

Fall 10-19-1984

The Male Animal (1984)

San Jose State University, Theatre Arts

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San José State University



University Theatre

weeks before each opening. On performance Saturdays, the Theatre box office is open from 5 p.m. through the first 15 minutes of the performance.

Mail Orders: Write the University Theatre Box Office, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA 95192 or sign up on our mailing list in the lobby and receive advance notice of special events as well.

NOTE: If tickets are held at the box office for you, please pick them up at least one-half hour prior to the performance.

NOTICES:

Please observe the no-smoking regulations. The use of cameras or tape recorders is not permitted. Please refrain from carrying refreshments into the theatre. Please take note of the NEAREST EXIT to your seat. In an emergency, walk, do not run, to the exit.

CHILDREN

Patrons are discouraged from bringing very young children or infants to regular performances. Every person, regardless of age, must have a ticket.

SPECIAL DISCOUNT RATES

Available to your organization or student group for theatre parties or fundraising events. Special group rates are available for groups of 20 or more. Plan an entire evening at the University Theatre which could include a backstage tour or reception with actors and design staff. For more information, please call Lawrence Thoo or Stella Kleinschmidt at 277-3190.

SUBSCRIBER TICKET EXCHANGE PRIVILEGE

Subscribers may exchange their tickets up to 24 hours in advance of their performance date on a seat available basis only. Your usual assigned seat cannot be guaranteed when exchanging tickets. Tickets may not be exchanged from one play to another.

PARKING

We recommend that you park in the gravel parking lot at 4th and San Fernando. The entrance is on 4th Street. Please allow yourself 15 minutes to park and walk to the Theatre.

If you carry a beeper, watch or calculator with alarm, please make sure that it is set to the "OFF" position while you are in the theatre to prevent any interruption in the performance.

For Your Information . . .

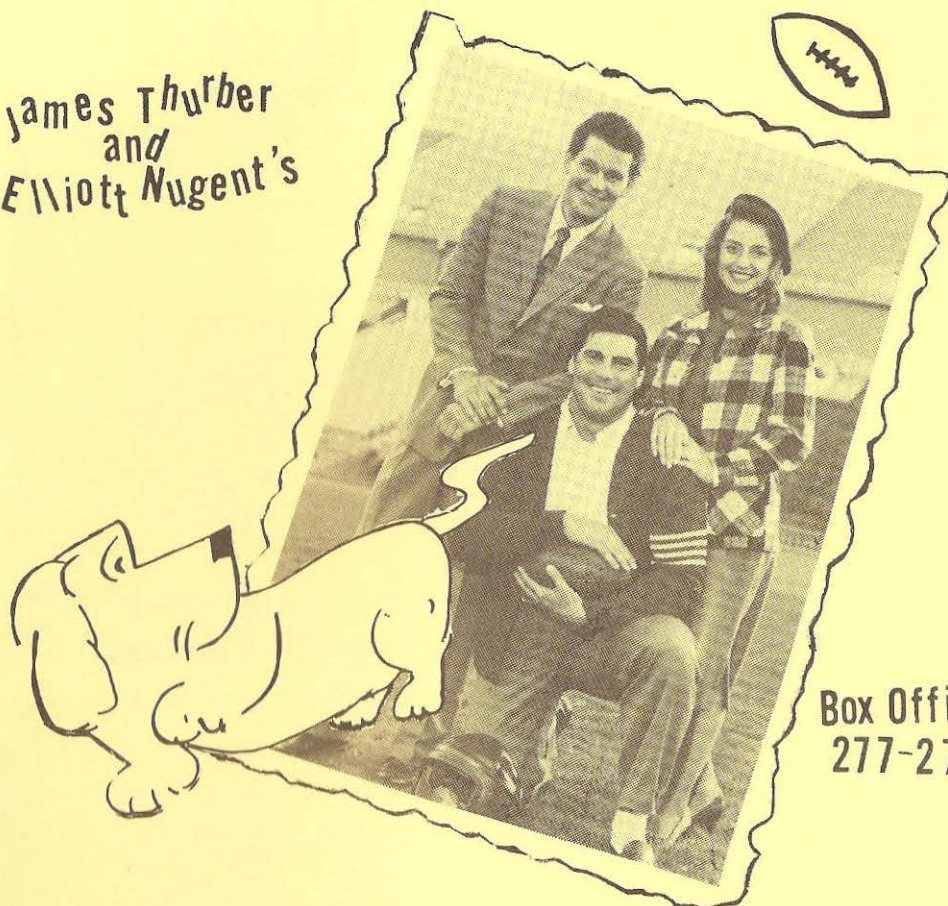
HOW TO BUY TICKETS

Tickets-by-Telephone — Call (408) 277-2777 during box office hours and charge your tickets to Visa or MasterCard.

