

In Celebration of Bucknell University's Sesquicentennial

THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE

presents

THORNTON WILDER'S
O U R T O W N



April 19, 20, 21 and 22, 1996

Coleman Hall University Theatre

OUR TOWN BY THORNTON WILDER

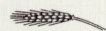
Director: Robert Gainer
Scene Designer: Christopher Pickart
Lighting Designer: Richard Dionne
Costume Designer: Joan Vick

CAST: in order of appearance

Stage Manager John Bolger, Class of 1977
Dr. Gibbs Tommy Zappulla
Joe and Si Crowell Alex Hiscott
Howie Newsome Glen Henderson
Mrs. Gibbs Julie Stanford
Mrs. Webb Audrey Schmidt
Professor Willard Douglas E. Sturm
George Gibbs Christopher Scholl
Rebecca Gibbs Carla Conover
Wally Webb Tim Parrott
Emily Webb Megan Charles
Mr. Webb Thomas E. Markley
Woman in the Balcony, 1st Dead Woman Melanie Taylor
Man in Auditorium, Baseball Player Cesar A. Ruiz
Artistic Lady Beth Bookwalter
Simon Stimson Derek Powell
Mrs. Soames Kristin Brady Fitzharris
Constable Warren Ezra M. Yarnell
2nd Baseball Player Jesse D. Lambert
Joe Stoddard Dennis Baumwoll
Sam Craig Phillip Kaczor
2nd Assistant Stage Manager Douglass Drelich
2nd Dead Woman Chrisden Ferrari
Townsperson Kristen Lentz
Townsperson Lisa Findlay
Townsperson Janet Jones
Farmer McCarthy, 2nd Dead Man Anthony C. Gosse
First Dead Man John Rickard
Organist Jeannette Klein

OUR TOWN is performed with two intermissions.

*Smoking, the taking of photographs, or the use of
recording devices is strictly prohibited.*



A Play Note

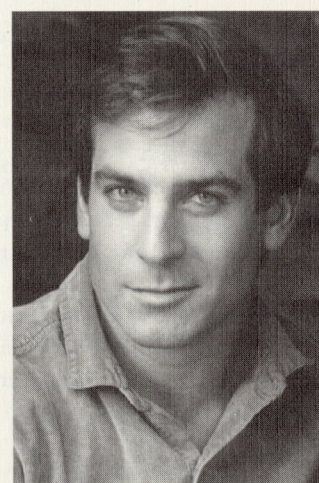
Thornton Wilder, American playwright and novelist, was born in Madison, Wisconsin on April 17, 1897 and died on December 7, 1975. *Our Town* won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1938. The play's action spans the years 1899 to 1914.

JOHN BOLGER, CLASS OF 1977

John Bolger's immensely varied work has been seen in both Regional and Off-Broadway theatre venues, as well as on television.

He is a founding member of the Willow Cabin Theatre Company and has appeared with the company in the *Wolf Trap* and New York productions of *Twelfth Night*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *As You Like It*. He has also appeared with the Willow Cabin in *The Balcony*, *Macbeth* and *S.S. GlenCairn* — *Four Plays of The Sea*. Mr. Bolger's other theatre credits include:

Richard III at the Hartford Stage Company with Richard Thomas, *The Misanthrope*, *Safe Sex* at La Mama, *Light Up The Sky* at the Roundabout, and *Antony and Cleopatra* at the Old Globe in San Diego. He has been seen on the television programs *Guiding Light*, *True Blue*, *Top Cops*, *Almost Golden: The Jessica Savitch Story* and *N.Y.P.D. Blue* and in the film, *Parting Glances*. John currently appears as "Gabe McNamara" on the NBC daytime drama, *Another World*.



A VERY SPECIAL NOTE OF THANKS

The Department of Theatre and Dance deeply appreciates
The Association for the Arts and The Sequicentennial Committee's
generous support for the residency of our Alumnus Guest Artist

CHRISTOPHER PICKART (Guest Scenic Designer) has designed numerous Off-Broadway shows, including *Perfect Crime*, the longest-running non-musical in Off-Broadway history. Regionally, he has designed in theatres ranging from Virginia Stage to the Apple Tree in Chicago. Mr. Pickart holds an M.F.A. in Scenic Design from Penn State University.

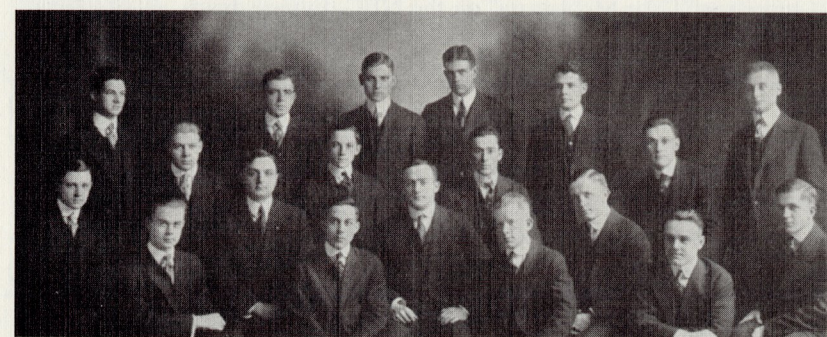


Additional thanks to: Karen Anselm & The Dept. of Theatre at Bloomsburg Univ., Montez King & The Dept. of Theatre at Penn. State Univ., Marie Miller & The McCarter Theatre, April Bevens & The Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble, The Dept. of Theatre & Dance at Amherst College, The Dept. of Theatre Arts at Mt. Holyoke College, The Dept. of Theatre at Univ. of Mass., Amherst, James Palmer, Danna Frangione, Richard Skelton, Meenakshi Ponnuswami, Ed Dadez, Gregory Clingham, Kevin Clark, Doris Dysinger, Betsy Powers, Iris Rifkin-Gainer, William Payn, Jackson Hill, Owen Anderson, Chris Fry, Administrative Services, Kyle Gann, Jim Hammerlee, Dale Hourlland, Bill Kenny, and Richard Humphrey.

