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Graduate School



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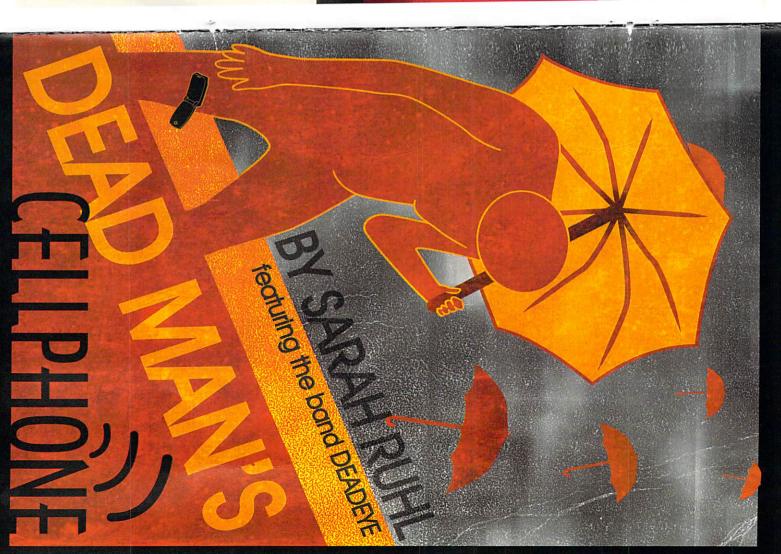
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Deadeye

Deadeye is a local folk-rock ensemble established three years ago by Pittsburg State University students.
The members were new friends who, after spending some time together, realized that they all shared a passion for music and also happened to have



instruments. Since that night, they have written over an album's worth of original music and perform regularly at festivals and music venues in Kansas City, Lawrence, Wichita, as well as their very own Pittsburg and the surrounding area. Megan McCoy, Deadeye's vocalist and guitarist, is a former member of the PSU Theatre Department. McCoy was approached by director Dr. Cynthia Allan and challenged to compose original tunes to strike a fusion of live music and dramatic theatre unseen before on this campus. Deadeye was eager to meet the opportunity to compose and perform for this well-written, evocative play, and is grateful to be a part of this production!





A note from the chair

Dr. Cynthia Allan

Total of Commission

Department of Communication

Welcome to the 2013-2014 season of Pittsburg State
Theatre! This is our final academic year using our small
Studio Theatre for part of our season. It is a time of
excitement and anticipation for us as we think about
moving to the Center for the Arts. We plan to maintain
our same commitment to quality university theatre by
providing performances that cover a broad swath of
dramatic offerings. From cutting edge contemporary
drama to family-friendly productions, we will maintain
our motto of "Catch the Big Stories Here!" as we move
into a new era. Our current season bears that out.

It also gives me pleasure to take this opportunity to thank the many supporters of Pitt State Theatre. Many are not aware that PSU Theatre is funded solely through student fees and box office revenue, so every ticket sold helps us build, develop, and engage with our discipline. Not only does this money provide for production costs, it also provides student scholarships, guest artists, and funding for student travel to conferences and auditions. Your support is what allows us to bring you fine productions today from the professionals of tomorrow. For that we are eternally grateful.

The 2013/14 season begins October 24-26 with The Dinosaur Musical, by Robert and Willie Reale. This family-friendly musical, described as a "charming and amusing musical full of witty wordplay" is directed by Gil Cooper, with musical direction provided by AJ Beu, a graduate student in the Department of Music. Then, on December 5-6, we continue our tradition of Theatre Unplugged with the student-directed one-act plays produced in the Studio Theatre on Joplin Street.

In the spring of 2014, the Studio Theatre hosts two diverse works. On February 27 – March 2, Dr. Joey Pogue presents his directorial vision of the Ibsen play, An Enemy of the People, the story of what happens when one man, sensing an environmental danger, goes against the prevailing tourism economy of his community. A man of integrity persecuted for his beliefs is a story as relevant today as when Ibsen first premiered this play in the late 19th century. Pitt State Theatre will tie this production in with the gallery showing of artist Chad Erpelding, so watch for the Interdisciplinary Lecture Series arranged by the Department of Art as this production draws closer.

