

BUCKNELL UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE & DANCE
PRESENTS

The Seagull

by Anton Chekhov

8 p.m.

October 28-31, 1994

University Theatre

Coleman Hall

Department of Theatre and Dance presents

The Seagull
by Anton Chekhov

Translated by David French

Directed by Whit MacLaughlin

Set and Costumes designed by Anthony Mileto

Lights designed by Heath Hansum

Sound designed by Michael Robb

Cast (in order of appearance):

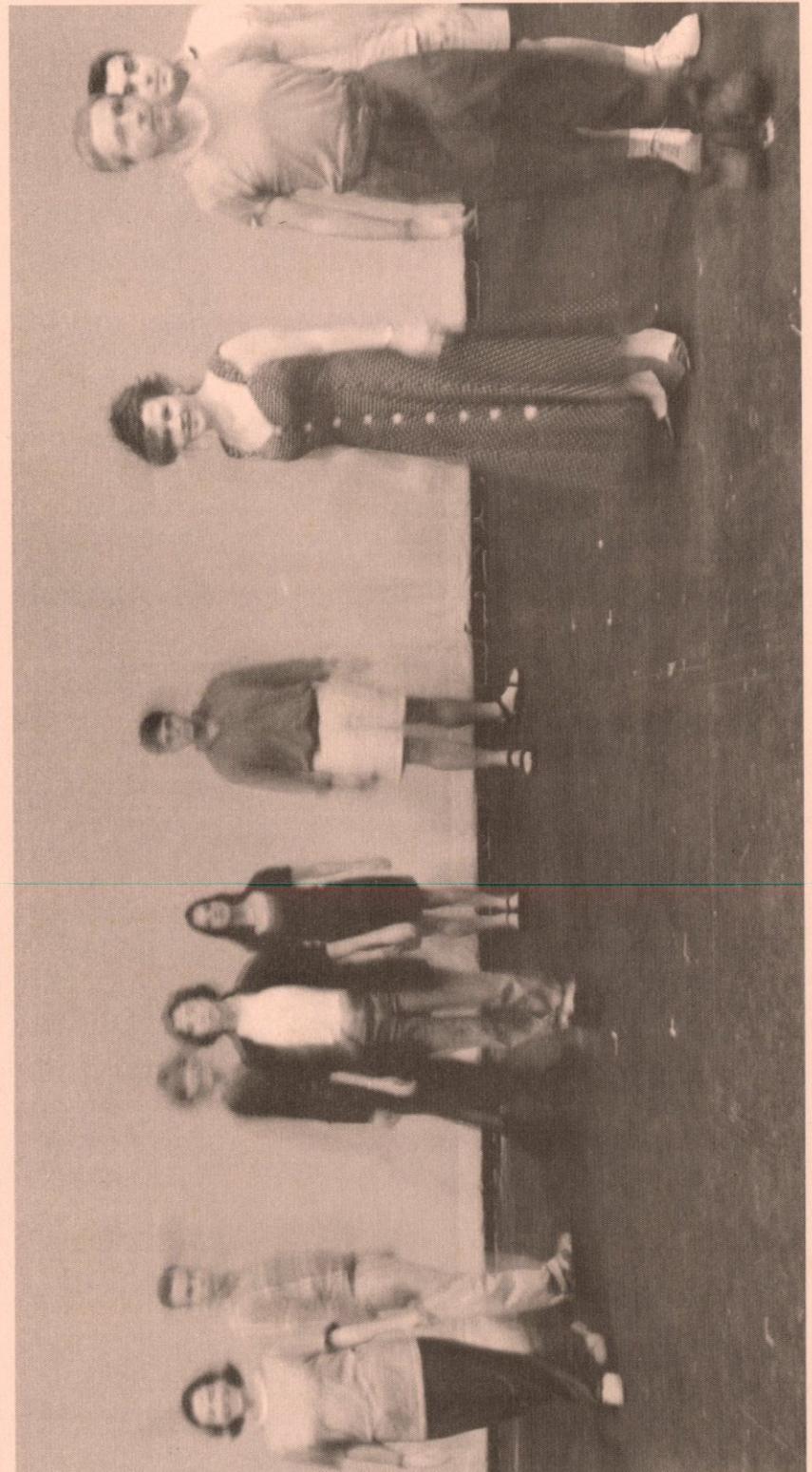
Masha.....	Julie Stanford
Medvedenko	Brian Vettoso
Treplev.....	Alex Yastremski
Sorin.....	Robert Gainer
Yakov	Donald Jones
Nina	Larissa Grason
Dorn.....	Daniel White
Polina.....	Vanessa Jones
Shamrayev	David Sawyer
Arkardina.....	Jessica Alexander
Trigorin.....	Bernard David Zilinskas
Maid.....	Shannon M. Kearns
Cook.....	Jill Raleigh

Time: There is an interval of two years between acts three and four.

