

Mercer Theater Presents

RHINOCEROS



FEBRUARY 15-18

AND

FEBRUARY 22-25

7:30 15-17 and 22-24, 2:30 18 and 25

Tattnall Square Center for the Arts, 1096 College Street

Information: 478.301.2974, Tickets.mercer.edu

Welcome to Tattnall Square Center for the Arts!
Home to the Mercer Theatre Department

Mercer University Theatre is dedicated to the concept that Theatre is where all of the arts converge and meet life. Theatre invigorates, challenges, informs, entertains, and enriches our lives at our deepest level. Whether it is a traditional treatment of a classic, a visit to the absurd, the development of a new work, or a crowd-pleasing musical, Mercer Theatre meets the challenges with the talents and dedication of its faculty, staff, and students.

Mercer Theatre offers an exciting variety of opportunities for students to explore performance, technical theatre, design, stage management, playwriting, and directing. Typically, four major productions are produced each year (two a semester) with student showcases and other performance and technical opportunities available through university projects and the touring Broadway Series at Grand Opera House.



Hedda Gabler, 2015



She Kills Monster, 2016



James and the Giant Peach, 2017



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MERCER UNIVERSITY
Tattnall
Square
Center
for the Arts
N. LOGAN LEWIS THEATRE

Mercer Theatre Presents

RHINOCEROS

Directed by Scot Mann



FEBRUARY 15-17 & 22-24

At 7:30

For \$15-
\$10 Each

AND

For \$15-
\$10 Each

FEBRUARY 18 & 25

At 2:30

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Twitter: @mercerutheatre Facebook/Instagram: Mercer University Theatre

Director's Notes

Written in 1959 by Eugene Ionesco, Rhinoceros was born out of the Twentieth Century boiling pot of war and horror, with the rise of Nazism, and virulent anti-Semitism. People found themselves horrified at the notion of these extreme ideals, which seemed out of place in a civilized society, but no one stood up loud enough to the small beginnings of these movements. After all, they appeared isolated and mostly harmless. Who would ever think that way? Without resistance, these ideals became the norm and took over entire countries with highly developed societies and governments. The minority voice of destruction became the majority voice of rule. Without remembering this brutal history created by formerly reasonable people, we may be doomed to repeat the past without a concerted effort to keep these destructive ideals in check. You'll hear a good bit of dialogue that will mirror today's discourse. These are voices from our past tapping us on the shoulder and saying, "remember when they said it couldn't happen here?"

Artistic Staff

Director.....Scot Mann
 Scenic Designer.....Avery Davis
 Lighting Designer.....Annie Fair
 Costume Designer.....Shelley Kuhen
 Technical Director.....Todd Wilson
 Assistant Technical Director.....Reid Brown
 Sound Designer.....Noel Hullfish
 Stage Manager.....Jules Tollett
 Assistant Stage Manager.....Brenna McNulty
 Prop Masters.....Kimberly Gessner & Collin Schumacher
 Assistant Prop Master.....Kerri Graham
 Master Electrician.....Rosie Cooper
 Sound Board Operator.....Noel Hullfish
 Light Board Operator.....Logan Best
 Run Crew.....Sarah Drummond, Morgan Fields, Brenna McNulty
 Graphics Designer.....Marianna Bacallao
 House Manager.....Briá Smith
 Student Marketing Director.....Jules Tollett
 Tattnall Arts Center Coordinator.....Amy Watson

Set Crew:
 Todd Wilson
 Reid Brown
 Stephanie Daub
 Nathan Firkus

Lighting Crew:
 Annie Fair
 Rosie Cooper
 Travis Meeks
 Monica Stephenson

Special Thanks To:

Daniel Darity Theatre Macon Vickie Walker

Upcoming:

Mercer Players Fundraiser Show

Featuring Student Works
 Willingham Auditorium
 March 24, 7:30 PM

God of Carnage

Written By: Christopher Hampton, Yasmina Reza

April 12, 13, 14 7:30 PM
 April 15 2:30 PM
 April 19, 20, 21 7:30 PM
 April 22 2:30 PM

J.T. Bloodworth (Logician/Fireman/Old Man Jean) is a sophomore Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Major. He was most recently in *August: Osage County*. He loves doing theatre whenever able and would like to thank his girlfriend Maevin for her patience and support as well as his fellow cast and crew!