Window Sales: Visit the University Theatre's box office at 5th & San Fernando on any work day from noon to 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. beginning two

San Jose State University Theatre
presents

James Thurber
and
Elliott Nugent's



Box Office
277-2777

THE MALE ANIMAL

October 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27 1984
8:00 p.m.

University Theatre
5th and San Fernando Streets

Directed by Hal J. Todd

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If you would like to become one of our patrons, you may do so by sending your tax deductible donation to the Theatre Arts Department or by giving it this evening to one of our staff in the Box Office or in the Lobby. Another way to become a patron is to donate your professional services and energies to our program.

Our continued growth as a vital element of the artistic life of this community depends on the generosity of our honored patrons.

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Mina Garman, Chair
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San Jose State University
San Jose, CA 95192

Hal J. Todd, Director

has acted and directed for regional professional theatres such as the Pittsburgh Playhouse, the Seattle Repertory, the San Francisco Actor's Workshop and the American Conservatory Theatre; for Shakespeare festivals at San Diego, Ashland, Oregon, and Colorado; at Universal and M.G.M. Studios; and at Carnegie Tech and Northwestern Universities. He is a member of the Screen Actors Guild, the Directors Guild and the Screenwriters Guild. He has been an SJSU faculty member since 1964 and was Department Chair between 1964 and 1982. Dr. Todd has a flair for theatre classics. His recent SJSU productions include Shakespeare's *King Lear*, Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard* and Wycherly's *The Country Wife*. But he also enjoys directing such theatrical hokum as last season's *Dracula* and modern comedies like *The Male Animal*. He has been offered a Fulbright Fellowship for 1985.

From the Director . . .

"Every time is a time for humor," said the noted humorist James Thurber (1894-1961). He may be remembered more for his short stories (such as "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty"), witty essays and droopy dog cartoons in *The New Yorker*, but he was always intrigued by the theatre. He even appeared on Broadway briefly in *Thurber Carnival*, a review based on his sketches. In 1940 he was persuaded to co-author *The Male Animal*, which proved to be one of the best and truest of American comedies. Later, Thurber himself was portrayed in a television series (*My World and Welcome To It*) as an artist whose animated fantasies spring to life.

Thurber's collaborator in crafting *The Male Animal* was an experienced stage actor named Elliot Nugent, who knew a good idea when he saw it and helped shape Tommy Turner into the most successful role of his stage career. The role fit Henry Fonda like a glove in a film version (Olivia DeHavilland and Jack Carson played Ellen and Joe).

The battle between the sexes fascinated Thurber and a romantic triangle is at the heart of *The Male Animal*. But it is a serious comedy and academic freedom is at issue. This issue seems as relevant today as it was in 1940 or the McCarthy era.

"I write humor the way a surgeon operates . . . because I have the hope it may do some good."

James Thurber and
Elliot Nugent's

THE MALE ANIMAL

Directed by Hal J. TODD

Scenic Designer
DONAMARIE
REEDS

Costume Designers
ELIZABETH M.
POINDEXTER

Makeup Designer
LESLIE
FITZGERALD

Lighting Designer
KENNETH
DORST

and
LESLIE
FITZGERALD

Sound Designer
THOMAS
MONKS

Cast of Characters (in order of appearance)

Cornelia	Janice Paxson
Ellen Turner	Sandy Eiseaff Benster
Tommy Turner	James Coulter
Patricia Stanley	Meridee Speer
Wally Myers	Kevin Brady
Dean Frederick Damon	John Quinn
Michael Barnes	Paul Manchester
Joe Ferguson	David O. Apple
Mrs. Blanche Damon	Pamela Depper
Ed Keller	George Manley
Myrtle Keller	Victoria Lila Louise Miller
"Nutsy" Miller	Jerry McAllister
Newspaper Reporter	Paul E. Nelson

Synopsis of Scenes

Time: Late fall, 1953
Scene: The living room in the house
of Professor Thomas Turner

Act I

A Friday evening

Act II

Scene 1: The following day, after lunch

Scene 2: Three hours later.