Closing the season, directed by yours truly and running from April 24-27, is Sarah Ruhl's Dead Man's Cell Phone, a poetic, sweet and darkly hilarious comedy about a dead man, a cell phone, and a woman eating soup who is taken on an odyssey in which she is confronted with our need to connect in a technologically obsessed society. Don't miss the original music written specifically for the production by popular local band, DeadEye.

I am sure the faculty, staff, and students of the Department of Communication and PSU Theatre join me in expressing our gratitude for your support and our sincere hopes that you enjoy the 2013/14 season.

Regards, Dr. Cynthia Allan



Thanks Nikki Patrick for commitment to the arts her many years of

With love and affection, we thank you, Nikki!

Pittsburg Community Theatre Midwest Regional Ballet Pitt State Theatre St. Marys-Colgar







Set Designer Notes

Catie Almond, Set Designer

our last production in the Studio opportunity to design the set for experience. I am thankful for this Dr. Allan to make her vision of Theatre. I enjoyed working with has been an amazing learning for "Dead Man's Cell Phone" Designing and building the set

interrupt that illusion with an abstract design. The color scheme those qualities. I also wanted to give the illusion of reality, yet The script is so simple, yet so intricate; I wanted the set to reflect this beautiful script come to life. mirrors that of paper- as Dwight says, "Creamy, and flat, and deep.

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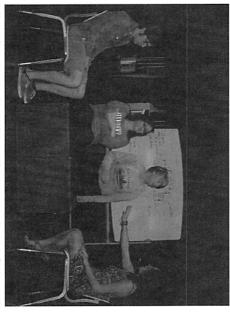
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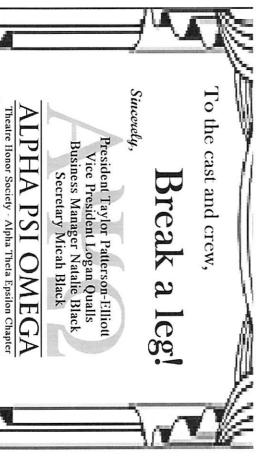






The Gottlieb family welcomes Jean (Breezi Hancock) for dinner.





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Director's Notes

Dr. Cynthia Allan

This production brings to an end the use of the Studio Theatre on Joplin Street as a producing venue for PSU Theatre. By February of next year, we will



be producing our first play in the Center for the Arts smal theatre, a beautifully designed 250-seat space which we hope will delight our audiences as much as it does us.

To commemorate the end of one era and the beginning of another, I decided to stage a "bookend" of plays from one of America's premiere contemporary theatre voices: Sara Ruhl. Ruhl, a Pulitzer finalist (twice), Tony nominee for Best Play, winner of the Susan Smith Blackburn New Play Award, and recipient of a prestigious MacArthur Fellowship, creates "vivid and adventurous theatrical works that poignantly juxtapose the mundane aspects of daily life with mythic themes of love and war." Words used to describe her plays include quirky, surreal, poetic, beguiling, and devastatingly beautiful. Her love of language and the eccentricity of everyday life bring every page alive. I think of Ruhl as a gentle voice that asks us to examine our contemporary world with a knowing shake of the head, a poetic "tsk," instead of a heavy-handed ideological brick.

In this final Studio Theatre production, we bring to you Dead Man's Cell Phone, Ruhl's look at our digital world where we are everywhere and nowhere at once; where we are everywhere and nowhere at once; where we are more connected than any time in human history and increasingly out of touch with each other. The play has us follow Jean, who encounters a dead man (Gordon) in a café when his cell phone keeps ringing. When she answers it, mainly out of annoyance, we fall down the "rabbit hole" of her adventures as her digital expectations collide with his real world family

Donate your used cell phones!