Rosie Cooper (Boss of Café/Master Electrician) is a junior Theatre major and Chemistry minor at Mercer University. You may have recently seen her as Johnna in *August: Osage County* or as the narrator in *She Kills Monsters*. Rosie would like to thank her friends and family for supporting her, especially the angel named Annie Fair.

Daniel Darity (Dudard) is a junior at Mercer University. He has been heavily involved in the theatre department during his entire tenure at the university, and would like to thank his family for their continued support, as well as thank his girlfriend, Destiny, for putting up with him all the time.

Lauren Dreggors (Grocer Woman) is a sophomore at Mercer University. She is so excited to make her acting debut with this amazing cast and crew! Lauren would like to thank her family and friends for supporting her, especially Sami Bell.

Sarah Drummond (Run Crew) is excited to be a part of the crew of *Rhinoceros!* Sarah would like to thank all of the cast and crew for their hard work!

Annie Fair (Lighting Designer) is a senior Theatre Major at Mercer University. Some of her favorite roles have been as lighting designer for Macon Little Theatre's productions of *Annie* and *Sweeney Todd!* After graduation, Annie hopes to pursue a career in lighting design or stage management.

Morgan Fields (Run Crew) is excited to be a part of the crew of *Rhinoceros!* Morgan would like to thank all of the cast and crew for their hard work!

Kaylah Fritho (Old Gentleman/Old Man Jean's Wife) is excited to be a part of the cast of *Rhinoceros!* Kaylah would like to thank all of the cast and crew for their hard work!

Kimberly Gessner (Props Master) is a sophomore at Mercer University. You may have recently seen her Empire State Building in *James and the Giant Peach*, or her green bean casserole in *August: Osage County*. Kimberly would like to thank her three fish Jesse, Gary, and Pippin for their support and the cast and crew for being all around great human beings.

Ashley Greene (Daisy) is a senior Theatre major at Mercer University. You may have seen her most recently on the Mercer stage playing Agnes Evans in *She Kills Monsters* or Jean Fordham in *August: Osage County*. She has loved bringing this show together and hopes you enjoy it!

Noel Hullfish (Sound Designer/Board Operator) is a sophomore Theatre and IST Major at Mercer University. Some of her favorite Mercer Theatre shows have been *She Kills Monsters* and *James and the Giant Peach*. She'd like to thank her friends and family for their support.

Shelley Kuhlen (Costume Designer) is in her 21st season as Mercer Theatre's Costume Director. Her designs have most recently been seen in our productions of *James and the Giant Peach*, *She Kills Monsters*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Fiction*, *A Flea in Her Ear*, and *The Tempest*. As Costume Designer for Mercer Opera, her creations were seen in the latest productions of *The Trial of Goldilocks*, *The Gondoliers*, *Oklahoma*, and *Alcina*. Also employed as Theatre Macon's Costume Designer, Shelley's work last appeared in *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Shadow Box*, and *Rumors*. Shelley thanks her wonderful family for their continued love and support and for enduring years of her crazy schedules, mood swings and enlisting their help behind the scenes. She also thanks her amazing costume crew for their countless hours of hard work and for their encouragement, love, and laughter.

Scot Mann (Director) is an award winning and internationally recognized Fight Master through the Society of American Fight Directors, the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat, and Director of Theatre at Mercer University. He has choreographed, performed and coached theatrical violence in the US, England, and Germany with such companies as The Steppenwolf Theatre, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Alliance Theatre, and the Georgia Shakespeare Festival. As a director, he received a Meritorious Achievement Award for his direction of *Scapin*, by the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival in 2005.

