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## MERCER UNIVERSITY THEATRE

Presents

### The Effect of Gamma Rays On Man-In-The-Moon Marigolds by Paul Zindel

Directed by Adam Gsegner  
Set Design by Marian Zielinski  
Lighting Design by Courtney O'Neill  
Costume Design by Penni Hartley  
Sound Design by Bryan Wyatt

#### CAST

|                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Tillie .....         | Lauren Hauser  |
| Beatrice .....       | Martha Malone  |
| Ruth .....           | Lindsey Owings |
| Nanny .....          | Candace Flatt  |
| Janice Vickery ..... | Nichole Benson |

#### Scene:

A small town in America, early 1970s

Please turn off all beepers, watches, and phones.  
No photographs may be taken during the performance.

### Who's Who

**Nichole D. Benson** (Janice Vickery) Hello and welcome all to the fabulous Backdoor Theatre! I hope you will enjoy your stay here tonight. Please remember to locate all exits in case of an emergency. Yes, you read this right – she likes to make people laugh..... mainly at herself. Nichole has been a part of Mercer Theatre for four years, mainly backstage and "in the box." Her future goals include being a personal air hockey trainer and competing professionally. On a serious note, please pray with her for the speedy recovery of her mentor, Paul Oppy. "I love him and miss him dearly."

**Candace Flatt** (Nanny) is a sophomore at Mercer double majoring in Communication and Theatre and the Drama Theatre Concentration with minors in Christianity and English. This is Candace's seventh production in Mercer Theatre. She most recently portrayed Mae in *Cat On a Hot Tin Roof*. She would like to thank all of her friends and

family for their constant love and support, most importantly God for giving her her abilities. She would also like to congratulate Adam G. on a wonderful show. Break a leg everyone!

**Adam Gsegner** (Director) is a Communication major with a minor in English. He hopes to graduate from Mercer in May and eventually make it to grad school for directing. Having originally gotten into theatre to meet girls, he is delighted to work with so many talented and amazing women on this show and wants to thank all of them for their hard work. Adam wishes to dedicate this production to Professor Paul Oppy, his mentor and friend. "Get well soon, Paul – we miss you!"

**Lauren Hauser** (Tillie) This is Lauren's second play with the Mercer University Theatre. While at Mercer, she hopes to double major in vocal performance and CTA. Lauren is ecstatic to have the opportunity to play the same role as her community theater director in Savannah, Kelie Miley: "thank you for sparking my interest." She would also like to thank her heavenly Father for strength, her family for all of the "I love you's", her director, "Adam.....Adam.....what a beautiful word," and finally to the audience, thank you for your presence and enjoy!

**Penni Hartley** (Costume Designer) is completing work toward a B.A. degree in Art. She is the administrative secretary for the Communication & Theatre Arts Department and enjoys working here because it gives her the opportunity to work with highly creative and talented people. In addition to art courses, she has taken classes in costume design and fabric manipulation. This is her first costume design for a mainstage production. To Paul, "We love you --come home soon!"

**Martha Malone** (Beatrice) is an Associate Professor of Music and director of Mercer University Opera. Now in her 11th year at Mercer, she has appeared in Mercer Theatre's Company and as Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd*, and she has directed fourteen Mercer Opera productions. Her operatic roles include Natalie in *The Merry Widow*, Genevieve in *Sour Angelica*, Despina in *Cost fan tutte*, Clorinda in *La Cenerentola*, Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*, and Gilda in *Rigoletto*. She is grateful to Adam for giving her the opportunity to play her first non-singing role, and to the entire cast and crew for making this a wonderful experience.

**Lauren H. McSwain** (Assistant Stage Manager) enjoys collecting Snoopys, reading about the mafia, and spending time with her dog, Iddie, and her pet turtle shell, George. She hopes you like the set, because she slaved over it for months. When she is not working on the show, or in class, she teaches children how to swim with the Macon Waves Swim Team.

