

Mercer University Theatre  
Presents

# PROOF

By David Auburn

Directed by Paul Oppy\*  
Set Design by Tony Pearson\*  
Lighting Design by Marian Zielinski\*  
Costume Design by Shelley Kuhlen

## CAST

Catherine . . . . . Rebecca Drummond  
Hal . . . . . John Hansford  
Claire . . . . . Christina Richardson  
Robert . . . . . Emory Whitaker

## Setting

### Act I

Scene 1 - A little after midnight on September 4  
Scene 2 - The next morning  
Scene 3 - That night  
Scene 4 - The next morning

### Act II

Scene 1 - A September afternoon four years earlier  
Scene 2 - Morning. An instant after the end of Act I  
Scene 3 - The next day  
Scene 4 - December, three and a half years earlier  
Scene 5 - The present. A week after the events in Act II, scene 3

Please turn off all beepers, cell phones and watch alarms.  
No cameras or recording devices may be used during the performance.

## WHO'S WHO

Eric Cooney (Stage Manager), is a sophomore, majoring in Spanish on the pre-pharmacy track. This is the 6<sup>th</sup> show stage managing. He would like to thank the entire cast and crew and wishes the best to our farewell performers. He would like to thank his family, Paul, his friends, of course, his fellow baby-crows. Go AXP!

Rebecca E. Drummond\* (Catherine), is a senior studying Communication and Theatre Art and Women's and Gender Studies. This is her farewell performance at Mercer University. Rebecca hopes to complete a graduate program in acting, and hopes to go on to work professionally. You may remember her performances in roles such as "Maggie the Cat" in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, or "Lil' Bit" in *How I Learned to Drive* at the Backdoor Theatre, "Lucy Harris" in Theatre Macon's *Jekyll & Hyde*, or as "Mrs. Walker" in *The Who's Tommy* for the Macon State College Impromptu Players. Thanks eternally to her mother and father, Mrs. Kay and Dr. Mike Drummond, and to Sean for her unending tutelage

John Hansford (Hal) is a fifth year senior biology major. He has appeared in several Mercer productions including *Androcles and the Lion*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, and *A Doll's House*. John would like to thank his family for their support and Paul for giving him the opportunity to perform in the Backdoor Theatre again before he graduates .... don't laugh he might really graduate this time.

Shelley Kuhlen (Costume Designer) designed costumes for Mercer Theatre's recent production of *The Marriage of Bette and Boo*, *Childe Byron*, *How I Learned to Drive*, *Into the Woods*, *All in the Timing* and Mercer Opera's *Trouble in Tahiti*. Shelley's designs were also seen in Theatre Macon's recent production of *The Laramie Project* and *Ragtime* and Macon State College's *Rocky Horror Picture Show*. This is Shelley's eighth year as Costume Director for Mercer Theatre.

T. J. Mote (Assistant Stage Manager) is a freshman who plans on majoring in Computer Sciences with a minor in Financing. He enjoys playing soccer and helping out friends. This is the first production at Mercer that he has worked on. He hopes to work on more productions with other fellow AXP interest group member.

Paul Oppy\*(Director) is the Davenport Professor of Communication and Theatre Arts. He has been teaching and directing at Mercer for thirty years. This is the 87<sup>th</sup> production he has directed for Mercer Theatre. He was Artistic Director of the Georgia International festival for Young Audiences for three years, and has been actively promoting the development of former and current Mercer student playwrights through Mercer Theatre's new play project.

Tony Pearson (Set Design/Technical Director) has designed scenery for plays at Theatre Macon and Macon State College, as well as Mercer. He received his MFA in set design at UGA and a Drama/theatre Concentration at Mercer where he received his BA. His most recent designs in Macon were their summer productions of *Les Miserables* and *Ragtime*, which were co-designed with Mercer student Zach Broome. Tony is available for independent contract as a faux finisher.

Christina Richardson (Claire) is a Sophomore Computer Science major from Americus, GA who was recently bitten by the "theatre bug". Although this is her first time onstage dancing, singing, and playing the flute. She says, "the best part of

acting is the chance to play a character completely unlike your own personality. You're allowed to act in ways that you never would in real life."