Act III



Production Staff

Technical Director	James R. Earle, Jr.
Stage Manager	Raul M. Ramirez
Assistant Stage Manager	Graeme Finlayson
Assistant to the Director	Greg Rehrig
Scene Shop Supervisor	Steve Placke
Assistant Scene Shop Supervisor	Jeff Richards
Scenery Construction	Jim Coulter, Roy Harline, Robert Koontz, Marcia Trask, T.A. 52 Scenery Students
Scenic Artist	Donamarie Reeds
Property Crewhead	Robert Langeder
Property Coordinator	Cathy Moser
Property Crew	Valerie Moore, Laura Vidal
Master Electrician	Mark Ammerman
Lighting Technicians	Carol Couch, Jon Krahenbuhl
Lighting Crew	Diana Goldsmith, Roy Harline
Costumer	Eliza Chugg
Costume Crewhead	Shirley Benson
Costume Assistant Crewhead	Carol Couch
Costume Crew	Gina Loren
Stitchers	Lon Barrera, Yvonne Bursch, Marita Dingus, Kelsey Harding, Lisa Herman, Maureen Smidebush, Heather McAllister, Jerry McAllister, Heather Hudson, Rhonda Roper, Audrey Walker
Hair Stylist	Lynn Schader
Sound Technician	Kelly McAllister
House Managers	Heather McAllister, Janice Paxson
Box Office Manager	Deborah Norman
Box Office Staff	Benny Bergman, Yvonne Bursch, Christine Tang, Robert Campbell, Maureen Smidebush
Official Photographer	Bill Holliday
Publicist	Scott Johnson
Publicity Assistant	Melanie Guese
Publicity Designer	Pamela Depper

Acknowledgements

Hal J. Todd – loan of furniture
Lawry Jasper – Men's Athletic Department-SJSU
Crawford's Navigation Center, San Francisco, CA

About the cast....

David O. Apple (Joe Ferguson) was last seen at S.J.S.U. in *The Country Wife* as the foppish Mr. Sparkish, but his versatility has landed him such varied roles as the title role in *Dracula* and Stanley Kowalski in *A Street-car Named Desire*. A drama major, David will be graduating this year.

Sandy Eiseff Benster (Ellen Turner) holds a B.A. in Human Biology from Stanford University, a Masters Degree in Physical Therapy from Baylor University, and is currently at SJSU working on a second B.A. in Theatre Arts. She has appeared professionally in the San Francisco Children's Opera and leading roles in *Once Upon a Mattress* and *Anything Goes*. A singer as well as an actress, Sandy also attained the rank of Captain in the U.S. Army.

Kevin Brady (Wally Myers) is a Theatre Arts major and an accomplished athlete, he has competed for the SJSU track team in shot put, and is one of the top athletes for the Scottish-Highland Games held annually in Santa Rosa. Kevin was last seen on the University stage as the ill-fated knight Hans in *Ondine* and as Bogie in *Play it Again, Sam* in 1981.

James Coulter (Tommy Turner) is in his second semester in the Theatre Arts Department, and was seen last as Anselmo in *Man of La Mancha*. He has previously performed in *The Drunkard* at Canada College in Redwood City and with the San Jose Theatre Ensemble. James plays a variety of instruments as well as holding down his first major role in a main stage production.

Pamela Depper (Blanche Damon) is employed as the Publicity Designer for the Theatre Arts Department. She has appeared in *The Country Wife* and played Marianne in *Tartuffe*. She has had major roles in *Oliver!*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Rashomon*, *Loose Ends*, *George M!* and most recently *The Sound of Music*. In 1981 Pam toured Japan with an international company of *Once Upon a Mattress*.

Paul Manchester (Michael Barnes) is a talented artist as well as actor, who designed scenery for last fall's *Ondine* as well as for productions of *Hello, Dolly!*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and *Robin Hood*. He has appeared in over nine musicals, including *The Music Man*, *Guys and Dolls* and *Brigadoon*. Paul has illustrated a children's book, *Eggbert, the Magic Egg*, and is currently branching out into costume design for *The Me Nobody Knows* opening in November.

George Manley (Ed Keller) who calls himself "Rock," has his background in classical theatre, and has been seen as Jonathan Pinchwife in *The Country Wife* and as King Richard in *Richard II*. He has also appeared in productions of *Macbeth* and Giradoux's *Ondine* along with the role of Charlie Cowell in *The Music Man*.

Jerry McAllister ("Nuts" Miller) is a senior in the Theatre Arts Department, and no stranger to the University Theatre main stage. He has appeared here in *Ondine* and *Fiddler on the Roof* to name only a few. He was seen in the title role of *The Real Inspector Hound* for By Popular Demand. Jerry is also a comedy writer and director who has produced his own shows. A newlywed, Jerry married his wife Jenny on September 8th.

