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The Season Ticket, October 1995

Columbia College Chicago

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THE SEASON TICKET

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New Phone Numbers

This summer, Columbia changed to a new, automated phone system which now allows instructors to access voice mail. This changeover also included getting a new phone number and new extensions. All calls are now routed through (312) 663-1600. The Theater office is at Extension 6000. To place single ticket or group orders please call the box office at (312) 663-1600 EXT. 6126, or leave a message.



Letter from the Editor

Welcome to a new and improved edition of **THE SEASON TICKET**. We are trying out a new format and would like any feedback from our readers regarding style and content and what changes you think we could do to make this newsletter better. We'd also like to hear what you have to say regarding what you'd like to read in our newsletter. Just drop a note in the marketing assistant box on the third floor of the Theater/Music building.

In this issue we'll give you a complete overview of the shows this fall as well as insightful interviews with the directors and their creative ideas in conceptualizing these productions. We'll also give you a complete run down of dates and times so you won't miss these spectacular events.



The Staff

Contributors:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| H.E. Baccus | Brian Shaw |
| Mary M. Badger | Estelle Spector |
| Pauline Brailsford | William Russo |
| Carole Gutierrez | Susan Padveen |
| Sheldon Patinkin | |
| Susan Osborne-Mott | |

Editor: Mary Young

DRACULA

DRACULA

First up this season is Mac Wellman's *Dracula* which will be produced in the New Studio Theater and directed by Assistant Chair, Brian Shaw with music by E. Rawlings Thurman, who is a graduate of Columbia. The set is being designed by recent graduate Todd Greenwald, with lights by Gwenne Godwin and costumes by Alicia Turner. Performances run through October in the New Studio.

The show is based firmly on the novel of the same name by Bram Stoker. However, as director Brian Shaw points out, "there is a major twist in the story." Indeed, it would seem that the English-folk, or "Victorians" as they are called, are not entirely successful in dealing with the elusive Count Dracula. Things aren't always what they seem in this haunting show. Mac Wellman has defined this play as a "Troll Play." That is to say, the overall time-line of this play, while based on the *Dracula* myth, doesn't necessarily follow the same structured time-line as the novel by Stoker. As Shaw says, "the story is full of ellipses and telescoped events." Time, in this show, is inverted and distorted, making for an eerie and sometimes frightening piece.

While the scripted setting for the show takes place in Transylvania and in England, the set itself primarily consists of a bare stage with a mound upstage center upon which Castle Dracula sits.

The show also features a rolling "Hide-a-Coffin", and puppets created by Von Mock and the Columbia College Costume Department.

Dracula is "quick, mysterious, sexy and sharp." It is perfect entertainment during the only month of the year we choose to celebrate the mysterious, the paranormal and the unexplained.

DRACULA SHOW TIMES

Show times for *Dracula* are as follows:

Previews	October 18 at 7:30pm
	October 19 at 4:00pm
	October 19 at 7:30pm
	October 20 at 7:30pm
	October 21 at 7:30pm
Opening	October 22 at 7:00pm
Shows	October 23 at 2:00pm
	October 25 at 4:00pm
	October 26 at 7:30pm
	October 27 at 7:30pm
	October 28 at 7:30pm
	October 29 at 3:00pm

Tickets are \$2. Columbia Students are admitted free with valid ID. Not for profit groups are eligible for free tickets*.

*Subject to Availability

The New Studio is located in the basement of the Theatre building located at 72 E. 11th St. Chicago.



The Lady From Maxim's

The Lady From Maxim's

The second show this season is Georges Feydeau's *The Lady From Maxim's* which is being produced in the Getz space of the Theater building. Maxim's, as it is affectionately called, is being directed by **Estelle Spector** and **Pauline Brailsford**. The sets are being designed by **Jennifer Hutchison** with costumes by **Patti Roeder** and lights by **David Gipson**.

