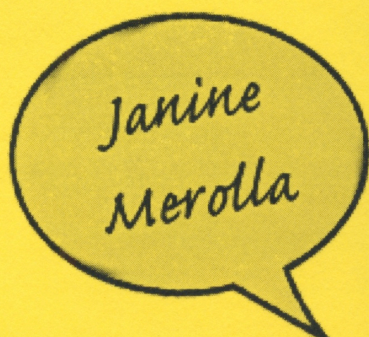


THE BUCKNELL DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE
PRESENTS



FEBRUARY 15, 16, 17, 18, 2008

TUSTIN STUDIO THEATRE

Bucknell
UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE
Presents

Two Senior Performance Projects:

Life as a Ball

Written and Performed by

Anastasia Peterson '08

With Amanda Fernandez '08, Lucy's Maid

and

Small Talk

Written and Performed by

Janine Merolla '08

With Caroline Benton '10, Piano Accompanist

Dramaturgical Mentorship for *Life as a Ball*Laurie McCants
Dramaturgical Mentorship for *Small Talk*Gary Grant
Scene DesignBrittany Durbin and F. Elaine Williams
Projection DesignBrittany Durbin
Lighting and Sound Design, Technical DirectionHeath J. Hansum
Costume Design for *Life as a Ball*Paula Denise Davis
Costume Design for *Small Talk*Emma Scholl
Stage DirectionBob Gainer
Production Stage ManagerRachel Sherbill
Stage Manager for *Life As A Ball*Ryan Abercrombie
Stage Manager for *Small Talk*Stephanie Walters

— There will be one 10-minute intermission —

Please Note:

Smoking, the taking of photographs, and the use of recording devices are strictly prohibited. Please turn off your cell phones & beepers before the performance begins. Thank you.

LIFE AS A BALL Project Notes

by Anastasia Peterson

Nine months ago, when I first developed the idea of writing and performing in a one-woman show about Lucille Ball, it seemed like an incredibly simple and ingenious idea. Lucille Ball, as a woman, an actress and a business woman, has been my inspiration and (some might say) obsession since I was six years old. The prospect of fully delving into her life – reading biographies, autobiographies, letters, watching documentaries, and then compiling my discoveries into a performance piece was simply a dream come true. Not to mention that I would be receiving class credits and honors for playing dress-up as my favorite actress.

Not long into my research process I found that my idea, as ingenious as it may have been, was anything but simple. I realized that throughout my childhood and adolescence, I had only encountered the positive aspects of Lucille Ball's life; her success in Hollywood, her romance with Desi Arnaz, her elegance and beauty mixed with an innate comic sense and intelligence. Through more extensive research this past summer, I was introduced to the darker, harsher side of Lucille's career and personal life – her painstaking need for perfection, her inability to take herself away from her work and her heartbreaking divorce from husband and costar Desi Arnaz.

Along with the realization that Lucille Ball's life was anything but perfect, a fact I had avoided for many years, I found that I could not write a show about her without including the significant influence she had on my own life – I would have to add myself as a character in the piece. From this point on, I discovered so many new and unexpected facts about Lucille Ball as well as myself. I made connections between people in my life now and how they ultimately tie back to my love for Lucy.

My past came flowing back to me like an old television show, reminding me that life cannot stand still, but that it can be captured in memory forever. After all, isn't that what all the great painters, photographers, writers, filmmakers, strive to portray – a moment captured in history; time stood still? Lucille Ball created one of the most memorable television characters of all time, on a world-renowned television show. "I Love Lucy" won my admiration and interest 42 years after the show first aired in 1950. The show has been a constant in my life. Lucille Ball's "I Love Lucy" represents time captured.

Throughout my writing and rehearsal process I have learned, remembered, discovered, played and loved. I hope that I can share even the smallest piece of my journey with you.

SMALL TALK Project Notes

by Janine Merolla

If you would have told me, as a freshman, that I would have written and performed a one woman show for my senior project, I would have told you to stop doing drugs. However, last August, I sat down with my advisor, Gary Grant, and began discussing my idea for my senior 319.

