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Spring 3-2-1990

Stella (1990)

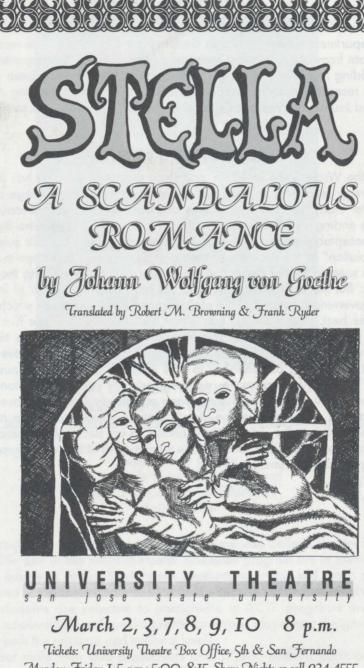
San Jose State University, Theatre Arts

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Monday-Friday I-5 p.m.; 5:00-8:15 Show Nights or call 924-4555

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#### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

Karl Toepfer teaches dramatic literature and theatre history in the Theatre Arts Department, where he is also the Graduate Coordinator. He received his doctorate from UCLA. His last mainstage production for the Department was The Adding Machine in Spring 1988. Since that time he has been pursuing theatre research which has appeared in Theater Three, Performing Arts Journal, and Journal of Dramatic Criticism and Theory, among other publications.

#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTES**

Goethe Wrote Stella in 1775, and since that time, the play has provoked controversy regarding its theme of the relation between marriage and passion. For many years, the play was banned from the stage because of its strange ending. For the first production (Weiman, 1806), Goethe supplied a new, acceptable ending in which Fernando and Stella commit suicide. But this "solution" to the problem of men and women who love "too much" has always seemed to lack conviction. Therefore, we are performing the original ending. But the existence of two endings reinforces the notion of indeterminacy governing the mood of the play. Fernando cannot decide which woman he loves best, nor, it seems, can either Stella or Cecilia love him enough unless they love each other. Nor should the spectator be able to decide which woman is "best," for the play suggests that we cannot love anyone without discovering our capacity to love someone else. Any serious expression of romantic feeling implies a transgression of social convention governing erotic relations: for Goethe marriage apparently "contains" love by constricting it. A major irony of the play is that the conventional man of action. the aristocratic soldier, Fernando, is unable to act decisively or heroically in relation to sexual passion, and it is the women who act boldly, courageously, in this zone of experience.



#### AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATER FESTIVAL XXII 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 Ryder System

This production is in associate entry in the American College Theater Festival (ACTF). The aim of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater 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, playwrites, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.

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



By Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe Translation by Robert M. Browning and Frank Ryder

Director	Karl Toepfer
Scenic Design	
Costume and Makeup Design	Elizabeth Poindexter
Lighting Design	Sandra Marto
Sound Design	Scott Sinagra

### Cast

Stella	Shannon Frank
Cecilia	Susan Winesberg
Fernando	Kelly McAllister
Lucy	
Steward	
Postmistress	Kate Farrant
Annie	Claire Uneda
Carl	Carl Redmond
Batman/Servant	Frank Lucero
Laina	Kat Langeder

# **A PLAY IN FIVE SCENES**

Scene 1: Posthouse Scene 2: A Room in Stella's Castle Scene 3: A Room in Stella's Castle

Fifteen minute intermission

Scenes 4: Stella's Garden Scene 5: A Room in Stella's Castle

Time: The Late 18th Century Place: Germany

Produced by special arrangement with Suhrkamp Publishers, N.Y. The use of cameras or tape recorders is not permitted.

### **PRODUCTION STAFF**

Technical Director	James K. Culley
Stage Manager	Dana Andersen-Wyman
Assistant Stage Managers	Rian Galbreath, Enrique Dominquez
Assistant to the Director	Jamie Peters
Assistant Scenic Design	Barbara Gotcher
Assistant Lighting Design	Mary Ann Evans
Assistant Sound Design	
Properties Acquisition	Vanessa Pacheco
Scenery Construction	Drama 10 and 52 Students
Stage Crew Head	Enrique Dominquez
Stage Crew	
Properties Crew Head	Treesa Rosko
Properties Crew	Carol Ann Callahan, Suzanne Thrash
Lighting Board Operator	Karen Eves
Sound Board Operator	Ann Eubank
Cutter/Fitters	Alice Sibley, Elizabeth M. Poindexter
Assistant to the Costume Designed	erAlice Sibley
Fabric Artist	Jude Silva
Millineries	Diane Winesburg, Alice Sibley
Costume Construction	Drama 10 & 52 Students,
Costume Running Crew Chief	Donna Cordrey
Assisant Costume Crew Chief	Myrna Boustany
Costume Running Crew	Lisa Hampton, Kelly Wells
	Sara Beukers

# **UNIVERSITY THEATRE TECHNICAL STAFF**

Shop Foreman	Steven Placke
Scene Shop Assistants	
Painting Assistant	
Costume Director	
Costume Shop Assistants	Jude Silva, Diane Winesburg,
	Alice Sibley
Costume Loan Coordinators	Annmarie Martin
Prop Room Coordinator	
Lighting Technician	
Lighting Assistant	
Sound Technician	
Studio Theatre Technician	Kevin Cornelious

# UNIVERSITY THEATRE FRONT OF HOUSE STAFF

Director of Theatre	David Kahn
	Mitchell Dahood
Box Office Manager	Shannon Frank
House Manager	Debra Timmerman
	Scott Hinrichs
	Drama 10 Students
Box Office Crew	Diane Elrich, Rian Galbreath,
Ke	lly McAllister, Katie Amstutz, Suzie Thrash

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Limited Space Futon Store, The Berkeley Shakespeare Festival.

## **NEXT IN THE UNIVERSITY STAGE**



Multiply an energetic corps of bright, young **Dancers** by the provocatice **Action** of innovative staging, divide by **New** ideas in sensual motion times the square root of accomplished **Choreographers** extrapolated by infinite **Emotion** 

Х

Theatrical **Flash** combined with **Originality** divided by to-tapping **Rhythms** set over spectacular color and increased by **Entertainment** to the tenth power

Jana Torice

March 28-31 at 8:00 PM