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The Maids Playbill

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PROVIDENCE COLLEGE DEPT. OF THEATRE, DANCE & FILM

THE MAIDS

WRITTEN BY JEAN GENET

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH BY BERNARD FRECHTMAN

Directed by Erin Joy Schmidt



January 23-26

Angell Blackfriars Theatre

Thursday, Friday, Saturday 7:30pm; Sunday 2:00pm

Tickets: theatre.providence.edu | 401.865.2218



If you are a person with a disability and require an assistive device, service, or other accommodation to participate in this event, please contact the Central Reservations Coordinator (401-865-2070; M-F 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) well in advance of this event.




PHOTOGRAPHY OR VIDEO RECORDING of any kind is strictly prohibited during performances in the Angell Blackfriars Theatre and the Bowab Studio Theatre.

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELLULAR PHONES AND PAGERS before the performance begins.

TEXT MESSAGING IS NOT PERMITTED IN THE THEATRE during the performance out of respect to the performers and as a courtesy to those seated near you.

THE MAIN RESTROOMS are located down the stairs in the lower lobby.

 ACCESSIBLE RESTROOMS are located at either end of the main lobby. If you are a person with a disability and require an assistive device, service, or other accommodation to participate in events in the Smith Center, please contact the Central Reservations Coordinator (401-865-2070; M-F 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) well in advance.

TICKETS FOR EVENTS in the Angell Blackfriars Theatre and the Bowab Studio Theatre may be purchased online or over the telephone by Visa or Mastercard. If we have an accurate email for you, information will be sent to you prior to all mainstage events. To add your name to our list or to purchase tickets, call 401-865-2218 or visit theatre.providence.edu.

THE BOX OFFICE AT THE SMITH CENTER FOR THE ARTS is open for walk-up sales 1:00-4:00 PM Monday through Friday when classes are in session, and one hour prior to curtain on performance days. Cash, check, or credit cards are accepted for walk-up sales.

ALL TICKET SALES ARE FINAL AND CANNOT BE REFUNDED. You may exchange tickets for a different performance of the same production by returning your tickets to the Box Office up to 24 hours prior to curtain, subject to seat availability.

Providence College Department of Theatre, Dance & Film
Angell Blackfriars Theatre

The Maids

Written by Jean Genet
Translated from the French by Bernard Frechtman

Directed by
Erin Joy Schmidt

Scenic Designer
Sarah Markley

Costume Designer
Chelsea Kerl

Sound Designer
Steve Shapiro

Lighting Designer
Michael Clark Wonson

Vocal Coach
Megan Chang

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Claire..... Grace Dolan
Solange..... Sydney Cahill
Madame..... Halle Pratt

Setting: 1920's. A city. Madame's bedroom.

The Maids will be performed in **one act**.

Special Thanks

Richard Waugh, John Garrity, Mary Farrell,
Michael Getz and Trinity Repertory Co.
Wellesley College

Production Staff

STAGE MANAGER

Alexander Cannon

BOX OFFICE MANAGER

Ashley DiCaro

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS

Jillian Forrester

Joseph Pekar

RUNNING CREW

Nicholas Bullock

WARDROBE CREW

Stacey Dafinice

FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER

Michael Liebhauser

VIDEOGRAPHER

Ed Wardyga

MEDIA AND ARCHIVE

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gabrielle Marks

USHERS

Friars Club

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Larissa Chartier

Paola Diaz

Samantha Marchese

Molly McGrath

Rachael McMillan

Lucille Vasquez

SCENE SHOP CREW

Timothy Brown

Alan (Thang) Bui

Sydney Cahill

Alexander Cannon

Connor Christuk

Daniel Cronin

Gerardo Davila

Grace Dolan

Thomas Edwards

Kelly Slader

Juan Velez

Abdelnasser Zadiyeh

TDF relies on the volunteer efforts of a student-run production crew.

These students dedicate their time to contribute to the high-quality production values we here at Providence College are so proud to present to you, the patron. For more specific information about our crew positions for this production, or to sign up for a future crew experience, please contact James Calitri, Managing Director of Theatre at jcalitri@providence.edu.

Resident and Guest Artists

Erin Joy Schmidt (Director) is an Assistant Professor of Theatre at Providence College and a proud alumna. Prior to returning to TDF, Erin was a Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre and Director of Performance Studies at Avila University in Kansas City. She holds an M.F.A. in Acting from The Actors Studio Drama School at New School University, where she was awarded the prestigious Shubert Scholarship for Excellence by her peers and professors. As a professional actor, Erin has performed regionally in over forty productions, including several world premieres. She has worked at the Williamstown Theatre Festival, Mirror Rep, City Theatre, Gablestage and Palm Beach Dramaworks, among others. Erin has directed many times, including productions of *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Pippin*, *Uncommon Women and Others*, and *Into the Woods*, among others. She is a very proud member of the Actors Equity Association.

