those who do believe in human dignity." He continues to write, "...But to sit in moral paralysis while the days of my one life...pass, is obviously so futile and pointless it is not worth talking about. So without the support of reason, or a clear conviction as to the consequences--relying on an instinct (blind as it is) at the core of my life, I choose and act..."

### Acknowledgements

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ALLAN RICHARDS  
BOB'S TAXIDERMY  
DON SCHMIDT,  
THE DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES  
TRISH COLLIER, NOVAK FLOWERS

# Upcoming Theatre Events: Call 438-2535

## ***Così fan tutte***

Mozart's famous comic opera performed  
in conjunction with the ISU Music Department  
Apr. 6, 9, 12, 13 at 8 pm

Gala Opening (black-tie optional) of *Così fan tutte*  
Apr. 5 at 8 pm - reception following  
Proceeds go to Music-Theatre Scholarships

## ***White Boned Demon***

Here's your chance to see it again! Our Fall, 1990  
production was selected by the American College Theatre  
Festival to go to the national festival in Washington, DC.  
Show your support at the benefit performance April 20.  
Apr. 20 at 8 pm — Westhoff Theatre, Normal, IL  
Apr. 26, 27 — Kennedy Center, Washington, DC

## ***The Third Richard***

Original drama showing Shakespeare's famous character  
in a new historical light — by ISU's John Kirk  
Apr. 26, 27, 30 & May 1-4 at 8 pm  
Apr. 28 & May 5 at 3 pm

— THIS TIME NEXT YEAR —

## ***Joe Turner's Come and Gone***

by August Wilson