

# Theatre at the University of South Carolina

# Selected Guest Artists

As an essential part of the training program, USC brings in guest artists and teachers with professional careers as independent artists and as members of major regional theatres. The following is a partial list of recent guest artists.

## Michael Philippi

*Guest Designer*

Michael Philippi has designed regularly for Chicago-area theatres including the Goodman, Shakespeare Rep., Northlight Theatre, St. Nicholas, Court Theatre, and Wisdom Bridge. His lighting designs for the Goodman's revival of Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* received a Tony award nomination when the production moved to Broadway for a long run. Other work includes designs for Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, StageWest, Milwaukee Rep., Walnut Street Theatre, Playwrights Horizons, and Arena Stage. He designed scenery for Theatre South Carolina's production of Eugene O'Neill's comedy *Ah, Wilderness!* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.



Michael Philippi's set design for USC's *Ah, Wilderness!*

## Bonnie J. Monte

*Guest Director*

Bonnie J. Monte is Artistic Director of The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey. Ms. Monte has directed 25 productions for Shakespeare Theatre. Prior to her arrival in New Jersey, Ms. Monte was a casting director at the Manhattan Theatre Club in NYC. From 1981 to 1989, she was associate artistic director of the Williamstown Theatre Festival.

In 1997, Ms. Monte was honored for her long-time efforts to nurture young artists with a Person of the Year Award from The National Society of Arts and Letters.

## Paul Mullins

*Guest Director*

Paul Mullins is an actor and director who works in major regional theatres and off-Broadway. He has been with the New Jersey Shakespeare Festival for more than ten seasons, directing *Measure for Measure*, *All's Well That Ends Well*, *The Three Penny Opera* and an acclaimed production of Ionesco's *Rhinoceros*. As an actor he has appeared in NJSF productions of *The Forest*, *Blithe Spirit*, *The Winter's Tale*, *The Homecoming* and *Diary of a Scoundrel* among many others. Off-Broadway he appeared in The Drama Department's *The Torchbearers*, *Never the Sinner*, and NYSF *The Merchant of Venice*. He has also acted with Steppenwolf, The Shakespeare Theatre, Yale Rep., Portland Stage, Indiana Repertory Theatre and American



From Paul Mullins' staging of *Hay Fever*.

Stage. For Theatre South Carolina, Paul directed *Arcadia* and *Hay Fever*.

## George Black

*Guest Director*

George Black has directed in professional and university settings throughout the south and east. He was, for many years, Director of Theatre at the University of Virginia. He was co-founder and Artistic Director for many years of the Heritage Repertory Theatre, a professional company that originated the production of *A Few Good Men* which went on to a long Broadway run and eventually was made into the award-winning movie.

In 1992, he became Producing Artistic Director of Theatre Virginia in Richmond, a member of the League of Resident Theatres. During his tenure, he directed dozens of shows from *Rumors* and *Moon Over Buffalo* to *Comedy of Errors* and Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia*. Among the shows he produced were the first *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* with Tamara Tunie heading a distinguished African-American cast and the premiere of Ralph Allen's *Scandals*, directed by Tony-award winner Danny Daniels.

In addition to numerous articles on directing and acting, he is the author of *Contemporary Stage Directing* and a contributing editor of *Theatrical Directors: a Biographical Dictionary*. He is a member of Actors Equity and the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers.

## J. R. Sullivan

*Guest Director*

J. R. Sullivan has directed plays nationally and internationally, from New York to Los Angeles and in Bulgaria and Russia, under the auspices of international artist exchange agencies in New York and Washington. He founded the New American Theater in Rockford, Illinois immediately after his graduation from Beloit College in 1972 and went on to lead that company for 22 seasons, directing more than 150 productions and producing several world premieres. Since 1994 he has free-lanced in theaters around the country, including the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, New York's Pearl Theatre Company, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, the Delaware Theater Company, Studio Theatre in Washington D.C., Chicago's Steppenwolf, Touchstone, and Light Opera companies, Madison Repertory, American Players Theatre, and many others. Sullivan presently spends summers and early autumns with the Utah Shakespearean



*Love's Labour's Lost*, directed at USC by Jim Sullivan.

