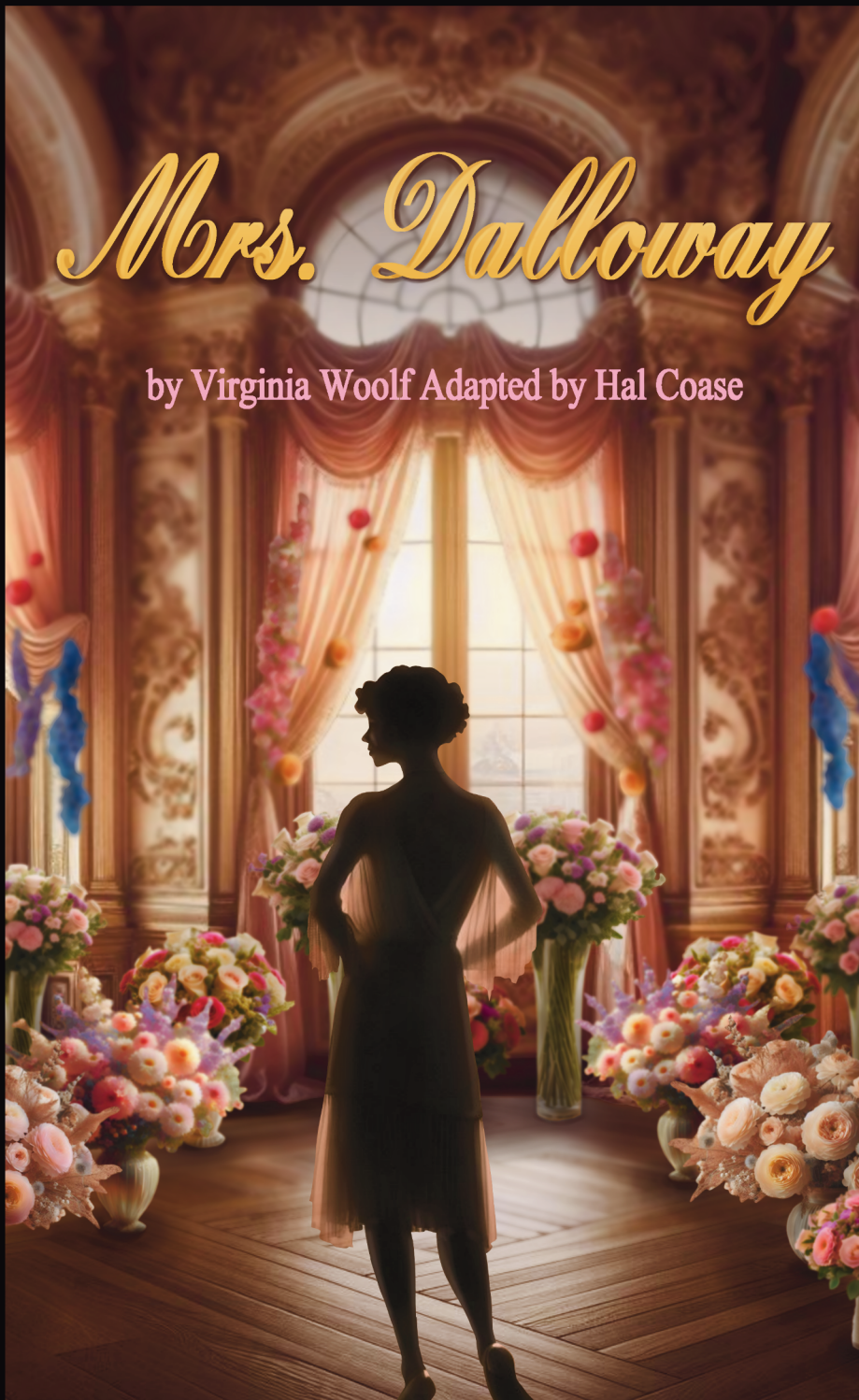


Mrs. Dalloway

by Virginia Woolf Adapted by Hal Coase



Department of Communication

Chair Note

Dr. Troy Comeau



Welcome to the 2023-2024 season of the Pitt State Theatre. We hope you find yourself immersed in a world of drama as our productions come to life in the beautiful Dotty and Bill Miller Theater and the PSU Studio Theatre. Our students have worked very hard to bring theatre to life and we hope you find the stage a canvas for their wonderful work. We extend our deepest appreciation to you for being here and supporting our students.

The Department of Communication also extends our gratitude to the actors, crew members, directors, and faculty who have made each performance possible. Dr. Megan Westhoff is in her fourth year leading our program and will direct our season opening production. Mr. Linden Little will not only showcase his directing talents this year, but also continues as Technical Director and Designer of each performance. Finally, we are always thankful to have Ms. Lisa Quinteros lending her

expertise as our Costume Designer/Wardrobe Supervisor.

This year's season opens on October 19-22 with *Blithe Spirit* directed by Dr. Megan Westhoff. Successful novelist Charles Condomine needs inspiration for his latest book, so he and his wife Ruth invite the eccentric medium Madame Arcati to their house for dinner with friends. The evening quickly takes a supernatural turn when the ghost of Charles' dead first wife, Elvira, is unwittingly summoned...and she has no plans to leave. Join us for this high-spirited comedy to see if they can exorcize the troublesome spook.

