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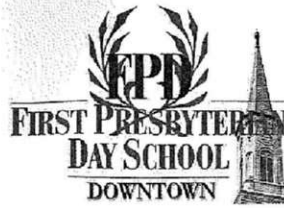
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With a circulation of over 2,000 playbills on the Mercer Campus, Mercer Theatre playbills are the perfect place to showcase your business or organization! Mercer Theatre productions are well attended by the Mercer and Macon communities, local high schools, and friends and families from out of town. Restaurants may consider offering a discount with presentation of a playbill for matinee crowds looking for a place to eat after enjoying the show!

Mercer Theatre's 2013-2014 Season:

Tartuffe September 19 - 29

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MERCER UNIVERSITY THEATRE

PRESENTS

Moliere's
Tartuffe

AT THE
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SEPTEMBER 19-21 & 26-28 AT 7:00 PM

SEPTEMBER 22 & 29 AT 2:00 PM



f

TICKETS: \$5

FOR RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:

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Box office opens 30 minutes before curtain

Molière's
Tartuffe

Directed by **Scot J. Mann**

Set Designer.....Zach Broome
Lighting Designer..... Marian Zielinski
Costume Designer..... Shelley Kuhen
Sound DesignerScot J. Mann

Cast List

Mme. Parnelle (Orgon's Mother)Becky Yeatman
Dorine (Mariane's Lady's Maid).....Hannah Hyde
Cleante (Orgon's Brother-in-Law).....Carlyle Glance
Elmire (Orgon's Wife).....Julie Allen
Orgon (Elmire's Husband).....Braeden Orr
Mariane (Orgon's Daughter, Elmire's Step-daughter,
In love with Valere).....Leah Parris
Tartuffe (A Hypocrite)Liam McDermott
Valere (In Love with Mariane).....Kevin Kersey
Damis (Orgon's Son, Elmire's Stepson).....Cohen Bickley
Monsieur Loyal (A Bailiff).....Patrick Mathis
Officer (A Police Officer)Kevin Culp
Flipote (Mme. Parnelle's Maid).....Hannah Fancher

Setting:
17th Century France
Orgon's house in Paris

Director's Notes

Tartuffe was first performed for King Louis XIV of France in 1664 during the fêtes held at Versailles. Although favorably received by the King, the play was banned from public performance due to the strong objections of influential church leaders who considered the play an attack on the very foundations of religion. The Archbishop of Paris issued an edict threatening excommunication for anyone who watched, performed in, or read the play. The *Tartuffe* controversy constituted the most intriguing and public scandal of the day, involving the monarchy, the church and the arts. Throughout the ban, the play enjoyed great popularity. Because of the scandal, Molière was often invited to give private showings of the play at upper-class salons. Molière resubmitted the play in 1667. Again, it was banned. Finally, after more revisions, the ban was lifted in 1669 and Molière enjoyed the most successful public run of any of his plays. *Tartuffe* is considered to be Molière's masterwork and one of the great dramas of western literature.

Molière's comic genius served a purpose. Far from a condemnation of religious belief, there is encouragement in the play to cultivate true devotion, sincere commitment and humble faith. As he is quoted in his letter of defense for the play, "The comic is the outward and visible form that nature's bounty has attached to everything unreasonable, so that we should see, and avoid, it." And the sentiment is, unfortunately, timeless. One doesn't have to look far into contemporary headlines to find that there are still charlatans cloaking personal agendas in religious language. Through wit and laughter, Molière urges us to avoid hypocrisy and consider the true meaning of spiritual devotion.

Scot J. Mann
Assistant Professor/Theatre Director, Mercer University
Fight Director, Society of American Fight Directors
Certified Teacher, British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat

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<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mercer-University-Theatre/205350932857794?ref=ts&sk=events>

Mercer Theatre Production Staff

Technical Director Zach Broome
Stage Manager..... Britney DeRosa
House ManagersNinti Chance, Vernon Scott
Costume Shop Crew..... Shelley Kuhen, Katie Trotter,
Julie Allen
Wigs and Hair Designer Laurel Astin
Light Board OperatorKimberly Crowe
Sound Board Operator.....Reid Brown
Set CrewJohn Farrington, Anthony Schmidt,
Hannah Fancher, Liam McDermott, Britney DeRosa
Lighting CrewJohn Farrington, Hannah Fancher
Graphic Designer..... Darlene Murphy

Who's Who

Julie Allen (Elmire) is a senior Theatre/Spanish double major, Anthropology minor at Mercer. She was last seen on the Back Door Theatre's stage as Emilie du Chatalet in *Legacy of Light*. When she is not in the theatre she can usually be found in the costume shop where she has had the awesome opportunity to learn from Shelley Kuhen, our fabulous costume designer. This semester she has also had the privilege to study design under Marian Zielinski, the master of color and form. She would like to thank Scot Mann for giving her this opportunity and for being a wonderful director. To the cast, I am honored to be able to work with such talented people and I love you all.

