

## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

When John Guare's Six Degrees of Separation premiered in New York in 1990, it was immediately hailed as a modern classic. The quality most critics seized on was, perhaps, best expressed by Frank Rich, theatre critic for the New York Times, when he wrote: "As conversant with Cézanne and the Sistine Chapel as it is with Sotheby's and Starlight Express, this work aspires to the classical esthetics and commensurate unity that are missing in the ... fragmented 20th-century lives it illuminates." To claim the play has classical aspirations is bold considering that its

content is dominated by thoroughly modern subject matters such as the bigotry of intolerance; the search for personal and social identity, increasingly configured along racial, economic, sexual and ethnic lines; the withering away of the traditional

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family unit. And the play's form throws out all regard for the traditional Aristotelian ideal plot structure. Far from the elegant build in tension through conflict relieved by catharsis, this plot is chaotic, edgy, irregular, and often jarring. Yet it is specifically the use of this form that provides a truthful expression of the world its characters inhabit. And it is the deliberate and provocative denial of release that invites us, its audience, to make the characters' problems our own: problems intrinsic to a world becoming smaller while its inhabitants dwell in increasing states of alienation; problems we might try to shut out and pretend are not our own; problems that cannot be purged by a pleasant evening's trip to the theatre. It is because of this that the play has achieved countless performances and deservedly earned the status of classic. It does what the classics do: grapples with what it is that makes us human.

-Shirley Kagan



# THE PLAY

SHIRLEY KAGAN	Director
JUNIOR ALLEN	Assistant Director
BRANDON LOWE	Assistant Director
MATTHEW R. DUBROFF	Technical Director, Set & Lighting Designer
DAVID DODGE LEWIS	Kandinski painting
SANDY WILCOX	Kandinski mounting bracket
SHIRLEY KAGAN	Costume and Sound Design
TODD NOLLEY	Program & Poster Art
ALEX RECZKOWSKI	Program Compilation
HASSELL A. SIMPSON	Important Dates in H-SC Theatre History

# SETTING

NEW YORK CITY

# CAST

OUISA	Joan E. McRae	
FLAN	Jamie DeViese	
GEOFFREY	Justin Turner	
PAUL	James Jordan	
HUSTLER	G,W. Zuban	
KITTY	Corrine Barrus	
LARKIN	Mike Dougherty	
DETECTIVE	Geoffrey Lea	
TESS	Jenny Gillman	
WOODY	Adam C. Bowling	
BEN	Tom Rasey	
DR. FINE	Alan Lockard	
DOUG	Keir McNeal Burton	
POLICE/DOORMAN	Todd Elswick	
TRENT	B.J. Stadler	
RICK	Hollis Merwin	
ELIZABETH	Amanda Kregiel	
PRODUCTION STAFF		
KENNETH W. BRADLEY	Stage Manager	
TERRY JOHNSON		
SAM LONG	-	
COLIN MORRISON		
JOHN HOWARD, JAMES JORDAN, SAM LONG, ALEX RECZKOWSKI, MIKE SCHULZ		

CORRINE BARRUS (Kitty)

Corrine, a 2001 H-SC graduate with a BA in English, currently serves as Assistant Dean of Admissions for Hampden-Sydney College, traveling throughout Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, and Tennessee. She'd like to remind everyone of Mark Twain's words: "There was never yet an uninteresting life. Such a thing is an impossibility. Inside of the dullest exterior there is a drama, a comedy, and a tragedy." Keeping in mind that "all the world's a stage," Corrine anxiously awaits her next role. She would like to thank Hampden-Sydney for instilling in her a love for the arts and a desire to expand her horizons. She would also like to thank her loved ones for their support throughout this endeavor.