On December 1-2, we invite you to enjoy our COMM 544 Stage Direction class's "public final exam" as they present *Theatre Unplugged*. Always fascinating, always popular and always FREE of charge!!

Mr. Linden Little directs our third production on February 22-25, *Mrs. Dalloway*. In this 2017 adaptation of Woolf's modernist masterpiece, we follow Clarissa Dalloway as she prepares for a party on a London day in June. The play shifts perspectives from the characters' internal feelings to external observations in an attempt to translate Virginia Woolf's famous stream of consciousness writing style into staged action. A small ensemble portrays over twenty characters in this bittersweet taste of summer exploring if time or love are ever really lost.

The last production of the season, April 18-21, will be announced soon.

Once again, thank you for your support of Pitt State Theatre and we hope you enjoy this season's productions.

Director Note

Linden Little

The preparation for this production began in earnest in the summer of 2023. Exactly one hundred years from the events depicted in the novel. It made for an interesting opportunity to observe the parallels that span a century of human experience.

Clarissa Dalloway has a sickly constitution resulting from the 1918 Spanish Flu epidemic. Five years after the outbreak she still feels the effect. The COVID pandemic echoes this public health crisis. Especially those affected by long COVID. In addition to those suffering from the long form of the illness, society as a whole has not returned to normal. From supply chain interruptions to delayed language acquisition in infants, the effects of a pandemic ripple through time. This was true in both 1923 and 2023.

An equally significant parallel between now and the era of *Mrs. Dalloway* exists in the struggles of veterans who return from war. Every conflict is unique and one should not conflate the horrors of WWI with modern conflicts in the Middle east and Afghanistan, but it should be noted that veterans of both eras often require support after coming home. The stigma around mental health and PTSD resources have vastly improved over the last century, but we should stay vigilant to keep that support developing and available. In 2020, 17 veterans committed suicide daily. That's 6,205 annually. More can and should be done to reduce this number.

Beyond the negative effects of war and disease, Woolf's 1923 and our own time share some positive characteristics. One of them is the speed and excitement of developing technology. The automobile and the airplane rush across the landscape of London, marveling the people. Similarly, the smart phone and AI accelerate our understanding of what technology can do. Both eras feel the coming onslaught of change that new developments bring.

The second positive parallel might be universal to all human experience rather than a direct link between the 23s, but it is important to appreciate the unique contribution of Virginia Woolf. She brings the world of literature the development of her stream of consciousness writing style. We all meander through our days jumping from task to memory to emotion to thought and back again. The experience of living is not narrative until after the fact of living it. We repeat our selves and circle back in thought. We remember with clarity and feel with depth. Capturing a moment in time hour by hour as lived is the genius of Woolf and we all experience it daily.

CHATTERS

Making healthy choices affordable, with a wide range
of foods, and signature cocktails.

2401 S. Rouse St. Pittsburg, Ks 66762

(620)-232-7277



COMING UP NEXT...

**ENROLL IN THEATRE
CLASSES FOR FALL 2024!**

COMM 105 PERFORMANCE APPRECIATION
COMM 205 PERFORMANCE STUDIES
COMM 254 ACTING
COMM 363 STAGECRAFT
COMM 544 STAGE DIRECTION



**GORILLA
COUNTRY^{LLC}**

104 E. Kansas Pittsburg, KS 66762

Follow us on Facebook @Gorillacountry

Email us @ gorillacountry@outlook.com



Septimus Warren Smith (Drew Cormier) looking at Clarissa Dalloway (Megan Johnson)



Trio Clarissa Dalloway (Megan Johnson), Doris Kilman (Libby Vogel), and Peter Walsh (Eli Bell) all looking in the sky



Clarissa Dalloway (Megan Johnson) talking to Sally Seton (Ciara Sanchez)

Serving Pittsburg since 1952



Follow us on Facebook
@BroadwayLumber

Follow us on Instagram
@doitbestcom

1034 South Broadway Street
(620)-231-5030

Mrs. Dalloway

by Virginia Woolf Adapted by Hal Coase

Directed by.....Linden Little
Scenic and Lighting Design by.....Linden Little
Costume Design by.....Lisa Quinteros

Cast

Peter Walsh & others.....Eli Bell
Doris Kilman & others.....Libby Vogel
Sally Seton & others.....Ciara Sanchez
Rezia Warren Smith & others.....Megan Reed
Septimus Warren Smith & others.....Drew Cormier
Clarissa Dalloway & others.....Megan Stoneberger Johnson

Setting - London, June 13th, 1923

This show will have no intermission.

Production Crew

Stage Manager.....Libby Vogel
Light Board Technician.....Korah Calvin
Sound Board Technician.....Hailey Goodrich
Costumes.....Megan Stoneberger Johnson, Barbara Davis
Scene Shop Carpenters.....Jude Dammerson, Paul Pommier, Jenna Russell*

This play was commissioned and first performed by the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain at the Ambassadors Theatre, London on 27 November 2017.