Brenna McNulty (Assistant Stage Manager/Run Crew) is a sophomore at Mercer University. Her most recent works include ASM and choreographer in *James and the Giant Peach*, *Lawyer in Tracks*, and Evil Tina in *She Kills Monsters*. She would like to thank her friends, family, cast, and crew for being just amazing!

Joey Mitchell (Jean) is excited to be a part of the cast of *Rhinoceros!* Joey would like to thank all of the cast and crew for their hard work!

Chase Moore (Berenger) is a junior, and this is his 9th production here at Mercer, so you may have seen him in last year's *11x10!* or *She Kills Monsters*. Most recently, Chase worked professionally this summer at *Tecumseh! Outdoor Drama* in Ohio, and got paid to say lines on stage.

Chas Pridgen (Grocer Man/Madame Bocu) is a sophomore at Mercer University studying Theater and Journalism. He would like to thank Scot Mann for the opportunity to be in this... ridiculous show, as well as his friends and family for always supporting him.

The Cast

Collin Schumacher (Props Master) is a sophomore Theatre major here at Mercer. He has worked several shows with the Mercer Players, and is very excited to continue in his role as Props Master with *Rhinoceros*.

Briá Smith (House Manager) is excited to be a part of the crew of *Rhinoceros*! Briá would like to thank all of the cast and crew for their hard work!

Monica Stephenson (Botard) is a sophomore at Mercer University. You might have seen her act last year in *She Kills Monsters* (Tilly), or her puppet children in last semester's *James and the Giant Peach*. She would like to thank Scot and the cast and crew for all their hard work!

Jules Tollett (Stage Manager) is a sophomore English and Theatre major. She has most recently worked on *James and the Giant Peach*. Jules would like to thank her friends for their love and support and thank her cast and crew for their patience and love during her first show as a stage manager.

CeVonn Williams (Monsieur Papillion) is excited to be a part of the cast of *Rhinoceros*! CeVonn would like to thank all of the cast and crew for their hard work!

Todd Wilson (Technical Director) is in his third year as TD and is a Mercer graduate, CLA '85. He also does play by play for many of the Mercer University's sports programs on ESPN 3.

Costume Crew:

- Shelley Kuhen
- Kayla Astin
- Laurel Astin
- Sandy Dimon
- Suzanne Doonan
- Ashley Greene
- Katie Trotter

Props Crew:

- Kimberly Gessner
- Collin Schumacher
- Kerri Graham

Berenger.....	Chase Moore
Jean.....	Joey Mitchell
Daisy.....	Ashley Greene
Botard.....	Monica Stephenson
Dudard.....	Daniel Darity
Monsieur Papillion.....	CeVonn Williams
Grocer Man/Madame Boeuf.....	Chas Pridgen
Grocer Woman.....	Lauren Dreggors
Housewife.....	Lauren Baxter
Waitress.....	Kalley Bessent
Logician/Fireman/Old Man Jean.....	J.T. Bloodworth
Boss of Café.....	Rosie Cooper
Old Gentleman/Old Man Jean's Wife.....	Kaylah Fritho

Logan Best (Sound Design Assistant/Light Board Operator) is a freshman at Mercer University. He is a psychology major and theatre minor from Hopkinton, Massachusetts. His most recent roles were Centipede in *James and the Giant Peach* and Davey in *The Tale of Josephine "Devil" Bloodhound*. He wishes to thank his theatre family here at Mercer for working so hard and being so wonderful.

Lauren Baxter (Housewife) is a global development major at Mercer University. You may have previously seen her as Aunt Sponge in *James and the Giant Peach*. She is very glad to be performing in her second show with Mercer Players, and hopes you enjoy the show!

Reid Brown (Assistant Technical Director) is currently a graduate student working on his MBA here at Mercer. In addition to his primary roles, Reid performs a variety of other roles for the Mercer Players, including emotional support, voice of reason, and, on occasion, eye-candy.

Kalley Bessent (Waitress) is a Biology major and Theatre minor at Mercer University. You may have seen her previously as The Dropper in *11x10!*. She is excited to be performing tonight!