Festival where he is an associate artistic director. Among his recent productions have been *Room Service* at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, *Widower's Houses* at the Pearl, *Stones in His Pockets* and *All's Well That Ends Well* in Utah, and the new comedy, *Laughing Stock*, at Milwaukee Rep. In the spring of 2004 he staged *Love's Labour's Lost* here at the University of South Carolina. In the coming year he is scheduled to direct *Stones in His Pockets* in Illinois, *The Rivals* for the professional theater program at the Penn State University, *The Belle of Amherst* in Los Angeles, and *Hamlet* and *The Merchant of Venice* for the Utah Shakespearean Festival.

## Richard Block

### Guest Artist

Dick Block has been on the faculty at Carnegie Mellon for seventeen years where he is now associate head of the School of Drama. His freelance career based in New York City design credits include *Conrack* for AMAS (nominated for an Audelco Award), *Fascinating Rhythms* for Columbia Artists (also toured), *Much Ado About Nothing* for Equity Library Theatre and two pieces for Theatreworks USA as well as a new play, *Wilson*. He also worked on such Broadway productions as *Evita*, *42nd St.*, *Barnum*, and *Cats*. Dick has been active with projects designed at the Pittsburgh Playhouse, Opera Theatre of Pittsburgh and the Pittsburgh Public Theatre. Additional regional credits include work at the McCarter Theatre in Princeton, the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge, Mass,

Center Stage in Baltimore and Opera Theatre of St. Louis. Recent designs include *The Nerd* and Steve Martin's *The Underpants* at The Human Race in Ohio, Feydeau's *Silly Goose in Cairo*, *A*

*Christmas Carol* at Virginia Stage in Norfolk, and *Saturday Night* at the Weston Playhouse. Dick is co-author of *Scene Design and Stage Lighting* (8<sup>th</sup> edition). Dick is also active with USITT and both regionally and nationally with the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival, having served as the first National Design Chair. He is the recipient of the Kennedy Center Medallion for Distinguished Service. Dick received his MFA from Northwestern University.

A sketch of Dick Block's design for *Buried Child* at USC's Longstreet Theatre.



## Keith Jochim

### Guest Actor

Keith Jochim is best known for playing Richard Nixon in the world-wide tour of the satirical hit *Nixon*. He's played Broadway, off-Broadway, the West End of London, in Germany, Hong Kong, Scotland, Ireland, and on US tours and appears on television and film. In a wide-ranging career, he's been in *The Odd Couple*, *Frankenstein*, *Glengary Glen Ross*, *Bette and Boo*, *Galileo* and many, many other plays and roles including much of Shakespeare. In 2002, he played Lear for Theatre South Carolina.



Keith Jochim on right as Lear is taunted by the Fool.

## Jennifer Martin

### Guest Teacher

Jennifer Martin is the Hall Family Foundation Professor of Theatre at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, where she teaches movement fundamentals, historical styles of movement and dance, characterization and subtle energy disciplines for the Master of Fine Arts program. As a member of the Medical Humanities Program

she coordinates a course called "Healing and the Arts." She is resident choreographer and movement coach for the Heart of America Shakespeare Festival. Her choreographic work has been seen at Missouri Repertory Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Northlight Theatre, Ford's Theatre, Goodspeed Opera House and Masterworks Lab Theatre in New York. She is a founding board member of The Association of Theatre Movement Educators.

## Donald Sage Mackay

### Guest Actor

Donald Sage Mackay played Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing* and directed *Macbeth* in 2004 for the re-opened Grove Shakespeare Festival in Los Angeles. Other theatres include The Mark Taper Forum, La Jolla Playhouse, San Jose Repertory, Idaho and Utah Shakespeare Festivals and Sir Peter Hall's Shakespeare repertory at the Ahmanson Theatre. Don received his MFA in Acting from UC San Diego/La Jolla Playhouse and studied at the Moscow Art Theatre. He is the recipient of the Los Angeles Drama Critic's Circle Award for Lead Actor.