Bucknell University's Sesquicentennial celebration (1846-1996) has prompted us to delve into the history of the theatre arts at Bucknell. The following chronology reveals selected:

“STAGES” OF BUCKNELL THEATRE

- 1851 First Bucknell Catalogue lists among its course requirements:
- sophomores have regular exercises in composition & elocution
 - juniors read essays out loud
 - seniors deliver orations in presence of faculty & students
 - Saturday afternoons are devoted exclusively to declamation and to reading select and original compositions
- 1879-1888 Informal readings of dramatic plays are presented
- 1894 *The Shakespeare Club*, a men's student group that presents dramatic readings of Shakespeare plays is organized
- 1901 *The Men's Dramatic Club* and *Women's Dramatic Club* are founded
- 1906 *Cap & Dagger* (for men) and *Frill and Frown* (for women), the new student dramatic clubs, are established



Cap & Dagger



Frill & Frown

- 1920's courses in Dramatic Interpretation and Oral English are added to the English Department's curriculum
- 1931 *Frill and Frown* joins with *Cap and Dagger* to create one co-ed organization
- 1926-1970 Professor of English *C. Willard Smith* (director, designer and actor) nurtures theatre development at Bucknell through *Cap and Dagger*
- 1931-1958 *Cap and Dagger* performances are staged at the Lewisburg High School, with rehearsals in Bucknell Hall, and scenery built in

- 1949-1987 Professor of English, *Harvey Powers*, is hired; teaches the first fully accredited courses in acting, directing and theatre arts; develops a theatre concentration within the English Major which culminates in a Theatre Major; directs, acts and serves as faculty artistic advisor for *Cap & Dagger*; and spearheads the successful move towards the establishment of an autonomous department of theatre
- 1951 *Cocktail Theatre*, performed in the late afternoon, is established as *Cap and Dagger's* venue for producing one-act plays in Bucknell Hall
- 1954 Professor of Art, *George Hershey*, is hired to teach the first courses in Scene and Costume Design
- 1959 The *Coleman Hall University Theatre* is built and opens; the triumvirate: Professors *C. Willard Smith*, *George Hersey* and *Harvey Powers* (shown from left to right in photo) serve as the key consultants for developing the plans for this space into a state-of-the-art proscenium theatre



- 1971-85 The University Center's Cave space becomes a second *Cap and Dagger* venue for producing student directing and acting projects
- 1979 *A Major in Theatre* within the English Department's curriculum is approved
- 1985-86 *The Department of Theatre* is launched as a new department
- November 1986 The newly renovated *Tustin Studio Theatre* opens as a state-of-the-art flexible experimental black box theatre space, with its production of Euripides' *The Bacchae*, dedicated to Professor *Harvey Powers*
- 1987-1988 Addition of the dance program transforms the existing department into *The Department of Theatre and Dance*
- 1989 *A Minor in Dance* within the department's curriculum is approved
- 1992 The Department of Theatre and Dance, and *Cap & Dagger* launch *The Educational Theatre Company*, which performs topical scenes, readings and dramatic works within classrooms cross-campus
- 1995-96 *Cap & Dagger* organizes *Company* which fosters student produced works in conjunction with the Department's existing season of plays, dance concerts, cocktail theatre, studio performances, residencies and workshops

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director: Heath Hansum
Assistant Technical Director: Richard Dionne
Assistant Lighting Designer Jonathan Fischer
Assistant to Director: Lindsey S. Rosenberg
Stage Manager:. Joshua Smith
Assistant Stage Manager's: Amy Younggren, Linda Ha
Mime Consultant: Rand Whipple
Church Choir Director. Bill Boswell
Scene Shop TAs: Pat Bartels, Nathan Grossman, Jon Fischer
Rodney Young, Autumn Birt
Set Construction: Mike Ahman, Ashley Elder
Running Crew: Donald Jones, Sara Shaning
Light Board Operator Peter Templin
Electrics Crew: Pat Bartels, Leanne Wissinger
Sound TA: Margarita Scott
Props TAs:. Melanie Taylor, Heather Wallace
Costumer: Pam Miller
Costume TAs: Vanessa Peet, Jessica Lurker, Rachel Weir,
Catherine Lusciandra
Costume Construction Marilyn Smith
Publicity & Box Office:. Bridgette Mayer, Chris Ferrari
House Manager: Jenn Stoll
Ushers: Provided by Cap & Dagger
Makeup Crew: Theatre 249

Additional crews provided by TH149

At the time that this program was printed, a complete list of the production staff was unavailable. We would like to thank all those without whose help this show would not be possible.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bucknell Dance Co. Spring Performance
May 2 & 4 at 8 p.m.
Weis Center

FACULTY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

Danna Frangione, director of dance	Technique and theory
Robert Gainer, director of theatre	Acting and directing
Gary Grant, chair	Theatre history, theory, directing
Heath Hansum	Technical direction, lighting
Er-Dong Hu	Dance technique and theory
Richard Dionne	Assistant technical direction
Joan Vick	Design
Christine Fry	Secretary

PATRON LIST 1995-96

The following is a list of patrons compiled when this program went to printing. If you would like to become a patron member please contact the Department of Theatre and Dance.

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