Tim Smith (Assistant Stage Manager) is a junior who will be a Drama/Theatre Concentrator. He has been active both on stage and off at Mercer Theatre and Theatre Macon. He was involved in the creation the *Combustible/Burn* by Andrew Silver which premiered in this theatre in 2001.

Emory Whitaker (Robert) is enjoying retirement after teaching for thirty years in the Mathematics Department at Mercer. In addition to reading many "proofs" he was director of The Great Books Program. "Paul Oppy took a great chance by casting me in my very first play (J.B.) at Mercer. I became hooked on theater and this in my ninth appearance on the Mercer stage." His favorite role was George in Mercer's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolfe*. "Thanks to Paul for being such a great director and to my wife, Genny and my daughter, Beth for their love and support."

Marian Zieliński\* (Lighting Designer) is a Professor in the Department of Communication and Theatre Arts in her 22nd season with Mercer University Theatre. She dedicates this work to her father, John, whose love, patience, discipline, commitment, and creative spirit is her inspiration.

\*Denotes members of Alpha Psi Omega, National Honor Dramatic Fraternity.

#### Production Staff

Stage Manager ..... Eric Cooney  
Assistant Stage Managers ..... T J Mote, Tim Smith  
House Managers ..... Emily Barringer, Mandy Morris  
Technical Director ..... Tony Pearson  
Set Crew ..... Zach Broome\*, Heidi Clinite, JP Haynie, Tom Legare  
Mandy Morris, Calvin Smith, Charles Thomas\*  
Props Master ..... Mark Stich  
Light Board Operator ..... Gypsy Long  
Lighting Crew ..... Savannah Bryant, Heidi Clinite,  
Mandy Morris, Charles Thomas\*  
Sound Designer ..... Eric Cooney  
Sound Board Operator ..... Abbie Berry  
Costume Director ..... Shelley Kuhlen  
Costume Crew ..... Mary King, Andilyn Williams  
Poster and Program Design ..... Penni Hartley

#### NEXT AT THE BACKDOOR THEATRE . . .

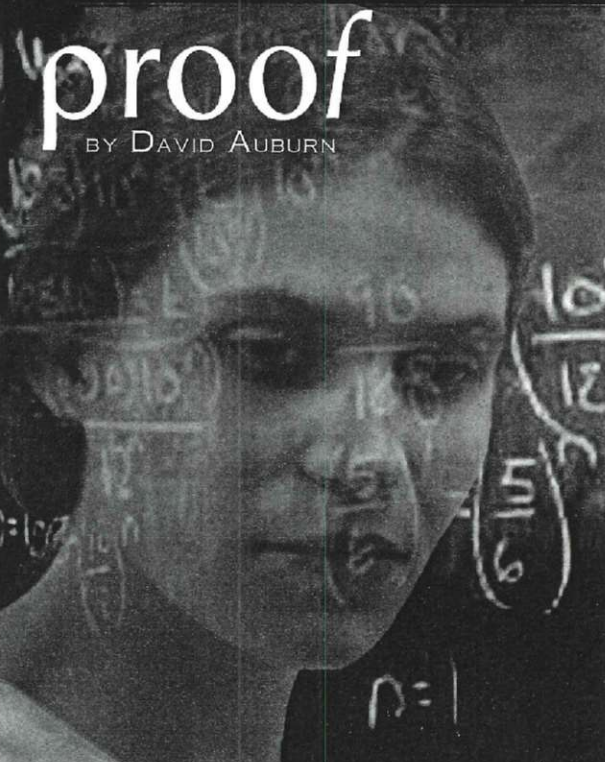
### Moliere's *The Misanthrope*

Directed by Paul Oppy

February 13-21, 2004

AUDITIONS - Jan 8 & 9 @ 6:00 pm  
Backdoor Theatre

MERCER UNIVERSITY THEATRE



**proof**  
BY DAVID AUBURN

NOVEMBER 14, 15, 18-22, 2003 @ 7:30 PM  
NOVEMBER 16 2003 @ 2:00 PM  
THE BACKDOOR THEATRE