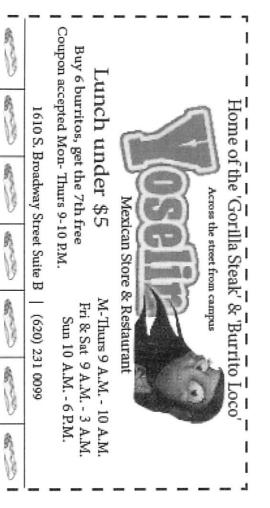






The cast will be collecting used cell phones before each show that will be donated to our local Safehouse Crisis Center here in Pittsburg, Kansas. Donated cell phones must be in working condition with batteries and charger. They will be used as emergency phones for women in domestic violence situations.

For more information about Safehouse Crisis Center visit their website http://safehousecrisiscenter.org/ or call 620-231-8692



I



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and acquaintances. It is a surreal, yet surprisingly recognizable journey.

I have enjoyed the joyous and chaotic ride of this play. I thank the wonderful cast and student designers as well as my colleagues who helped bring all the elements to reality for us. I want to give special thanks to local band, Deadeye, who not only agreed to write original music for the play but to join us on stage and provide live sound effects – a fully acoustic experience! And, finally, I want to thank Barry Bengsten for building this Studio Theatre from a lecture hall those many, many years ago under the theory that it is always better to ask forgiveness than ask permission. We have used this space well and will continue to cherish it as a theatre classroom and rehearsal space.



Dead Man's Cell Phone (



Directed by Cynthia Allan*
Set Design by Catie Almond*
Lighting Design by Morgan Beach
Costume Design by Lisa Quinteros
Sound Design by Trent Kling

ast:

y Lockhart, and Jacob Titus	Olivia Ellison, Marissa Hunn, Lindsey Lockhart, and Jacob Titus
CeeJay Bachus,	Cell Phone Ensemble/Angel WaitersCeeJay Bachus,
Bobbi Jo Smith	The other woman/The strangerBobbi Jo Smith
Logan Qualls*	Gordon's Brother, DwightLogan Qualls*
Catie Almond*	Gordon's Widow, Hermia
Megan Reed	Gordon's Mother, Mrs. Gottlieb Megan Reed
Austin VanBecelaere	A Dead Man, GordonAustin VanBecelaere
Breezi Hancock	A Woman, JeanBreezi Hancock

Featuring Live Performance by Deadeye

Megan McCoy, vocals/guitar; Jenna McCarty, vocals/bajo; Taylor Rea, percussion; and Jennifer Murphy, vocals/auxiliary

There will be a 10 minute intermission

Playwrights Horizons, Inc. New York City, produced the New York Premiere of DEAD MAN'S CELL PHONE Off-Broadway in 2008.

Originally produced June 2006 by Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Washington, DC Howard Shalwitz, Artistic Director; Kevin Moore, Managing Director.

DEAD MAN'S CELL PHONE was commissioned by Playwrights Horizons with funds provided by the Harold and Mimi Steinberg Commissioning Program

Presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC

Production Staff

	Director Cynthia Allan*
	Stage ManagerJessica Gregory*
Ü	Assistant Stage Manager Ashton Augustine
	Set ConsultantJoey Pogue
•	Set Construction & PaintingLawrence Burry,
	Megan Shumney, Ashton Augustine, Logan Qualls*, Megan Reed, Breezi Hancock, Megan Westhoff*
	Hair Design Dani Pollard
	Theatre Staff
	PR/Advertising ManagerAli Smith
	Poster/Program Cover Design April Huninghake
	Production Photographer McKenna Hightower

Special and Sincere Thanks to...

Carol Carland

Kristi Geier

Linden Little

Jason Huffman and Memorial Auditorium

Debbi Fischer

Mildred Cohan, the patient one

No flash photography or video recording is permitted during the performance. Please make sure ALL cell phones are turned off. For the comfort of other audience members, please take crying or fussy children to the lobby.

*indicates member of Alpha Psi Omega, Theatre Honor Society

Lighting Design Notes

Morgan Beach, Lighting Design



This is my first time designing the lights for a big show like this. It is always an honor to work with the people in our theatre department. While I was working on this project, Sarah Ruhl opened my eyes to what I love most in this material world. My pipeline would probably be overflowing with theatre related things. I hope everyone falls in love with this show as much as I have.



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