4-22-1983

Summer and Smoke

Follow this and additional works at: https://pillars.taylor.edu/playbills

Part of the Acting Commons, Dance Commons, Higher Education Commons, Playwriting Commons, and the Theatre History Commons

Recommended Citation
https://pillars.taylor.edu/playbills/248
Tennessee Williams' SUMMER AND SMOKE

APRIL 22, 23, 28, 29, 30
Taylor University
Little Theatre
From the Director

There are many reasons why Tennessee Williams is generally recognized as one of America’s greatest playwrights. He has created some of the most memorable portraits of individuals in all of dramatic literature. Female characters such as Maggie the cat, Blanche DuBois, Amanda Wingfield and Alma Winemiller are unforgettable because of the depth, complexity and sensitivity with which Williams has drawn them.

He has also succeeded in providing us with powerful dramatic explanations of the efforts of these women to build meaningful relationships with equally interesting and complex male characters such as John Buchanan. In SUMMER AND SMOKE, Williams has presented us with the events of one summer and fall as they transpired in Glorious Hill, Mississippi. During this six month time period, Alma and John come so close they “almost breathe together” but only Alma understands. John says he “never knew” that this was what had happened. How could two people miss each other so totally when they were trying so desperately to make contact? This is the question posed by the play.

Williams provides us with a series of powerful visual and verbal metaphors to explore this question. Two houses stand next to each other but are separated by a wide yard—a yard too wide to call across. Two philosophies of life oppose each other. One is based on serving and giving which brings meaning to existence. The other asserts that if meaning is to be found at all, it is extremely elusive. A noisy, rowdy party is contrasted with the “enormous silence” which falls between two people. A stone angel whose blood is mineral water is compared to a living woman who is called an angel. Alma and John share a vision of ice, consumed by fire, which produces the autumn smoke. John argues that an anatomy chart is the definitive statement of personhood, while Alma affirms that humanness is more than a matter of organs and systems—there is also a soul. John holds the view that love between a man and a woman is primarily a matter of passion which is contrasted with Alma’s view that such love has the possibility of transcending the physical and reaching a spiritual dimension.

Ultimately, SUMMER AND SMOKE invites you to explore the questions raised by the characters who inhabit Glorious Hill, Mississippi. Is it ever possible for two people to transcend the enormous silence, to affect each other’s lives in positive and meaningful ways? If it happens, does it carry the “happy ever after” guarantee? If this guarantee proves to be only a “limited warranty,” is the effort still worthwhile?

Summer and Smoke

Directed by Dr. Jessica Rousselow
Designed by Dr. Oliver Hubbard

CAST
(in the order of their appearance)

Reverend Winemiller .............. Barry VonLanken
Mrs. Winemiller .................. Debbie Messamore
John Buchanan, Jr. ............... Kurt Bullock
Alma Winemiller .................. Cindy Ericson
Rosa Gonzales .................... Julia Shepherd
Nellie Ewell ....................... Janice Shipley
Roger Doremus ................... Scott Etchison
Dr. John Buchanan, Sr. ........... Greg Cox
Mrs. Bassett ...................... Kelly Isaksen
Sarah .............................. Lenora Cooper
Rosemary ......................... Arlita Boerop
Maria .............................. Debbie Peters
Gonzales ........................... Doug Oliver
Archie Kramer ........................ Malcolm Shook

PART I: A SUMMER
PART II: A WINTER

The entire action of the play takes place in the town of Glorious Hill, Mississippi, shortly before World War I.
There will be a ten minute intermission between Part I and Part II.

This Evening’s Music

Composed by Mr. Paul Bowles, this evening’s music was used in the original production of SUMMER AND SMOKE.

Pre-show and intermission music from the early 1900’s is performed by Tim Johnson.

Acknowledgments

Our special thanks to the following people who helped us prepare for our show: Dr. Frederick Shulze; Professor Richard Dixon; Mr. Steven Burnish; Dr. Dwight Mikkelson; Mr. Harvey Mote; Beth Gabrielsen; Morris Hall; Olson Hall; Taylor’s Music, Science and Physical Education Departments; DeForest Optical and Cunningham Garden Center and Nursery, Marion, Indiana; Upland Greenhouse; Donna Daniels, Indiana Bell Telephone Company, Kokomo, Indiana.

Part of the furniture has been loaned by Mr. Earl Everhart and may be purchased at “The Attic”, Hartford City, Indiana.

A Communication & Theatre Arts Department Production

During Intermission

We invite you to visit the Annual Student Art Show now being exhibited in the Chronicle-Tribune Art Gallery on the main floor.

As a courtesy to the actors, please do not use cameras during the performance.
Production Staff

Assistant to the Director ........................................ Mindy Date
Technical Director ........................................ Dr. Oliver Hubbard

Set Crew ......................................................... Jim Bates
........................................ Kurt Bullock
........................................ Tim Himmelwright
........................................ Richard Lantz
........................................ Jim Ogborn

Lighting Design ........................................ Priscilla Smith

Light Crew ..................................................... PRISCILLA SMITH
........................................ Barb Kessler
........................................ Tracee Pettrakis
........................................ Gale Wallower
........................................ Jim Wynalda

Audio Technicians ........................................ TIM HIMMELWRIGHT
........................................ Paul Branks

Sound .......................................................... Debbie Peters

Properties ................................................. CAROLE FISHER
........................................ CAMI HOUSE
........................................ Alice Batcher
........................................ Susan Nicholson

Make-up .................................................. LORI MILLER
........................................ Sue Binder
........................................ Betsy Burns
........................................ Nancy Dennis
........................................ Sue Glassburn
........................................ Cindy Johnson
........................................ Jody Luxford
........................................ Ruth Plumb
........................................ Diane Rutter
........................................ Laura Shepherd
........................................ Priscilla Smith
........................................ Missy Town

Costumes ............................................. JULIA SHEPHERD
........................................ Susan Binder
........................................ Julie Bailey
........................................ Mindy Date
........................................ Jennifer Deal
........................................ Carrie Greene
........................................ Carol Holtzapple
........................................ Deb Lucas
........................................ Laura Mannix
........................................ Joan Pepper
........................................ Diane Rutter
........................................ Deb Sala
........................................ Laura Shepherd
........................................ Peggy Spooner
........................................ Kristen Thorn

House .................................................. DEBBIE PUGSLEY
........................................ JANICE SHIPLEY
........................................ Barb Askeland
........................................ Anne Bolander
........................................ Alex Bromhead
........................................ Paul Harris
........................................ Judy Harrison
........................................ Diane Hedrick
........................................ Debbie Lucas
........................................ Robyn Nowling
........................................ Hettie Powe
........................................ Kathy Prange
........................................ Debbie Springer
........................................ Mike Springer
........................................ Julie Sprunger
........................................ Kelly Toth
........................................ Missy Town
........................................ Dave Wesner

Program Cover Design ........................................ Abbie Ansburg