Film and television appearances include a recurring role on *Scrubs*, recurring guest stars on *The Practice* and *Providence*, guest stars on *The Shield*, *JAG*, *According To Jim*, *Enterprise*, *Seventh Heaven*, *The West Wing*, *Frasier*, *What I Like About You*, *Malcolm in the Middle*, *ER* and *The District*, feature films and recurring work on daytime television. He is currently the Artistic Director of Pegasus Repertory Theatre based in Aspen, Colorado and recently collaborated on projects with Amnesty International and the Los Angeles Philharmonic.



Donald Sage Mackay as Oppenheimer.

## Sheila Allen

### Guest Teacher

Sheila Allen has taught in Britain at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts (RADA) and the Lancaster Academy of the Dramatic Arts (LAMDA) and in the US at Marymount Manhattan College, Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute and The Shakespeare Theatre, Washington, DC, amongst other fine schools. She spent seven seasons with the

Royal Shakespeare Company, toured the UK as Gertrude in *Hamlet*, and performed at other theatres about Britain. In New York, she's appeared at the Roundabout Theatre Company, the Manhattan Theatre Company, and BAM. Film credits include *Pascali's Island* and *Shining Through*.

## Scot Mann

*Guest Teacher*

Scot Mann is a fight director and certified teacher, S.A.F.D. and directs the Atlanta Stage Combat Studio, LLC. He works with Alliance Theatre, Clarence Brown Theatre, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Georgia Shakespeare Festival, North Carolina School for the Arts, The Atlanta Opera, and many others.

## David Frank

*Guest Teacher*

For the past ten years, David Frank has served as Artistic Director of American Players Theater in Spring Green. Recent productions directed there include *The Tempest*, *Hamlet*, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, *A Penny for a Song*, *Richard II*, *Ring 'Round the Moon*, *The Devil's Disciple*, *Phèdre*, *King Lear*, *The Master Builder*, *Macbeth*, *Mary Stuart*, *The Rivals*, *Antigone*, *The Beaux' Strategem*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, *Henry V*, *Measure for Measure* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Frank is a past chairman of the theatre panels of the National Endowment of the Arts and the New York State Council of the Arts.

## Torbjörn Alström

*Guest Artist and Teacher*

Torbjörn Alström is a maskmaker in wood and leather. A specialist in the design and construction of masks for theatre, opera and dance, he was trained in masked performance at the Dell'arte International School of Physical Theatre and has worked as an actor, instructor and maskmaker in the US and Scandinavia since 1985. As a teacher he works regularly at the National School of Theatre and Music in Gothenburg.



A mask in wood by Alström.

## Martin Rader

*Guest Teacher*

Martin Rader comes to USC as a guest teacher, after a distinguished career as an acting teacher and director at the North Carolina School of the Arts. He received an MFA in Directing from Penn State University where he studied with Richard Edelman, Dick Shank and Manuel Duque. He has been teaching acting for over thirty-five years. Many of his students have gone on to successful careers in theatre, film and television and several of them have received Tony awards for acting and directing. He is a coach for professional speakers and conducts workshops in creativity and team building for organizations.

## Ray Recht

*Guest Teacher*

Ray Recht designs Broadway, off-Broadway, regional theatre, national tours, opera, dance, television, film and commercials. He was production designer for spoof commercials for Saturday Night Live for over ten years. He has designed for Actors' Theatre of Louisville, American Stage Company, Barter Theatre, Berkshire Theatre Festival, Center Stage, Clarence Brown Theatre, Manhattan Theater Club, McCarter Theatre, Negro Ensemble Company, Playwrights Horizons, Primary Stage, Yale Repertory Theater, and many, many others.

## Ron Himes

*Guest Director*

Ron Himes is the founder and producing director of The St. Louis Black Repertory Company. Himes has produced more than 100 productions at the St. Louis Black Repertory Company. Himes' directing credits include Opera Theatre of St. Louis; Theatre Project Company and Goldenrod Showboat in St. Louis; Indiana Repertory Theatre; Studio Theatre in Washington; University of Illinois at Champagne\Urbana; Perseverance Theatre in Juneau Alaska; and The Creamery Theatre in Garrison Iowa. He directed *The Darker Face of the Earth* for Theatre South Carolina.