ADAM C. BOWLING (Woody)
Adam is a senior at Hampden-Sydney College majoring in Biology and Religion. He plans to attend seminary in the fall to pursue a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Christian Education. This spring he is working on finishing his senior fellowship paper, "Somatic Cell Nuclear Transfer and its Theological Implications." As a child, Adam was a member of the Hurrah Players, a children's theater group based out of Hampton Roads. He was also seen playing Crush-a-foe (the captain of the guard) in a local production of Rescue in the Night. Last spring, Adam was the lead trumpet player in the pit orchestra for the musical 1776; however, this is his first appearance on the Hampden-Sydney stage. Here at Hampden-Sydney Adam is a member of AXE, ODK, the student admissions committee, the Kaleidoscope, the Men's Chorus, and the pep band. He would like to thank his parents, Bill and Pat Bowling, for their faithful and loving support in all his endeavors. He would also like to thank his girlfriend, Erin Noél Kerby, for her tireless work educating Virginia's youth and her endless support as he finishes his undergraduate degrees. Finally, he would like to

KEIR McNEAL BURTON (Doug)
Keir is pleased to appear in his fifth performance on the HampdenSydney Stage. A sophomore Fine Arts major from Mechanicsville, Virginia, he has high school acting experience with the Atlee High School
"Raider Players" with The Nitwits, How to Succeed in Business Without
Really Trying, The Tempest, Fiddler on the Roof, and various one-acts. At
H-SC he has performed in 1776, A Few Good Men, the 2002 Festival
of One-Acts, and Comedy of Errors. He would like to wish everyone an enjoyable
theatrical experience and reminds everyone to please secure their own masks
before aiding any small children with theirs.

thank you, the audience, for supporting the arts. God Bless!

JAMIE DeVIESE (Flan)
Jamie (Class of 2002) currently serves as Media Technologist for Eggleston Library here at H-SC. He began theatre near his hometown of Oak Hill, WV, at the Historic Fayette Theatre where he spent a total of eight seasons. He starred in numerous mainstage productions, including three seasons with the critically-acclaimed musical comedy, Smoke on the Mountain, with which he toured throughout West Virginia and the United Kingdom during the Summer of 2000. In 1998, Jamie made his professional debut with Theatre West Virginia in their three summer musicals: Honey in the Rock, The Hatfields and McCoys, and The Wizard of Oz. Jamie first appeared on stage at Hampden-Sydney as Casca, in the 1999 production of Julius Caesar. Jamie's most

recent credits include various roles in *Communication Breakdown*, which was performed at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe; Edward Rutledge in 1776; Judge Julius Alexander Randolph in A Few Good Men; and Dromio of Syracuse in Shakespeare's Comedy of Errors. Jamie would like to thank his family and friends for their support and donations of caffeine, and Mr. Gene Worthington of the HFT, for his guidance and encouragement.

MIKE DOUGHERTY (Larkin)

Mike Dougherty is a member of Hampden-Sydney College's Biology
Department, where he teaches courses in genetics, biochemistry, and
cancer. His acting career spans nearly 30 years. At age ten, Dougherty
played Wally in Thornton Wilder's Our Town; Larkin marks his second
role in theater. At this prodigious pace, he's hoping to play one more
character before giving in to decrepitude. In his spare time, he enjoys bicycling,
rock climbing and mountaineering, and reading. He is married and has two cats.
He doesn't want to know how hard kids must be.

TODD ELSWICK (Police/Doorman)

Todd returns to the Hampden-Sydney stage for his third mainstage production after a short hiatus. His acting credits include (but are not limited to) parts in *Psychoneurotic Phantasies*, 1776, A Few Good Men, and Glengarry Glen Ross. When not acting Todd considers himself a student; however, in order to be a student, one must do work; and therefore Todd is not a student, but instead a professional slacker. However, after graduating, Todd would like to go on to graduate school while still continuing his work in the theatre. After he finishes this next school, he would like a job, one which pays a lot and has a minimal amount of work. And if any beautiful women want to hire a man to sit around and look good, then my number is 555-5555. Todd would like to offer thanks to all his friends and family for their encouragement and to offer thanks to all his detractors for giving him a reason to continue and become better.

JENNY GILMAN (Tess)

This is Jennifer Gilman's second appearance on the Hampden-Sydney stage. She made her Hampden-Sydney debut last semester in the One Act Festival. She will also be in the Rocky Horror Show later this spring. Her other activities include modeling and being an active sister in Sigma Kappa Sorority. She would like to thank her Sigma Kappa Sisters and her best friend Emily for their constant encouragement and support, and a special thanks to Liz for always being there for her.