"I'm thinking of performing a series of one woman monologues," I told him, "starting with a monologue by Jane Martin called 'French Fries.'"

Gary asked me why I had chosen that particular monologue above all others.

"Because it was the last monologue my mother performed as an actress. She was also pregnant with me when she performed it."

"Now, Janine," Gary told me, "that interests me more than anything. That sounds like a basis for a play."

But I wasn't so sure. Although my mother and father's experience in theatre has certainly spurred my own interest forward, I didn't think it was the right sort of thing to base a show off of. I thought it was too personal. "Acting is nothing if it is not personal," Prof. Grant said. And it's true. Stacey and I have invested months upon months of work, time, and energy into these projects, but we have also unknowingly devoted our lives to it, in a way. These performances come straight from us to you; I know I speak for both of us when I say these are the most personal performances we have ever done onstage. And that is the exciting, unique, and personal opportunity of theatre.

BIOS

Anastasia Peterson '08

After playing numerous character roles on Bucknell's stages, including "Bride" in *A Respectable Wedding*, *Little Sally* in *Urinetown* and "Mom" in *True West*, Anastasia is proud and excited to portray the ultimate character actress and comedian Lucille Ball in this one-woman show. She feels extremely fortunate to have the opportunity to share this very personal, self-discovering piece with all of you. Anastasia would like to thank her parents and her sister Leslie, for constant support and enthusiasm, Erik for his patience and unfailing strength, and her Bucknell friends who have provided encouragement and comic relief throughout the writing and rehearsal process. She would also like to extend a special thanks to the Bucknell Theatre Department, specifically Bob Gainer and Gary Grant, for turning her daydreams into a reality and mentor Laurie McCants for her guidance and motivation throughout the writing process. Anastasia is so grateful to perform for you this evening. Enjoy!

Janine Merolla '08

Janine Merolla, a senior, has performed in numerous roles at Bucknell, such as Eisenring in *The Firebugs*, the Wife in *The Wedding*, and most recently, Mom in *True West*. She has also been in the cast of *All My Sons*, *Nobody's Earnest*, and *Urinetown*. But she is extremely proud and happy to present *Small Talk*, an original piece as her senior project. She believes that her involvement in *Two Past Midnight*, *We Brake for Nobody* comedy improv, and the theatre department has infinitely helped her in the writing and performing of this piece. She would like to extend a huge thank you to the theatre department, esp. Gary Grant (her advisor/therapist) and Bob Gainer, for their unwavering enthusiasm and flexibility, Stacey for going through this whole ordeal with her right next door, her friends for...well...their friendship, and her parents (be they "step" or no) for understanding that *Small Talk* needed to be done and selflessly letting her do it. And thank you all so much for coming!

Laurie McCants, Guest Dramaturge for *Life As A Ball*

Laurie McCants is a founding member of the Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble. Her musical *The Alexandria Carry-On* (created with composer/performer Theo Bleckmann) recently performed in Egypt. She is active in *Theatre Without Borders* and the *Network of Ensemble Theatres*.

THEA 319 – Individual Projects

This production, TWO SENIOR PERFORMANCES, performed by senior theatre majors Anastasia Peterson and Janine Merolla, represents their creative work within the Department of Theatre and Dance's THEA 319: Individual Studies course.

THEA 319 is intended for those accomplished theatre majors in their senior year who desire to pursue advanced-level studies in a particular theatre discipline. THEA 319 studies are guided by one or more faculty members from the department, and entail a close working relationship between the primary mentor and his/her student. The work process for the research and realization of this project is expected to include a multi-faceted approach for the student's proposed method of inquiry into the given subject area and usually spans a semester-long period.

The department has had successful senior projects in the areas of stage direction, performance, choreography, design, technology, stage management, dramatic literature, theatre history, criticism and dramaturgy.

The department's faculty advisors for these two writer/performers, Janine and Anastasia, were Gary Grant and Guest Artist Laurie McCants respectively. Other theatre program faculty have also supported these emerging student artists in their creative journeys.