The Lady from Maxim's tells the story of a very proper Parisian Doctor who wakes up one morning to find **Shrimp**, a can-can dancer from the Moulin Rouge, in his bed. Having no idea how she got there, the doctor is forced to try and hide her from his very religious wife and his uncle, the General, from whom he stands to inherit a great fortune. The General, thinking **Shrimp** is the Doctor's wife, takes her to his Chateau outside of Paris to be the hostess for a party he is throwing for the wedding of his niece and a dashing young lieutenant who just happens to be **Shrimp's** former lover.

As co-director **Pauline Brailsford** puts it, *Maxim's* "is a French farce about mistaken identities, amorous entanglements and farcical misunderstandings."

The play takes place in the doctor's consulting room in Paris and the General's chateau just outside the city at the turn-of-the-century.

The costumes are "wonderfully colorful period costumes" designed by **Patti Roeder**. There is some dancing involved with the production and as **Brailsford** says, "The audience will get to see a flash of stocking and some frilly underwear." So come, sit back, relax and have a fun filled evening of entertainment with the cast of *The Lady from Maxim's*.

The Lady From Maxim's Show Times

Show times for *Lady From Maxim's* are as follows:

Previews November 9 at 7:30pm
November 10 at 7:30pm
November 11 at 7:30pm
Opening November 12 at 7:00pm
Shows November 14 at 2:00pm
November 15 at 4:00pm
November 16 at 7:30pm
November 17 at 7:30pm
November 18 at 7:30pm
November 19 at 3:00pm

Tickets are \$5 to \$14. Columbia Students are admitted free with valid i.d.s and not for profit groups are eligible for free tickets

*Subject to Availability

The Getz Theatre is located in the theater/music building at 62 E. 11th Street, Chicago.





People

Making News

or

"What I did on my summer vacation"

Stephanie Shaw

In March, Stephanie joined the Neo-Futurists, performing weekly in **Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind**. This fall, she went on tour with the "Neo-Futurists" to Seattle, Washington. This fall semester, Stephanie will direct a faculty workshop entitled **Lion in the Streets** at Columbia College.

David Woolley

David (Artist-in-Residence) is currently in the midst of the 1995 tour of **Dirk and Guido: The Swordsmen!** (He's Guido) Fall found him at the Ohio Renaissance Festival on the weekends. He is also staging fights for the Forum Theatre's production of **Corpse!** in Summit and working with the Roughhouse Stage Combat Club in Chicago.

Brian Shaw

Brian is directing the first Fall Mainstage studio show--**Dracula** by Mac Wellman. He also recently appeared in a collaboratively generated performance called **Door Slam**, presented at the Chopin Theatre in September.

Cecilie O'Reilly

Cecilie finished work on a new loft/studio for private lessons in Bucktown.

Sheldon Patinkin

Sheldon moved residences. He's also directing J.R. Sullivan in his adaptation of Ben Hecht's **A Child of the Century** at the Victory Gardens Studio in early November.

Paul Amandes

This summer, Paul wrote a play called **Arrivals** which will tour with Stillpoint Productions in 1996. Another play he's written, **Haunted By God**, completed its second tour of Europe. Paul also wrote the Jeff - Nominated music for **Desdemona**, at the Turnaround Theatre for Heliotrope Productions and he was seen as Sparky in **Forever Plaid** at the Red Barn Playhouse in Saugatuch, Michigan.

Barbara Robertson

Barbara is back from touring the US with **Angels in America** and is currently in Neil Simon's **London Suite**, at the Briar Street Theatre .

Chris Phillips

This summer, Chris worked on **The Tempest** (Scenic and Lighting Design) at Oak Park Festival Theatre , **Singin' in the Rain** (Lighting Design) at Theatre Northwest, **Peter Pan** (Lighting Design) at Drury Lane Oakbrook, and **Gypsy** (Lighting Design) at Drury Lane Oakbrook. Currently running are **The Dave Wannstedt Show** on CBS for which Chris created the Production Design and **Dracula** for the Dayton Ballet which will be touring the US and Canada this fall. Coming up, Chris will be involved in the lighting design for Loyola University's production of **The Night of the Iguana**, Drury Lane Oakbrook's production of **The Sound of Music**, for which he is the scenic art director and the lighting designer; and Skylight Opera, Milwaukee's production of **Gilbert and Sullivan: a Revue** for which he will LD.