JAMES JORDAN (Paul)

James has quickly integrated himself into Hampden-Sydney theatre, proving indispensable not only through acting, but also through his praiseworthy technical talents. When not gracing the stage with his glowing presence or performing grand feats of technical theatre, James can be heard on Hampden-Sydney radio. James' illustrious career in the performing arts began with Virginia Beach's Bellam High Thespian Troupe. And, though this potential philosophy major is pondering a career in law, he admits that he won't complain if by some disgusting twist of fate he ends up on television or on the silver screen.

AMANDA KREGIEL (Elizabeth)
First of all, I would like to thank my family. Mom, Dad, Liz, Ben (and Jake), I love you! Secondly, I want to thank Terry. Without you, I would have never made it to auditions. Thirdly, I would like to thank my precious Adam. You are everything I want to be. All should bow down in your presence. Lastly, but first in my heart, I want to thank my Bradley. Thank you for seeing the best in me. And thank you for ignoring the rest. I love you so much!!! (Even more than Dave!!!) Three and half years is no time at all! Thanks to Shirley and the rest of the cast and crew for showing me such a great time!

GEOFFREY LEA (Detective)
Geoffrey, a third-year student at Hampden-Sydney College majoring in economics and classics, returns to the stage having chalked up experience in H-SC's One Act Festival. He previously played Taplow in The Browning Version (Spring 2001) and he directed How Gertrude
Stormed the Philosopher's Club (Spring 2002). This past Fall, he played
Shelley Levene in the Acting Class's performance of David Mamet's Glengarry
Glen Ross. Upon graduation, this active rugby participant intends to attend graduate school on track for a higher degree as a path to a career in higher education. He would like to thank his family, his friends, the cast and crew of Six Degrees, Shirley for giving him this opportunity, and last, but not least, his crutches for their much-needed support over the last few weeks.

ALAN LOCKARD (Dr. Fine)

Six Degrees of Separation marks Alan's theatrical debut here at Hampden-Sydney College. When not gracing the stage, he can usually be found in the Hampden-Sydney Economics Department, where he plans to pursue a tenure track position. When he can tear himself away from H-SC, this Brookings Institute for Humane Studies Fellow enjoys canoeing, playing Settlers of Catan, and keeping his dog entertained. For inspiration on the stage he draws on wacky life experiences, including operating chain-driven continuous film processing equipment in total darkness. He would like to thank all the little people who got him where he is today, but he can't remember who they are.

JOAN E. MCRAE (Ouisa)
Joan E. McRae teaches French here at Hampden-Sydney, when she is not on stage, in Paris, or in a Physics or Chemistry lab. She began her acting career 6 years ago after meeting the director, Shirley Kagan, and making the happy mistake of offering to help out in the production of Kagan's first Hampden-Sydney play All My Sons. She was cast as Sue, protested in vain that she had not been type-cast, and has since acted in Lend Me a Tenor, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Medusa's Tale, and Sonnet Variations.

HOLLIS MERWIN (Rick)
Hollis, a Fine Arts major concentrating on photography and the visual arts, comes to Six Degrees of Separation having gained experience in many theatrical productions, including Seven Brides For Seven Brothers, Fiddler on the Roof, West Side Story, Robin Hood, A Few Good Men, and Speed the Play. When not on the stage, Hollis has busied himself as a bartender and as a camp counselor. This brother of the Theta Chi Fraternity looks forward to finishing school and working in advertising or returning to Texas and doing God-knows-what. Hollis would like to thank his friends and family for their support and encouragement.

TOM RASEY (Ben)

Tom is a junior economics major from Fostoria, Ohio, who is making his fourth appearance on the Hampden-Sydney stage. To go along with Six Degrees, he has been in Glengarry Glen Ross, A Few Good Men, and 1776. In addition to Tom's involvement with the stage, he is actively involved in the student admissions committee, H-SC pep band, H-SC Men's Chorus, and is the editor of the campus yearbook, The Kaleidoscope. Tom would like to thank all of his family and friends for their love and support.