Generous support by the Bucknell Association for the Arts and the Richard A. Klein Theatre and Dance Endowment has made our 2007-2008 artistic season, guest artists' performances, master classes, workshops and residencies possible.

Special Thanks To:

Lois Svard, Robin Jarrell, James Merolla, Sedona Boyatzis, James and Jill Peterson, Amanda Fernandez, Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble, Cindy Berry, catering supervisor

Production Staff

Technical Director	Heath J. Hansum
Assistant Technical Director	John Andzulis
Production Stage Manager	Rachel Sherbill
Stage Managers	Ryan Abercrombie & Stephanie Walters
Onstage Studio Assistants	Morgan Eifler, Ryan Abercrombie
Set Construction and Electrics	Steve Kosiba
	Christopher A. Kulish, Jess Petrie
	Jeff Riling, Hazel Ruiz, Tyler Skalski,
	Christopher Shake, Laura Vaughn
Light board Operator	Sarah Nochenson
Soundboard Operator	Tyler Skalski
Folllowspot Operator	Tracey Woodard
Projectionist	Luke Collin
Props and Paints	Brittany Durbin, Alan Johnson-McNutt, Janine Merolla,
	Anastasia Peterson, Bianca Roman,
	Rachel Sherbill, Stephanie Walters
Costume Shop Manager	Pam Miller
Costume Design Intern	Emma Scholl
Dresser	Becky Miller
Costume Construction	Allison Clymer, Nicole Fellows
	Aaron Meyers, Emily Riggins, Rachel Stanton,
Costume Presidential Fellow	Rebecca Dillon
Makeup and Hair	Kathryn Brownstone
Public Relations	Sarah Nochenson, Rachael Pearce
House Manager	Abby Borden
Poster Design & program cover	Will Winner, Emily Penick,
	Amanda Fernandez

THEA 101 Crews 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

Department of Theatre and Dance

Paula Denise Davis, costume design and history
Christine Fry, academic assistant
Robert Gainer, chair, acting and directing
Eleanor Goudie-Averill, dance technique
Gary Grant, theatre history, theory, directing
F. Elaine Williams, scenography
Heath J. Hansum, technical direction, lighting
Er-Dong Hu, director of dance, dance technique and theory
Kelly Knox, dance technique and theory
Pam Miller, costume shop management
John Andzulis, assistant technical direction
Emma Scholl, costume design intern

SUBSCRIBER LIST 2007-2008

Maurice and Laurie Aburdene
Jane and Loren Amacher
Richard Bavitz
Ronald L. Beaver
William T. Bobb
Eleanor and Fred Dallabrida
Paula Denise Davis
Mary Alice Deihl
John and Linda Dietrichson
Nora and Warren Elze
Kelly R. Finley
Steven and Veronika Foldes
Bob and Nick Frangione
Chris and Gary Fry
Bob and Iris Gainer
Tom C. and Margaret Greaves
Anthony Gosse
Gary and Nancy Grant
Annelies Gray
Heath and Jennifer Hansum
Er-Dong Hu and Lu-Ping Sun
Kelly Knox and Matthew Heintzelman
Arline Johnson
Janet D. Jones
Joseph and Elaine Koletar
Cindy and Dick Nickelsen
Pam and Chuck Miller
Charles and Gayle Pollock
Betsy K. Powers
Ted and Jackie Sallade
Evelyn and Norman Schneider
Jocelyne Scott
James Mark Shields
Bea Spielman
David B. and Louise M. Stone
Douglas E. and Margie Sturm
Lois G. Tilton
Melissa A. Webber
F. Elaine Williams
John and Martha Zeller