Megan Chang (Vocal Coach) Megan is Assistant Professor of Voice & Speech at Providence College and the Core Curriculum Faculty Fellow for Oral Communication. Previously, she served as vocal coach for *Something Rotten* (Regional Premiere), *Moon Over Buffalo*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Hamlet*, *The Laramie Project*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Playhouse Creatures*, and *Addams Family the Musical* at Providence College. She also teaches a variety of workshops on campus and with local professionals, most recently working as a Communications Consultant for Brown University's EMSTL program. She also teaches workshops in conjunction with Breakthrough Providence and PC's Friar Foundation. She received her MFA in Vocal Pedagogy from Virginia Commonwealth University. Previous coaching credits include: *The 39 Steps*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Dial M for Murder* (Triad Stage, North Carolina); *The Winter's Tale*, *Serjeant Musgrave's Dance*, *Deadly Sins: A Sword Play*, *Hoodoo Love*, *The Blood Knot*, *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Oklahoma!* (University of North Carolina School of the Arts); *Cabaret*, *Dracula*, *Psycho Beach Party* (Virginia Commonwealth University).

Chelsea Kerl (Costume Designer) is pleased to be designing her first show at Providence College. She is a Boston based freelance artist who received her MFA in Costume Design from Boston University and earned degrees in both Theatre and English from the University of Maryland. Select recent productions include *Greater Good* (Company One/American Repertory Theatre), *Twelfth Night* (Actors' Shakespeare Project/Lyric Stage Company of Boston), *Native Gardens* (Gloucester Stage Company), and *James and the Giant Peach* and *Willy Wonka* (Wheelock Family Theatre). Chelsea is also the costume shop manager, resident costume designer, and costume design professor at Wellesley College and Wellesley Repertory Theatre, and she often works in the costume shop of the American Repertory Theatre. More of her work can be seen at www.chelseakerl.com.

Sarah Markley (Scenic Designer) is a recent graduate from Skidmore College with a B.S. degree in Scenic Design and Scenic Painting. While there, she designed the world premiere of *We Used to Wear Bonnets* and *Get High All the Time* by Julia May Jonas, as well as *Everything You Touch* by Sheila Callaghan. She is now living in D.C. working as an Interior Designer, but is so excited to be back in the theater and a part of *The Maids*. She wants to give a huge thanks to Erin, Trevor, Jimmy and everyone on the team for the special opportunity and making it an amazing experience!

Steve Shapiro (Sound Designer) is pleased to join old friends for this production of *The Maids*. He currently lives in Pittsburgh, where he is the Resident Sound Designer at The Pittsburgh Playhouse, and a teacher at Point Park University. He is the National Sound Designer for *Menopause the Musical* and *The Play with Rocky Bleier*, now touring around the country and the world. From 1990 to 2006, Steve was the Resident Sound Designer at the world renowned Coconut Grove Playhouse in Miami, designing over 85 productions and working with such different artists as Jimmy Buffet, Jack Klugman, Tony Randall, Len Cariou, Anthony Newley, Bea Arthur, and many more. Other credits include the Russian language premiere of *The Skin of Our Teeth* in Novosibirsk, Russia, helming the sound board for the 1995 South American Tour of *The Phantom of the Opera*, composing the original score for the South Florida premiere of *Angels in America*, and the score composition and sound design of Alan Ginsburg's only play, *Plutonian Ode*.

Michael Clark Wonson (Lighting Designer) has designed for Boston Lyric Opera, Cumberland County Playhouse in Tennessee, Southern Methodist University School of Theatre, Dance and Opera, the five college MFA and faculty dance department of Western Massachusetts, Boston Conservatory, Seacoast Repertory Theater in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, and the Courthouse Center for the Arts in Kingston, Rhode Island. His work has toured internationally and throughout North America. His shows have received IRNE, EMACT, MOSS HART, Massachusetts Assets for Artist Grant, Kennedy Center Award, and the ELLIOT Norton Award. He's thrilled to be at Providence College to tell this story at this time.



