

## Macalester College Theatre and Dance Department Presents "The Government Inspector" November 7-9

**St. Paul, Minn.**—The Macalester College Theatre and Dance Department presents *The Government Inspector*, by Nikolai Gogol, in the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center, Main Stage Theater, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, Minn. Tickets are \$7 general admission and \$5 for seniors and groups. Performances are at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, Friday and Saturday Nov. 7, 8, and 9, and Saturday Nov. 9 at 2 p.m. *The Government Inspector* is directed by Robert Rosen, guest artist in the Theatre and Dance Department. For ticket information, call 651-696-6359.



*The Government Inspector* (1826), the great Russian satire, chronicles the chaos as a Tsarist Russian town prepares for the arrival of a government inspector. The self-interested and corrupt officials, especially the mayor, scramble to hide the evidence of their payoffs while trying to learn the identity of the inspector. Rumors wrongly identify a poor drifter clerk as the inspector who unknowingly accepts the royal treatment as it gets him supper and respect, both normally in short supply.

Based off the adaption by Peter Raby, *The Government Inspector* skewers both abusive government and vain, corrupt bureaucrats, providing for ample comic relief. Director Bob Rosen asserts that the play is timely in light of current international espionage scandals, asking the question "who's watching whom?" Rosen says the comedy lies in "what happens between people...how they try to extricate themselves from certain situations and just make things worse in the process." The characters – our mirror, as Gogol declared – reveal themselves by "losing any kind of reasoning and going crazy."

Bob Rosen is one of the founding Artistic Directors of the internationally acclaimed, Minneapolis-based Theatre de la Jeune Lune (1978-2008). He has directed and performed in over 100 productions in his career. He has been teaching "Physical Approaches" at Macalester for three consecutive years, a course based in his training at the Ecole Jacques Lecoq in Paris, and honed at Jeune Lune for 30 years.

The cast consists of Robert Gelberg '14 from North Caldwell, N.J. as Anton Antonovich; Jeff Kaplan '14 from Pittsburgh, Pa. as Khleshtakov; Kaan Salcin '17 from Gebze Kocaeli, Turkey as Osip; John Bennett '14 from Minneapolis, Minn. as Bobchinsky and Chernyayev; John Stark '16 from Grinnell, Iowa, as Dobchinsky and Abdulin; Logan Natvig '17 from Iowa City, Iowa, as the Director of Charities and Pantelyev; Sam Erickson '17 from Anchorage, Alaska, as Ivan Kuzmich Shpekin; Seaver Holter '17 from Vadnais Heights, Minn., as Judge, Waiter, and Townsperson; Rafael Schneider '17 from Philadelphia, Pa., as Director of Education and Townsperson; Alessandra Affinito '14 from Evanston, Ill., as Anna Andreyevna, the Mayor's wife and Corporal's Widow; Cassidy Foust '15 from Watertown, Wis., as Marya Antonovna; Lisa Hu '15 from New Haven, Conn., as Mishka; and Raynise Cange '14 from Neptune, N.J. as Olga Stepanovna Smirkoff.

Macalester College, founded in 1874, is a national liberal arts college with a full-time enrollment of 2,011

Cast members of the Government Inspector. From left to right, Bottom -Lisa Hu '15, Rob Gelberg '14, Cassidy Foust '15, Allesandra Affinito '14 - Top John Bennett '14, Sam Erickson '17, Raynise Cange '14  
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