CONTRIBUTOR LIST 2005-2008

Maurice F. and Laurie F. Aburdene
Mr. and Mrs. David E. Ackroyd
Mr. and Mrs. George Agrimankis
Ms. Cara A. Alaimo
Dr. and Mrs. A. Loren Amacher
Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Ames
Mr. James G. Amlicke
Mr. and Mrs. Scott D. Archer
Ms. Beth Ashby
Mrs. Jennifer L. Banks
Ms. Amy E. Billinger
Ashlynn Billingsley Wright
Ms. Lisa I. Bloomberg
Ms. Brittany I. Bohn
Mr. and Mrs. Dominick J. Cardone
Dr. Audrey E. Carmeli
Mr. and Mrs. William Carter III
Mr. and Mrs. John E. Charles
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Christy
Mr. and Mrs. Todd Clark
Mr. and Mrs. James B. Cobban
Mr. and Mrs. Edward F. Csaszar
Mrs. Shirley P. Curry
Mr. and Mrs. David S. Culver
Ms. Sherry E. Davis
Mrs. Diane C. Dickey
Mrs. Dorothy Lee DuBois
Mr. and Mrs. Peter B. Elder
Ashley Elder-Bishop
Ms. Eileen C. Feikens
Ms. Nancy H. Fenton

Mr. Michael F. Fountain Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. James Fredrickson
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Garman
Mr. Mark A. Gasarch and Gail Hart
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gonzalez
Mrs. Linda G. Greenberg
Mr. and Mrs. J. Lawrence Hager
Mr. Allen P. Haines
Ms. Catherine A. Halley
Mr. Thomas P. Halley
Harris Brothers Foundation
Ms. Lou A. Hatfield
Ms. Kara Hartman
Mr. Kevin Headley
Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Holland
Mrs. Schelly Homan
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hull
Mrs. Virginia C. Isaacson
Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Jennings
Ms. Ehren P. Jennings
Ms. Megan Karakelian
Mr. Thomas M. Keating
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Kimberling
Mr. Richard A. Klein
Mr. Stuart R. Kramer
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Kuhn
Ms. Kristy Kuhn
Ms. Michelle A. Lao
Mrs. Gretchen M. Liga
Ms. Allison Luisi
Mr. Joseph R. LoGripio
Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. Matthews
Mrs. Virginia M. McDonald
Ms. Mary Elizabeth M. McGlynn
Mrs. Donald E. Menzie
Ms. Amy D. Merjeski
Mr. Eric B. Molitor
Mr. Douglas B. Montgomery
Ms. Judith G. Montgomery
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Monty
Ms. Helen Myers
Prof. and Mrs. Richard P. Nickelsen
Ms. Janelle E. Olotorik-Wilkinson
Mrs. Sherry Oritz-Higgins
Mr. and Mrs. James Petersen
Ms. Kathleen A. Pino-Potor
Mrs. Amy E. Pole
Charles and Gayle Pollock
Dr. David Polsky
Ms. Lauren E. Rabadeau
Mr. R Paul Riggins
Riggins, Incorporated
Ms. Daphne J. Riordan
Ms. Nancy C. Roberts
Dr. and Mrs. Steffen Rogers
Mr. Douglas Sayles
Ms. Kimberly Copolla
Mrs. Penelope Kokines Sanborn
Mr. Richard J. Schlecker
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Schneider
Mr. David B. Serlin
Ms. Leslie Shoemaker
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Slotcavage
Ms. Karen Smith
Mr. Robert and Mrs. Eileen Stokes
Mr. Robert M. Sundy
Mr. and Mrs. James P. Taubner
Ms. Leah A. Theriault
Mrs. Dabney Giles Treacy
Mr. Joseph E. Van Riper Jr.
Corinna Warhurst, Esq.
Ms. Mary T. Wycheck
Mr. Rodney J. Young
Ms. Elizabeth Zaprazny
Ms. Judy L. Ziegler

Upcoming Events

The Secret Rapture – April 11, 12, 13, & 14 at 8 p.m.
Harvey M. Powers Theatre

Choreographer's Showcase – April 18 at 8 p.m. & April 19 at 2 p.m.
Tustin Studio Theatre

Spring Dance Concert – April 25 & 26 at 8 p.m.
Weis Center for the Performing Arts