Victoria Lila Louise Miller (Myrtle Keller) is a native of Long Beach, and has previously attended Arizona State University. Both her parents graduated from SJSU in 1955. Victoria has travelled extensively in Europe, and lived for a time in Japan. She was last seen in the role of Rizzo in *Grease* for the North Valley Players in May.

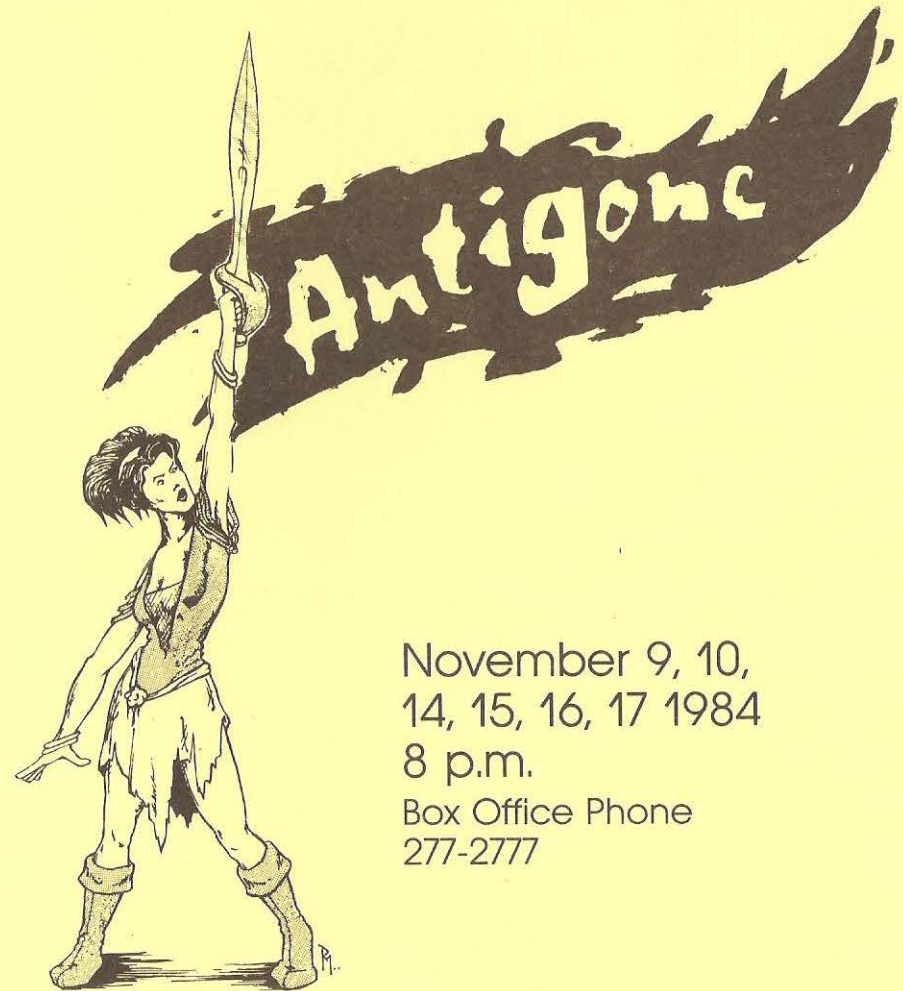
Paul E. Nelson (Reporter) was last seen as the Barber in last spring's *Man of La Mancha*. He has played Noah Claypool in ICPA's *Oliver!* as well as Michael in *Out of the Frying Pan*. His hobbies range from disco dancing to waterskiing, and, as a side interest, he enjoys scouring thrift shops for unusual ashtrays.

Janice Paxson (Cornelia) is from Manhattan Beach, and has been seen here as Janice in last fall's *Loose Ends* and as Holly Kaplan in *Uncommon Women and Others*. She also played Old Lady Squeamish in *The Country Wife*. She is one of two house managers who run the University Theatre.

John Quinn (Dean Frederick Damon) has performed the role of Elwood in *Harvey* for the West End Theatre Company in Berkeley. John returns to SJSU after a five year absence, having played Dr. Sham in the CIG touring production of *The Tale of El Gato Grande*.

Meridee Kaye Speer (Patricia Stanley) hails from Fremont, CA, and since coming to San Jose has been seen in *The Good Woman of Setzuan* on the main stage, and in several Studio Theatre productions. She has also been active backstage, having been on the crews of five shows.

next in the University Theatre . . .



November 9, 10,
14, 15, 16, 17 1984

8 p.m.

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Directed by Henry Hoffman

*A bold new approach to the old classic,
told through heavy-metal rock 'n' roll*

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