B.J. STADLER (Trent)

B.J. is a psychology major at H-SC. He returns to the stage after entertaining all as Lt. Kendrick last spring in A Few Good Men and as Angelo last fall in The Comedy of Errors. This junior sets his sights on working for the FBI. He would like to thank all of his supportive family for being there for him.



JUSTIN TURNER (Geoffrey)

Justin, a history major in his senior year, is completing his seventh production with Hampden-Sydney theatre. His past performances include roles in *The Comedy of Errors, A Few Good Men, 1776, Betrayal, A Midsummer Night's Dream,* and *Philoctetes*. He would like to thank his family and Brooke for love and support.



G.W. ZUBAN (Hustler)

The man, the myth, the sophomore. I guess everybody has gotten used to my normal (yet weird) musings, so this time I guess I will go with the more direct data and third person facts. G.W. is happy to be back on the Hampden-Sydney stage. It is no shocker that G.W. would be on the stage again; he is always in Johns. We last saw him as the wonderful twin Antipholus in Bill Shakespeare's A Comedy of Errors. In this go round, he plays a more respectable character, the hustler. Despite the negative things that can be said about hustlers, this one is all class. G.W. would like to thank his family and loved ones for all of their love and unending support.

### PRODUCTION STAFF

JUNIOR ALLEN (Assistant Director) From the glitzy and glamorous role in Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream to the introverted yet smart James Wilson Esquire of Pennsylvania in the musical 1776, J. Lloyd Allen has done some work in theatre on the stage, but this is his first time working behind the scenes. Allen, who is a second semester junior from Miami, Florida, is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and fine arts with concentrations in both Spanish and sociology, with which he hopes to work with abused and neglected children. When not on stage, Allen sings with the Hampden-Sydney College Men's Chorus, plays with the jazz band, attempts playing tennis, volleyball, and (once in a while) swimming. Allen has also participated with various musical groups that took him to Salzburg and Vienna, where he competed in the Vienna Music Summer Festival. He would like to thank the many different people with whom he's worked and most of all Professor Kagan for giving him the opportunity to be next to her, conjuring up the ideas that the actors portray in front of you today. He wants to also thank God for health and strength and the willingness to go on. Thank You.

KENNETH W. BRADLEY (Stage Manager)

Kenneth makes his fourth appearance with Hampden-Sydney theatre, this time as stage manager for Six Degrees of Separation. He made his debut as a stage manager in 1776, followed by A Few Good Men. He's also served as lighting designer for The Comedy of Errors. Kenneth is the captain and a member of the cross country team here at H-SC. He is a sophomore from Virginia Beach, VA, and plans to major in history.



MATTHEW R. DUBROFF (Technical Direction, Set/Lighting Design)
Professor of Theatre at Hampden-Sydney College, Matthew Dubroff has been involved with productions since 1997. Dubroff's training has taken him from Massachusetts to Japan to Hawai'i, where he earned his Master of Fine Arts Degree in Asian Theatre. More recently, he performed in At the Hawk's Well in Theatre Nohgaku's first National Tour, which pre-

miered at Hampden-Sydney College. Dubroff is a teacher of Wu Style Tai Ji and became a certified teacher of the Alexander Technique this past June. He would like to thank all of the Hampden-Sydney community for their support and involvement in the theatre, and, in particular, the unsung heroes who do the behind-the-

scenes work for each production.

JOHN HOWARD (Set Construction)

John is a history and religion major here at Hampden-Sydney College. Though this is only his second work with a production here, he reminds us that his girlfirend has been in many plays, and he's seen one (twice!). Moreover, his work has quickly led him far with H-SC theatre, as James, Sam, and Mike have already named him most valuable player. John, who leads the Hampden-Sydney Outsiders Club, enjoys canoeing, kayaking, hiking, climbing, writing, and photography when he is not working on the stage. And yes, he's hugged a donkey. As he looks toward graduation this spring, John proclaims, "I don't aspire to have a weak desk job like every economics major at Hampden-Sydney. I have no aspiration of being upwardly mobile in the business world."