Place: The grounds and the house of Sorin's estate.

There will be one 15 minute intermission between acts two and three.

*Smoking, the taking of photographs, and the use of
recording devices are strictly prohibited.*



The Seagull cast, photo by Debra Cook.

Director's Notes

I had a teacher who taught me that Chekhov's plays present actors with the greatest of challenges. Struggle with Chekhov and you are struggling with the very core of the central problem of acting—that is, the creation of full, living, breathing human beings. Fall short, and you can flop big. So, why did we undertake *The Seagull* on a college campus with young, relatively inexperienced actors?

I'm not sure. I was discussing the play the other day with Slava Yastremski, a professor of Russian language and literature at Bucknell. He was speaking passionately (as Russians are wont) about Chekhov as the Russian "Shakespeare." Productions of Chekhov's plays and the way that the plays are interpreted are like barometers in his country. The Russian people see whatever is uppermost in their minds and hearts at any particular time in the particular twists and turns of Chekhov's (all too human) human beings. The plays are a bottomless pit into which each generation throws its particular obsessions. The pit is never filled.

Yikes. Well, what, I ask myself in a panic, is *The Seagull* about? Art and artists? Youth, age, and the “generation gap?” Families? Love and its difficulties? The toll exacted by commercialism? The passing of time? The World Soul? All of these things, and more. Besides, Chekhov called the play a comedy ... but it’s so damned sad! What are we supposed to make of this?

As I write this note, I begin to understand what Slava was trying to tell me. And I begin to understand the value of this challenge to young people. Chekhov, a doctor, undertook the task of charting the anatomy, inside and out, the very *soul*, of his people, with all of its eccentricities, warts, bumps, curves, sickness, health, and great beauty. A complex, impossible task. Yet how worthwhile! And how splendid to be able to undertake this task, ourselves, here on a wonderful college campus, with a perceptive, intelligent, and quite charming cast of young Americans. The whole thing, impossible as it is, fills me with hope for the future. That hope is a healing force. Perhaps the doctor in Chekhov would be pleased.

Whit MacLaughlin

Special thanks to Everhart Museum, Laurie McCants, Nikolai Guzor, Slava Yastremski, Jim Van Fleet, Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble, Sandy Sojka, Alex Yastremski, Iris & Sarah Gainer, Bloomsburg University Theatre Department, and Out-N-About Sporting Goods.

Production Staff

Technical Director	Heath Hansum
Assistant Technical Director	David Mann
Stage Manager	Nicole Cobban
Assistant Director	Amy Sass
Assistant Lighting Designer	David Mann
Sound TA	Michael Robb
Lighting TAs	Brady Fitzharris, James Springer
Property TAs	Jill Raleigh, Amy Sass
Costumer	Pam Miller
Costume Shop TAs	Bernadette Finnican, Susannah Marshall, Laura Pye, Crystal Theesfeld
Scene Shop TAs	Peter Conn, Rich Dionne, Eric Volland, Samantha Wong, Bernard Wong, Bernard, Bernard David Zalinskask
Scenery Crew	Sherrie Divegla, Andy DeFalco, Heather Reimann, Jenn Freedberg, Matt Petroncio, Darren Bloch, Stephanie Renzi, Greg Cantwell, C. Barneman, Mary Anne Elma, Gil Hodges, Kim Ongaro, Jen Gallagher, Len Grecek
Publicity TAs	Nicole Cobban, Bridgette Mayer Michael Moore
Dance TAs	Stacy Ayrtton, Nicole Bradley, Kristin Costello
Light Board Operator	Amy Gallagher
Sound Board Operator	Stacy Ayrtton
Running Crew	Desi Villanueva, Craig Street
Box Office	Bridgette Mayer, Michael Moore
House Manager	Carol McLaughlin
Ushers	Provided by Cap & Dagger
Additional Crews	Provided by TH149, TH145, and TH015

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
David Mann	Assistant technical direction
Tony Mileto	Design
Christine Fry	Secretary

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Martha & Jackson Hill
Mary A. Hill
Er-Dong Hu & Lu-Ping Sun
Megen Karakelian
Ann de Klerk
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Betsy Powers
John Rickard & Martha Holland
Chuck & Martha Root
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Larry & Nancy Shinn
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