

Ladies and gentlemen, there can be no flash photography during the performances and no video or audio recording of the show. We thank you for remembering to turn off any personal electronic devices that might beep, buzz, ring, or vibrate.

Peck School of the Arts
Department of Theatre
proudly presents

Hay Fever

by
Noel Coward

Director: Rebecca Holderness

Design and Production

Scenic Designer:.....Kurt Sharp
Costume Designer:.....Pamela J. Rehberg
Lighting Designer:.....Stephen Roy White
Sound Designer:.....Chris Guse
Voice and Speech.....Michelle Lopez-Rios

CAST (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Character	Actor
David Bliss	Rich Gillard
Simon Bliss	Max Hultquist
Sorel Bliss	Megan Kaminsky
Sandy Tyrell.....	Evan Koeppnick
Judith Bliss	Toni Martin
Clara	Jessica Monk
Myra Arundel	Margeaux Reed
Richard Greatham	Tommy Stevens
Jackie Coryton	Lineve Thurman

There will be two 10-minute intermissions

PRODUCTION PERSONNEL**Stage Management Staff**

Stage Manager	Brandon S. Campbell
Assistant Stage Manager	Bethany Davey
Assistant Stage Manager	Meredith Roat
Production Assistant	Samantha Humburg
Assistant Director	Meghan Baskett
Research Assistant	Ryan Antross

Technical Production Staff

Technical Director	Christopher J. Guse
Production Shop Supervisor	Tim Laughner
Scenic Artisans	Nathan Booth, Loren Watson, Logan Byrne, Meredith Roat, Ann Vollroth, Casey Miller, Ross Zentner, Dustin Donohue
Technical Crew	Students of 214 Stagecraft
Properties Director.....	Sandra J. Strawn
Properties Master	Jay Tollefsen
Properties Artisan.....	Melissa Erdman
Master Electrician.....	Stephen Roy White
Assistant Lighting Designer.....	Casey Miller
Scenic Artist.....	Kurt Sharp
Light Board Operator	Angelina Rodriguez-Dias, Marilyn Reles
Sound Board Operator	Ann Vollrath
Stage Crew	Abby Armstrong, Cheong Hyeon Park, Ben Albright, Jane Vang, Ryan Antross, Riana Tiggs, Allison McMahon

Costume Production Staff

Costume Director	Jeffrey Lieder
Show Supervisor.....	Angela Rodriguez-Miller
Assistant Show Supervisor.....	Brent Roberts
Drapers.....	Francis Barrows, Katherine Chubak, Kari Ehler, Chelsea Findlay, Samantha Rebro, Becky Rohr, Erica Schabla
Stitchers	Students of 225 Costume Construction
Costume Crafts.....	Angela Rodriguez-Miller
Wardrobe Supervisor	Brent Roberts
Wig Stylists.....	Brian Firkus, Heather Hirvela, Melody Lopac
Wardrobe Crew	Students of 225 Costume Construction

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Dear guest, welcome! Plays can be many things- provocations, debates, entertainments, songfest, fantasy and tragedy. *Hay Fever* as a play and in this production is an invitation to relax and revel in spring, in wit, humor, bad behavior, and song. In this production you can be a weekend guest at the Bliss house and enjoy its new Art Deco additions, its appointments, the music and the lovely gowns. We hope that you revel in the foibles of the resident humans and specifically the theatrical and artist humans who are always just a bit on stage. We find them delightful. We are they. Perhaps you are too (just a bit.) A quick word of explanation, we want you to sit back and indulge yourself. *Hay Fever* is written with three short acts and two intermissions. Accompanied by Lord Noel's wonderful music we have composed little genre works, "knee plays," between acts. Like a sorbet between courses, they are a refreshment- please do feel free to stand and walk out on them, talk or go visit the lobby during them. Or watch them- as your mood strikes you. House lights will go on at the end of acts and lobby lights will signal the beginning of the acts- so wherever you wander you can be sure to find your way back into your "weekend" in the country. Your presence is a present. Thank you for coming.

Rebecca Holderness, Director

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The use of visual imagery was an important part of our rehearsal process. After being inspired by an incredible trip to Ten Chimneys, the actors began incorporating period photos into their character development and warm ups. Each actor selected a few photos that they felt embodied their characters, and then brought those images to life. This photo research helped us envelop ourselves in the world of the Blisses. We hope you enjoy the final product, and all of the quiriness that we offer you tonight. To see some of the images that inspired us, please check out the lobby display at an intermission or after the show. Until then, sit back, relax and enjoy your less than typical country getaway.

Meghan Baskett, Assistant Director

A BIOGRAPHY OF NOEL COWARD

Noel Coward, actor, director, but mostly playwright was born in 1899 in Middlesex, England. He started his acting career at the age of 12, but by the early 1920s he started writing and producing his own plays. *The Vortex* was his first success in 1924 along with *Fallen Angel*, *Easy Virtue* and his first play, *The Rat Trap*. His most well known was *Hay Fever* written in 1925 which features the ups and downs and madness of the Bliss Family. This play was based on his trip to visit a mutual friend of actress Laurette Taylor (the character Judith Bliss is based upon), who was famous for her unpredictable weekends. Coward wrote nearly 40 plays over his career. However, none of them reached the success of *Hay Fever*. In the 1930s, Coward started performing in and creating films, most of which were based on the plays he had written and produced in his earlier days. His most popular movies were his early ones which include, *Private Lives*, *Bittersweet*, *Calvacade*, *Design for Living* and *Easy Virtue*. Coward was dear friends with husband and wife actors Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne and spent many summers at Ten Chimneys in Genesee Depot, Wisconsin, where he wrote *Private Lives* in 1930. Later in his life, he won an Honorary Oscar, and in his final years, was knighted by Queen Elizabeth, II for his work in theatre and as a spy for the British Secret Service during WWII. He retired to Jamaica and remained there until his death from heart failure in 1973.