Cohen Bickley (Damis) is a Theatre major in his third year at Mercer. You may have recently seen him in *The Seagull*. Cohen is excited to be part of such a talented group of people and have the opportunity to perform with them. Cohen would like to thank all his cast members for making rehearsal as much fun as possible and being able to laugh at all the hilarious mess-ups. He would like to thank Shelley Kuhen for her amazing costumes, Marian and Zach for their amazing sets, and Scot for his continuous encouragement. Enjoy the show!

Zach Broome (Set Designer, Technical Director) is in his seventh season as part of the Theatre Department's creative staff. He most recently served as TD for the Mercer University productions of *Legacy of Light*, *Independence* and *The Merchant of Venice*, as well as for *A Little Night Music*, and as the scenic and puppet designer of *Alice in Wonderland*, both of which were performed at Macon's historic Grand Opera

House. Zach is excited about this season's productions and welcomes the new challenges that each show brings. He thanks his family and friends for their love and support.

Kevin Culp (Officer) is a freshman from Cumming, GA, majoring in Mechanical Engineering. He has been acting since seventh grade, primarily in musical theatre. Kevin has appeared in productions of *High School Musical*, *The Sound of Music*, and *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* among others. His favorite role was Michael in *The White Room of My Remembering*. He would like to thank his friends and family for supporting him, and Scot Mann for giving him this opportunity.

Hannah Fancher (Flipote) is a sophomore, majoring in Theatre and Business. This is her fifth show at Mercer and her second onstage. She is looking forward to continuing performing and being involved at Mercer. She hopes to use these experiences to help further a career in the Theatre.

Carlyle Glance (Cleante) is a transfer student at Mercer University. Though he doesn't know how long he will be attending Mercer, he is incredibly thankful to be a part of this wonderful production. Carlyle has performed before at Theatre Macon in *The Rocky Horror Show* and *Anything Goes*. He has also been in productions of *Sleeping Beauty*, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *The Lover*, and *Sincerity Forever* at Davidson College. Carlyle would like to thank Scot and Britney for their terrific directing and management and his parents for their constant love and support. He hopes that he will be able to perform with members of this production again soon.

Hannah Hyde (Dorine) is a senior English and French student here at Mercer. She has been acting since the age of nine, but this is her first appearance in the Back Door (and it's awesome). Most recently, she appeared on Theatre Macon's stage in their production of *The Music Man*. Some of her previous roles have been Rhoda in *White Christmas*, Margot in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, and Marty in *Grease*. She is also a member of the Mercer Women's Chamber Choir and serves as the copy editor for *The Dulcimer*, Mercer's literary and arts magazine. She has no idea what she's doing after graduation, but pretends she has something in mind. Thank you to Scot, Britney, Marian, Zach, Shelley, Laurel, and all of the crew who have made this show come to life. To my fellow cast members, let's break some legs!

Kevin Kersey (Valere) is a sophomore Theatre major at Middle Georgia State College (formerly Macon State). In middle and high school, he took part in many plays at Theatre Macon, mostly with the Youth Actor's Company, which included *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Shakespeare Alive*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Treasure Island*. Recently, he has appeared on the Mercer Back Door stage as Gratiano in *The Merchant of Venice* and as Saint-Lambert in *Legacy of Light*, and is thrilled to be back performing with such a talented and hilarious cast. Kevin would like to thank Scot Mann for giving him this opportunity and for his awesome direction, Shelley Kuhen for her always amazing costumes, Marian Zielinski and

Zach Broome, without which he would not get to perform on such a brilliantly crafted stage, and of course the cast and crew for all their hard work