Director's Note

“I recognize in thieves, traitors and murderers, in the ruthless and the cunning, a deep beauty-a sunken beauty.” –Jean Genet



The world that Genet creates for *The Maids* is a dark one, filled with all the hallmarks of the deadliest sins; greed, envy, and wrath among them. Yet, through the darkness and pain of this absurdist tale, there is something human, beautiful and relatable about these women and their lives. If we all took a moment to imagine what it must be like to be trapped economically, socially and physically in a life that feels unimportant, and even worse, unlivable, how might we behave in the world? What desperate measures might we take while living a life unfulfilled? The only way Claire and Solange have been able to carry on, day after day, is through their ceremony, an imaginative ritual these sisters have created where they take on the role of their employer and act out their fantasies in her boudoir. Throughout the play, Claire and Solange use their act as a means to escape their lives and live in the fantasy world of their dreams. As we discover, their ritual has become their life line, but now, it seems, that the ceremony may have been discovered by Madame, and their darkness may be brought into the light. Will they act out their fantasy for the last time and finally reach the end of their sacred ceremony?

- Erin Joy Schmidt

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE THEATRE, DANCE & FILM

BEASTS

**AN ORIGINAL PLAY
BY THOMAS EDWARDS '20**

**FEBRUARY 13-16
BOWAB STUDIO THEATRE
FOR TICKETS & MORE INFO:
THEATRE.PROVIDENCE.EDU
401.865.2218**



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The Kennedy Center

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The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival 48®, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by David and Alice Rubenstein.

Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center of the Performing Arts' Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; the Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation; the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation; Beatrice and Anthony Welters and the AnBryce Foundation.

Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts and the President's Advisory Committee on the Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims 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 a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE, DANCE & FILM

Full-Time Faculty

Wendy Oliver, Ed. D., Professor of Dance,
Dept. Chair of Theatre, Dance & Film

David Costa-Cabral, MFA, Professor
Theatre

Jimmy Calitri, MFA, Assoc. Professor
Managing Director of Theatre

Megan Chang, MFA, Assist. Professor
Voice and Speech

Mary Farrell, MFA, Professor Emerita
Theatre

John Garrity, MFA, Assoc. Professor
Theatre

Rev. Kenneth Gumbert, O.P., MFA, Professor
Film

Erin Joy Schmidt, MFA, Assist. Professor
Theatre

Adjunct Faculty

Ali Angelone, MFA
Theatre

Alan Hawkrige, Graduate of LAMDA
Theatre

Ann Huyck, MFA
Dance

Robin James, MA
Oral Communication

Kate Lohman, MFA
Oral Communication

Jennifer Madden, Ph. D.
Theatre

Kathleen Nasti, MBA & MFA
Dance

Kevin Olson, MFA
Public Speaking

Dave Rabinow, MFA
Theatre/Creative Drama Coordinator

Patrick Mark Saunders, MFA
Theatre

Linda Sutherland, MA
Theatre

Ben Sweeney, MFA
Film

Staff

Ali Boyd, Academic Administrative Coordinator

Trevor Elliott, Technical Director

Gabe Luxton, Asst. Technical Director

Talia Triangolo, Production Administrative Coordinator

Maxine Wheelock, Costume Shop Supervisor



PROVIDENCE COLLEGE THEATRE, DANCE & FILM 2019-2020 SEASON



SOMETHING ROTTEN! A REGIONAL COLLEGE PREMIERE

AUDITIONS: TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

music and lyrics by Karey Kirkpatrick and Wayne Kirkpatrick
book by Karey Kirkpatrick and John O'Farrell
October 25-27 and November 1-3

BLACKFRIARS DANCE CONCERT

AUDITIONS: THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

directed by Wendy Oliver
featuring guest & resident choreographers
November 15 & 16

THE MAIDS

AUDITIONS: MONDAY 4 NOVEMBER

written by Jean Genet, translated by Bernard Frechtman
January 23-26

BEASTS

AUDITIONS: MONDAY 4 NOVEMBER

an original play by Thomas Edwards '20
directed by John Garrity
February 13-16

CREATIVE WRITERS FESTIVAL

March 21 & 22

PETER AND THE STARCATCHER

AUDITIONS: TUESDAY 18 FEBRUARY

a play by Rick Elice, music by Wayne Barker
based on the novel by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson
April 3-5 and 17-19

SPRING DANCE CONCERT

a showcase of student choreography
April 24 & 25

STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL

April 30

AUDITIONS ARE OPEN TO ALL PC STUDENTS. You do not need previous experience to be considered for a role or for production crew. The Department of Theatre, Dance & Film supports diverse, nontraditional casting as a regular part of all its theatre productions.

Smith Center Box Office: 401.865.2218
TDF Academic Office: 401.865.2327



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Photography: Gabrielle Marks
Program and audition dates subject to change.