## Sara Romersberger

*Guest Teacher*

Sara Romersberger is currently Assistant Professor of Movement at Southern Methodist University in the Division of Theatre. She holds an MA in dance from the University of Illinois and a certificate of Mime/Movement from Ecole Jacques Lecoq, Paris, France. Sara directed or choreographed over forty university and professional productions.

She choreographed for The Shakespeare Festival of Dallas, for the Dallas Theatre Center, for Kitchen Dog Theatre and for the Undermain Theatre. Her CD-ROM on "Unlocking the Physicality of Shakespeare's Comedies with the Masks of the Commedia" was completed May 2001.

## Eric Hoffmann

*Guest Actor and Teacher*

Eric Hoffmann is an actor, director and teacher whose stage credits include appearances at the McCarter Theatre, Theatre Virginia, The Shakespeare Theatre, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, Orlando Shakespeare Festival, New Jersey Shakespeare Festival and Peterborough Players. He has spent much of the past nine seasons in Washington, DC, as a company member and instructor at The Shakespeare Theatre. His directing credits include *Death of a Salesman*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Barefoot in the Park*, *The Crucible*, and *As You Like It* at theatres in the US and Europe. Film and television credits *The Fisher King*, *Rage of Angels II*, and *Law and Order*.



Eric Hoffmann (right) in USC's *You Can't Take It With You*.

## John D. McNally

*Guest Actor*

A veteran of over 250 professional theatrical productions on stages from LA, Minneapolis, Cincinnati, Stratford, Denver, and San Diego to NY with directors such as Joseph Papp, Douglas Turner Ward, John Houseman, and Joseph Anthony, McNally has assayed a wide variety of characters including classic roles such as Cassius, Othello, Vershinin, Hamlet, Volpone, and Falstaff. His twenty-odd motion pictures include Steven Spielberg's *1941*, Jerry Schatzberg's *Scarecrow* and Mario Van Peebles' *Identity Crisis*.

## Jay Berkow

*Guest Director*

Jay Berkow resides in New York City and his directing and writing experience includes both regional and New York credits. Jay is the co-author and director for the off-Broadway hit *Jolson & Company* which was nominated for the Outer Critics Circle Award as Best Musical. For the past five years Jay has served as Producing Artistic Director for the Clinton Area Showboat Theatre in Iowa. Jay worked with Terrence McNally, John Kander and Fred Ebb as the director of the off-Broadway revival of *The Rink*.

## Don Tindall

*Guest Sound Designer*

Don Tindall is the resident sound designer for the Alabama Shakespeare Festival and also designs in other regional theatres and New York. He has a BFA in Technical Theatre from Central University of Iowa, and an MFA in Sound Design from Purdue University. For Theatre South Carolina Don designed sound for *Much Ado About Nothing* and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.

## Todd Denning

*Guest Actor*

Todd Denning is an actor, singer, and fight choreographer. He has appeared with the Tennessee Repertory Theatre, First Stage Milwaukee, Georgia Shakespeare Festival, and the Straw Hat Players, amongst others. He appeared in Theatre South Carolina's *The Merry Wives of Windsor* after another summer at the Utah Shakespearean Festival.



Ismene comforts Antigone in Jay Berkow's staging of Sophocles' tragedy.



Robert Ierardi (left) as Eddie in USC's *A View from the Bridge*.

Robert Ierardi recently finished a critically acclaimed production of Romulus Linney's *Can Can* for the Phoenix Theater Ensemble, which the *New York Times* called "Thrilling." His favorite roles include: Woyzeck at AXIS Theater, Macbeth, Claudius, & Creon at CSC in Dallas, Serge in *Art*, in Hilton Head, SC, Chris Keller in *All My Sons* at The Emelin Theater, Rossetti in *Shear Madness* at the Kennedy Center, Algernon in *The Importance of Being Earnest* at The Jean Cocteau, and Officer Krupke in the European Tour of *West Side Story*. He's performed with The Colleague's Theatre Co. with such stars as Anne Jackson, Kim Hunter, Alvin Epstein, Laurence Luckinbill, Sandy Duncan, and Tammy Grimes. Robert spent four seasons with Jean Cocteau Repertory.



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