Pitt State Theatre Staff

Production Assistant.....Milo Black
Artwork Designer.....Brianna Tureaud
Advertising Manager.....Shelby Sogaard
Production Photographer.....Azaria Pishny

*Denotes membership in Alpha Psi Omega, national theatre honor society.

No photography or video recording is permitted during the performance.
Please make sure cell phones are silenced.



A fun moment between Megan and Ciara



A conversation between Septimus (Drew Cormier) and Sally (Ciara Sanchez)



A closeup of Rezia Warren Smith (Megan Reed)

Scenic Designer Note

Linden Little

While the design for this production might seem simple at first there are many layers to the visual experience of watching *Mrs. Dalloway*. This design is best looked at from three distinct perspectives: the space, the physical elements, and the projections. All of these components blend together to support the performers in their attempt bring Woolf's words to life.

The space for *Mrs. Dalloway* is a white void. This has a practical reason and a symbolic one. Practically, the white surfaces act as the perfect medium for projections. Symbolically, the white represents the blank paper of a book not yet written. This production seeks to write in space and time, capturing the essence of Virginia Woolf's literary style.

The physical elements of the production are selected to evoke an old attic with trunks and canvas and random bits of furniture. This echoes Clarissa's attic bedroom, but also represents the compartments and crannies of the mind. A memory here, and an emotion there, all come out of the recesses of our psyche. Likewise, the hats and props come out of various trunks and drawers. The flowers are second component of the physical elements of the show. Hanging above the audience, the flowers seek to freeze a moment in time. A cascade that has not yet reached the ground. Similarly, Woolf's writing captures moments of thought in suspended animation.

The projections were all created through the use of generative AI. This was an experiment with new technology for the sake of advancing the field and remaining contemporary, but it also acts on a symbolic level. Generative AI works by pulling data from large sets of information. Like a collective stream of consciousness, these images were created by gathering the perspective of many different data points. Woolf writes from the perspective of many different points of view as well in a kind of analogue to this technology.

The space, physical elements, and projections of this production have been carefully selected to support the work of the actors, respect the integrity of the text, and excite the sensations of the viewer. Working together, the visual life of *Mrs. Dalloway* seeks to create a rich experience akin to reading the classic novel.

Costume Designer Note

Lisa Quinteros

The costume design for *Mrs. Dalloway* is built around the idea of the essence of the early 1920's as viewed through specific memory. When we remember a person from our far past, childhood, major events, last week's meeting or yesterday's lunch...we rarely remember everything. But certain things stick with us, triggered often by our senses, and even over large spans of time we can still recall those specific details. The color of your Mother's dress on your wedding day...your favorite Aunt's really ugly coat she wore every winter for 10 years...the color of the softest fabric onesie your first newborn wore home, combined with a sense of wonder, fear, happiness and fatigue. These items are often placeholders for feelings and emotional responses.

So I have tried to evoke those feelings, those specifics, as Clarissa and the people who populate her world wander through their emotions and memories, remembering in this manner...that hat with the blue ribbon...the pipe the doctor always had in his hand...oh, he was arriving from India, and was all dressed in light linen!...the hat was so tiny...the beauty and sparkle of an evening party in the summer surrounded by flowers....and the images appear.

I hope each change is just enough to embody the essence of that character, as the actors sift through their items and apply them to themselves, like outfits for paper dolls. For as our minds move quickly from moment to moment, that's what we are attempting to do, to move, to ponder, to think internally outloud... All Visually.

Serving Our Community

Pitt State Theatre is committed to providing a positive impact to our area through acts of service. To that end, this production is asking for donations to the Gorilla Pantry. The pantry strives to provide healthy and nutritious food to support the health and wellbeing to Pitt State students. Audience members are encouraged to place non-perishable foods or personal care items in the bins located in the lobby. At this time, the pantry has the greatest need for snack items like granola bars, fruit cups, tuna pouches, and noodle cups. We thank you in advance for your participation.



Doris Killman (Libby Vogel) in character with a hat

Special Thanks

Alan Ross

Mimi Little

The Bicknell Family Center for the Arts Staff

We would also like to thank everyone who provided services, materials, and support to this production.

Our apologies if anyone is inadvertently omitted.

Crisis Hotlines for Suicide Prevention

Suicide and Crisis Hotline.....	988
Bryant Student Health Center.....	620-235-4452
Crawford County Mental Health Center.....	620-232-7283
Community Health Center of Southeast Kansas.....	620-231-9873

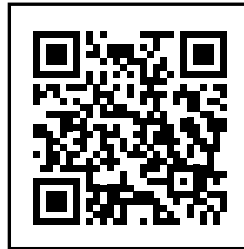
Follow us online!

Instagram



@pittstatetheatre

Facebook



@pittstatetheatre

the blue spoon

Grab N Go Storefront
Food Truck
Custom Catering

Visit:

618 N Broadway
Pittsburg, Kansas



Contact Us!



(620)670-6707



@the Blue Spoon



thebluespoonllc@gmail.com