Shelley Kuhen (Costume Designer) is in her seventeenth season as Mercer Theatre's Costume Director. Her designs have most recently been seen in our productions of *Legacy of Light*, *Independence*, and *The Merchant of Venice*. As Costume Designer for Mercer Opera, her creations were seen in their latest productions of *Iolanthe*, *The Toy Shop*, *Indomineo*, and *The Merry Widow*. Also employed by Theatre Macon, Shelley's work was last seen in *Meet Me in St Louis*, *The First Breeze of Summer*, *Becky's New Car*, *Anything Goes* and *Titanic*. Shelley thanks her wonderful family for their continued love and support. 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 the Director of Theatre at Mercer University. As a director, he received a Meritorious Achievement Award for his direction of *Scapin*, by the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival in 2005. Scot is also an internationally recognized and award winning Fight Master, certified through the Society of American Fight Directors and the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat. He has choreographed, performed and coached theatrical violence with such companies as The Steppenwolf Theatre, The Alliance Theatre, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Georgia Shakespeare Festival, and The North Carolina School of the Arts. He has also served as an instructor for the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat in London, and Stage Combat Deutschland in Freiberg, Germany. As an actor, Scot has appeared with the Georgia Shakespeare Festival, New American Theater, New American Shakespeare Theatre, Atlanta Opera, motion capture talent for digital media, and various voice-over recordings for radio, T.V. and the Internet. Scot appeared as a stunt-player and served as tactical choreographer and gun wrangler for the Sci-Fi movie, *Eyeborgs*, as well as on-set Swordmaster and stunt double for the "Bollywood" epic, *Drona*. Recently, he served as Fight Director for the world premier of *Ghost Brothers of Darkland County*, written by Stephen King and John Mellencamp. Scot is an alumnus of the MFA/PAT program at The Alabama Shakespeare Festival and holds a BA in Communications and Theatre from Mercer University. He thanks Kelly, for her understanding and support, and his magical daughter, Madelyn!

Patrick Mathis (M. Loyal) is a recent graduate of Mercer University, biding his time and counting his pennies until grad school either pays for itself or becomes affordable. His past roles with the Mercer players include Voltaire in last season's *Legacy of Light*, Launcelot Gobbo in *The Merchant of Venice*, and Tweedledee in *Alice in Wonderland*. He has done minor voice work, most recently appearing as Thor in an independently developed video game. Patrick would like to thank the wonderful cast and crew, his family, and his most amazing roommates. He also thanks Scot and Marian for letting him worm his way back into the family. To my dearest Grandmother it's all for you, for being right as you always were. All my love for all eternity.

Liam McDermott (Tartuffe) is a second-year Theatre and International Affairs double major at Mercer. His previous performances include turns as The Mad Hatter

in *Alice in Wonderland*, Frederik Egerman in *A Little Night Music*, Bassanio in *The Merchant of Venice*, and most recently Konstantin Treplev in *The Seagull*. He is also a certified actor-combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors, with passes in unarmed and knife combat. He is thrilled to be taking the stage once again with The Mercer Players and would like to thank the entire cast and crew for its hard work and dedication.

Braeden Orr (Orgon) is a senior Theatre and Media Studies double major. He has previously appeared in Mercer University Theatre's productions of *Alice in Wonderland*, *Ye Gods* and *The Seagull*. He also made an appearance in Middle Georgia State College's production of *Moon Over Buffalo*. In addition to his work in theatre, Braeden has been a background actor in films, working on set with Clint Eastwood, Reese Witherspoon and Anthony Hopkins. He is also an award-winning independent filmmaker. Braeden would like to thank his friends, family and fellow cast and crew for their love and support and Scot and Marian for always inspiring him to push further.

Leah Parris (Mariane) is a senior pursuing a BA in Voice, Theatre, and French. She was last seen on Mercer's stage in the Mercer Opera production of *Iolanthe*. Her past appearances with Mercer Theatre include *A Little Night Music*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *Zastrozzi*. Growing up in Macon, Leah has been involved in community theatre from a young age. She most recently appeared in Theatre Macon's production of *The Music Man*. She is thrilled to be sharing her final year at Mercer with this delightful group of people!

Becky Yeatman (Madame Parnelle) is delighted to be on the stage of the Back Door Theatre again, having performed under Paul Oppy's direction in *Night of The Iguana* and *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof* years ago. She has performed for Warner Robins Little Theater, Perry Players, and Macon Little Theater. She appeared last season as the eldest sister in Theatre Macon's *Octette Bridge Club*. Other Theatre Macon roles include Sister Aloysius in *Doubt*, Costanza in *Enchanted April*, Judith in *Lend Me A Tenor*, and Madame Arcarti in *Blithe Spirit*. She thanks Scot for this opportunity and fellow cast members, crews and especially Stage Manager Britney DeRosa, for support and assistance.

Marian Zielinski (Lighting Designer) is a Professor of Theatre at Mercer University. In addition to designing theatre productions, Marian has written and presented conference papers on the arts in Germany, Japan, Denmark, Italy, Sweden, Poland, British Columbia, and Great Britain. She is also an internationally recognized fiber artist, an avid swimmer, and a painter. Marian lives in Macon with her husband, Dr. Frank Macke. She dedicates this work to Frank for his love and inspiration.