TERRY JOHNSON (Stage Manager)

Terry is currently an anthropology major at Longwood University. This is her second production with Hampden Sydney. She would like to thank Shirley Kagan for allowing her this wonderful opportunity, Keir Burton, Hollis Merwin, and Amanda Kregiel for transportaion, and all the cast for a great time.



SHIRLEY KAGAN (Director)

Shirley is excited about her sixth year and 12th production at Hampden-Sydney. She wishes to thank her ever-supportive colleagues and students for making the process such a pleasure. Kagan received her Bachelor of Arts from Williams College and her Master of Fine Arts degree in Directing from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa.



SAM LONG (Light Board Operator)

Sam, a farm boy for the Eastern Shore of Virginia, has drawn on plenty of previous acting experience to quickly become a valuable asset to the Hampden-Sydney Theatre. This freshman, the eldest of 5 sisters and a brother, looks forward to continuing work with H-SC productions, and has law school in the crosshairs for the future. He would like to thank professor Kagan for remembering him and Ms. Stuart for unending support.



BRANDON LOWE (Assistant Director)

Brandon, a sophomore biology major at Hampden-Sydney College, is excited to be joining the theatre with Six Degrees, his first experience as assistant director. He's found fulfillment in dealing with the challenging social issues of race, morality, and sexuality that stretch our beliefs. When not in the theatre, he enjoys reading, swimming, mountain climbing, and spending time with friends. Brandon, who plans to attend the University of Virginia Medical School with hopes of specializing in pediatric oncology, found it a pleasure to work with Professor Kagan and the cast and would like to thank them for this wonderful experience.

MIKE SCHULZ (Set Construction)

Mike comes to Six Degrees of Separation with previous experience as an actor. Voted 'fanciest pants' in club lacrosse. He'd like to thank Sam Long for living on a farm because he's a farm boy. And for laxing his face off.





## SIGNIFICANT DATES IN HAMPDEN-SYDNEY THEATER

- **1798** First particular plays known to have been performed here: Charles Maclin's Love à la mode and an unidentified farce. These and earlier plays were put on by literary-debating societies.
- **1821 -** Performance of the first play known to have been written by a Hampden-Sydney student: a tragedy called *The Broken Merchant*, by Daniel A. Penick, class of 1821. It began with a prologue in verse, written and spoken by Isaac Cochran 1822. Penick and Cochran were two of the four actors.
- **1891 -** Construction of Memorial Hall (later called McIlwaine) completed. Its first-floor chapel would see occasional dramatic performances for some forty years.
- **1894** April 19, the first known Hampden-Sydney play to be performed off campus: a farce called *A Sporting Career*, in Farmville, as part of a Glee Club musical program.
- **1902 -** December, a "Young Ladies' Dramatic Club" presents the only all-woman show ever given publicly at HSC, *The Man in the Case*. Delia Brock, daughter of Professor H. C. Brock, is in the cast; later she is the longtime College nurse.
- 1903 February 21, Charley's Aunt is first play known to have been performed in "the Seminary chapel," now called Parents and Friends Lounge of Venable Hall. (Union Theological Seminary had moved to Richmond and its buildings now belong to the College.) Edgar G. Gammon 1905 was in the cast; later he is pastor of College Church and president of Hampden-Sydney College.
- 1923-24 Professor (of French) Herman Bell becomes sponsor-coach of "The Jongleurs" (new name of the Dramatic Club), producing a comedy, *Never Touched Me*, on the Farmville stage of the State Normal School (forerunner of Longwood) because HSC has no proper stage. Men continue playing female roles.
- **1926** Robert Porterfield '28 leaves college in to become first HSC man to act professionally, in New York.
- **1932 -** Alpha Psi Omega (dramatics honorary) chapter (delta delta cast) installed Hampden-Sydney.
- **1950-51** Play production resumes in the small auditorium at STC, with Alex Finlayson (a former HS actor who had worked under Miss Wheeler and now succeeded her for a year) directing *The Madwoman of Chaillot* in the fall and *As You Desire Me* in the spring.
- 1951 Frank S. Johns Auditorium completed at HSC; Jarman Auditorium completed at Longwood. HSC actors would perform on these stages at intervals for half a century.
- **1964-65** Summers: The only summer-stock plays ever performed by HSC and Longwood students and alumni are produced in Drakes Branch, VA, by their "Southern Actors Guild," organized for the purpose.
- **1971-1975** The first plays produced and acted by HSC faculty and staff are staged in Johns, one play per year, under the name of Hampden-Sydney Faculty Players. Some students also participate.
- **1975** The Jongleurs engage a professional director, Dudley Sauvé of Farmville, to design and direct a campus production in each of several years, beginning with A Hatful of Rain, 1975.
- **1978 -** First person appointed in theater at HSC: David Addington, fall semester, "visiting distinguished professor." First person regularly appointed in the arts: Cardon Burnham, in theater and music, who holds the post three years, 1978-1981.