Henry Godinez

This summer, Henry flew out to Southern California to do research for the New Latino Theater Course. He also played Caliban in the Oak Park Theatre Festival's production of **The Tempest** and co-directed **Romeo and Juliet** with Barbara Gaines for Shakespeare Repertory at Grant Park. Henry also directed **Cloud Tectonics** by Jose Revera at the Goodman Studio Theatre.

Dale Calandra

Dale directed **The Tempest** for the Oak Park Theatre Festival this past summer and was just named Acting Artistic Director for the 1996 season where he will be doing **Hamlet**. He also spent a week in Santa Fe and two weeks in LA promoting his play **Lysistrata, 2411 AD** which was published by Fireside Theatre Bookclub at Doubleday. Currently, Dale is playing "Squeaky Clean" in Center Theatre Ensemble's premiere production of **Lifeldreamof**.





The Chicago Jazz Ensemble

The Chicago Jazz Ensemble had a very busy and successful summer with two performances at Ravinia and one at Grant Park at the Petrillo Band Shell. The Ensemble also recorded a CD featuring William Russo's Chicago Suite No. 1 which will be released some time in 1996.

This fall, the Chicago Jazz Ensemble kicked off its second full season at Navy Pier's Skyline Stage on Sept. 16. Also included on the bill were **Dr. John and his Afterglow Big Band** and the **GRP All-Star Big Band**. The concert's proceeds will go to a *Columbia College Scholarship fund*.

Also this fall, the Chicago Jazz Ensemble will make history by performing Gil Evans' **Sketches of Spain** in its entirety at the Park West on Friday, November 17. The concert that night will also feature several other Latin-flavored pieces from the Ensemble's repertoire. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.

Berstein Songbook

The music program presents the music and songs of **Leonard Berstein** in this tribute to be performed December 6-December 17th.

Faculty Spotlight

Carole Gutierrez, our newest Artist-in Residence, was trained at Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, Mo. where she received her BFA in Theatre with a minor in Dance. She received her MFA in theater at the University of Illinois in Urbana. She believes that the training she received in college "opened up a world of possibilities. I was inspired and challenged. I appreciated my teachers for inspiring and challenging me."

Carole says she got into theater at an early age because she loved making people laugh and the attention performing brought her. She credits her mother for influencing her. "She named me after her favorite actress, Carole Lombard. She took me to movies, plays and museums. The more I saw, the more I wanted to act."

Currently, **Carole** is enjoying teaching here at Columbia. She says she has had wonderful experiences with her classes. "I'm impressed with the talent of Columbia students-not only in my classes, but also in the productions I have seen."

Carole is also teaching at the Training Center and in the winter may start teaching at Act One Studios. In the past, she has taught at Wisdom Bridge Training Center and for several years she taught and directed children for The Center for Gifted and Whirlwind Performance Company.

The most important advice she gives to her students in having successful careers is to take Chekhov's advice, "If you want to work on your art, work on your life."



GRADUATE NEWS

The Merattic Theatre

Company which is made up entirely of Columbia College students and graduates presents the North American premiere of **Prime**, a new play by Irish Playwright **Noel MacAoidh**. Originally workshopped at the **Royal Court** in London the show runs Thursdays through Sundays at **Zebra Crossing Theatre**, October 5th through November 5th. Curtain is at 7:30pm.

Brian Shaw, in collaboration with Dexter Bullard, Michael Cates, Julia Fabris and Laura T. Fisher formed **Plasticene**, a new physical theatre company. Their first show **DoorSlam**, was produced at the Chopin Theater in September/October of this year. **Brian** is still hard at work on his Masters Degree which he will receive from DePaul's School for New Learning in the fall

Directing projects

And

Faculty Workshops

The Lion in the Street

Directed by Stephanie Shaw and Assisted by Brian Posen. Opens, Nov. 17th.

Jukebox

Is being directed by Antje Gehrken and Opens Nov. 27th.