**Jonathan Miles** (Stage Manager) is a freshman CTA and Philosophy major who has an endless devotion to the theatre, both onstage and backstage. *Gamma Rays* is his third production with Mercer Theatre and his second time stage-managing a Mercer production. He would like to express his gratitude to such a talented cast - "Thanks for a great show, ladies!" and the crew for a fantastic production. He expresses his admiration and respect for his teacher and friend, Professor Paul Oppy - "Best wishes to you for a speedy recovery! Thanks for having such faith in me. This one's for you!"

**Courtney O'Neill** (Lighting Designer) is a junior at Mercer who is working toward a theatre concentration with minors in art, photography, and English. This is her fourteenth show with Mercer Theatre, and her fifth time designing. She would like to thank God, friends, and family for their undying support and the occasional free meal.



**Lindsey Owings** (Ruth) is from Augusta, Georgia. She is making her debut on stage in *The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds*. Lindsey is a proud member of the Mercer Singers, a Tift Scholar, and a sister of Phi Mu. As of now, her major is undecided. Her love for traveling in Europe, however, inspires her to learn French and hopefully other languages as well. Lindsey would like to thank the cast, the director, and the whole crew for making her first experience on stage an exciting and memorable one. She would also like to thank her family and friends for coming to support her. And lastly, she would like to say thank you to the person who encouraged her the most to audition.

**Bryan Wyatt** (Sound Designer) has worked on lighting crew for *Cat On a Hot Tin Roof* and the opera *Muskrat Lullaby*. He designed sound and worked as Assistant Stage Manager for *Poolside* and *Links*, and he was sound board operator for *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. "The Theatre is a little quieter without a blue-haired, baggy pants person running around anymore, we miss you Jessica."

**Marian Zielinski** (Scene Designer) is an Associate Professor of Theatre at Mercer University where she has designed sets, costumes, and/or lighting for 19 years. She has also designed several seasons for the Shawnee Summer Theatre and the Illinois Shakespeare Festival. Marian lives in Macon with her husband, Frank Macke, and their canine and feline companions, Lulu, Buddie, Midnight, and Shugah. She enjoys painting, photography, fiber arts, swimming, and fabric shopping in foreign countries.

### ***Production Staff***

|                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Director .....                | Adam Gsegner   |
| Scene Designer .....          | Marian Zielinski   |
| Costume Designer .....        | Penni Hartley  |
| Sound Designer .....          | Bryan Wyatt  |
| Lighting Designer .....       | Courtney O'Neill   |
| Technical Director .....      | Sean Johnson   |
| Stage Manager .....           | Jonathan Miles   |
| Assistant Stage Manager ..... | Lauren McSwain, Erin Sullivan  |
| Set Crew .....                | Candace Flatt, Dustin Fuller,<br>Shenequa Johnson, Ashleigh McDaniel, Lauren McSwain,<br>Adam Ridley, Misty Schmitt, Tye Walcott |
| Costume Shop Crew .....       | Diana Davidson, Eric Grace, Penni Hartley,<br>Shelley Kuhlen, Courtney O'Neill,<br>Marsha HongKham, Marian McHugh                |
| Costume Mistress .....        | Courtney O'Neill   |
| Assistant Electricians .....  | Brandon Bowden, B. Cameron Johnson,<br>James Sipe, Bryan Wyatt   |
| Light Board Operator .....    | Marsha HongKham  |
| Sound Board Operator .....    | Bryan Wyatt  |
| Make-up Design .....          | Eric Grace   |
| House Manager .....           | Christina Little   |
| Box Office .....              | Courtney O'Neill   |

### ***Thanks To:***

Mercer University Psychology and Biology Departments

**The Effect Of**  
**GAMMA RAYS**  
**On Man in the Moon**  
**Marigolds**

By  
**Paul Zindel**

Directed by  
**Adam Gregner**

**MERCER UNIVERSITY THEATRE**

**The Backdoor Theatre**  
**February 12 - 18, 2001**