**1990** - March 29-31, the only musical written by a HSC student, *Three Guys Naked from the Waist Down*, by Jared Mauney '90, is performed in Johns and directed by Mel Michel, sabbatical replacement for Stephen Coy.

**1991-92** - December and April, Brian Lampert '92 produces, directs, and acts in *The Comedy of Errors* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the first student-run shows at HSC since "Parting Shots," 1979-83.

**1996** - February and March, Professor David Kaye presents "An American.Dream Theatre Festival" in Johns, with two plays by HSC, one by Longwood, and two by Randolph-Macon College. Pulitzer-winning playwright Edward Albee speaks in Johns.

1996 - November, first major local play is presented in Crawley Forum, Shakespeare's Henry IV, Part 1, directed by Professor Frederic Berg. In the role of Falstaff is the first professional actor ever to appear in a Hampden-Sydney play, Jim Hilgartner of Richmond.

1999, 2001 - Two Hampden-Sydney shows, performed here in the springs, are taken in the summers to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in Scotland: Professor James Schiffer's Sonnet Variations and Professor Matthew Dubroff's Communication Breakdown, with mixed casts of men and women, faculty, students, and community members.

by Hassell A. Simpson

# HAMPDEN-SYDNEY COLLEGE UPCOMING EVENTS IN FINE ARTS

### JAPANESE THEATRICAL PRINTS

Friday, February 28, - 4 pm, Parents and Friends Lounge Shawn Eichman, curator of East Asian Art at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in Richmond

### MEN'S CHORUS SPRING TOUR OPENING CONCERT Thursday, March 6, - 7:30 pm, Crawley Forum

# WINDOWS TO PLEASURE: AN EXAMINATION OF TWO GUIDES TO THE LICENSED QUARTERS OF PRE-MODERN JAPAN

Friday, March 28, - 4 pm, Alkinson Museum Japanese wood block print expert Dave McFall

## JEAN CRAS, BRETON COMPOSER

Thursday, April 3, - Lecture at 7:00 pm, Concert at 8 pm, Crawley Forum World-famous painist Paul Bempéchat

### MAKE-UP TECHNIQUES OF KABUKI

Friday, April 4, 4:30 pm, Crawley Forum Matthew R. Dubroff

### A FESTIVAL OF ONE ACTS

Monday, April 21 and Tuesday, April 22, - 8 pm, Johns Auditorium The directing class

#### JAZZ BAND SPRING CONCERT

Wednesday, April 23, 7:30 pm, Crawley Forum

### MEN'S CHORUS SPRING CONCERT

Saturday, April 26, 7:30 pm, Crawley Forum

### RICHARD O'BRIEN'S THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW

Friday, April 25 and Saturday, April 26 - 9 pm, Tuesday, April 29 - 11 pm, Winston Hall

## HAMPDEN-SYDNEY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Friday, May 23 & Saturday, May 24, - 8 pm, Friday, May 30 & Saturday, May 31, - 8 pm, Crawley Forum

### CENTRAL VIRGINIA ARTS MEMBERS SHOW

May 15 - June 5, Crawley Forum