

Will Rucker (4th Year Drama): *The Love Song of J. Robert Oppenheimer, Twenty-Seven* (staged reading) (U.Va. Drama).

Caroline Ryon (4th Year Drama/English): *Oklahoma!, So Careless, Hedda Gabler* (U.Va. Drama); *Cabaret, Once Upon a Mattress* (FYP).

Isabella Sazak (3rd Year Drama): *Measure for Measure, King Lear, Desdemona: A Play About A Handkerchief, Much Ado About Nothing* (SotL).

Robert Schwieder (2nd Year Philosophy/Foreign Affairs)

Dorothy Smith (Costume and Technology MFA '96): *Oliver!, Red White and Tuna, Little Shop of Horrors* (HTF).

Shankar Srinivasan (3rd Year Music): *The Light in the Piazza* (HTF).

Napoleon Tavale (2nd Year MFA Acting): *The Love Song of J. Robert Oppenheimer, The Two Gentlemen of Verona, Language of Angels* (U.Va. Drama).

Jacquie Walters (3rd Year Theatre/Film Performance): *The Foreigner, Some Girl(s), Oklahoma!, So Careless* (U.Va. Drama); *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (FYP).

R. Charles Wilkerson (2nd Year MFA Acting): *The Imaginary Invalid, The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (U.Va. Drama).

PRODUCTION STAFF FOR *THE SEAGULL*

Assistant Stage Managers Julia Addis-Lieser, Brittany Pryor

Department Technical Director Steven Warner

Scene Shop Manager David Hale

Assistant Technical Director Justin Smith

Scene Design Faculty Advisor Tom Bloom

Master Carpenter Alan Perez

Carpenters Miguel Algarin, Mark Ambrose, Tom Christensen, Vincent Gurioli,
Rachel Lau, Michele Miller, Jimmy Norton and the Students of DRAM223

Paint Charge Jeff Kmiec

Assistant Charge Mary Butcher

Painters Virginia Berg, Jake Bloom, Izzy Sazak

Props Master Kristin Freshwater

Props Assistants Lauren Chilton, Angela Pirkko, Olga Zeveleva

Costume Design Faculty Advisor Gweneth West

Costume Shop Manager Josh Bond

Costume Technology Supervisor Marcy Linton

Wardrobe Mistress Amara Shaker-Brown

Costume Crew Lauren Chilton, Sarah Tisdale, Emily Andrysick

Lighting Design Faculty Advisor Lee Kennedy

Master Electrician Mickie Marie

Assistant Sound Designer Max Krembs

Sound Board Operator Terence Fells-Danzer

Sound System Installation Students of Sound Lab, DRAM 2630

Run Crew Ana Losada

Vocal Coach J.P. Scheidler

Dramaturg Caroline Ryon

Business Manager James Scales

Assistant Business Manager Jenny Mays

Arts Box Office Manager Andrew Burnett

Arts Box Office Staff Reina Abboud, Ally Boate, Sarah Edwards,
Betsy Graves, Stephanie Harvey, Russ Hicks, Hunter Link,
Danny Navarro, Leigh Spoden, Ashleigh White

House Manager Portia Henry

Concessions Manager Vashiti Harrison

Front of House Staff Jarred Boone, Ashley Henry, Maurice Patterson

Publicity Assistant Sam Rabinovitz

Production Manager Caitlin McLeod

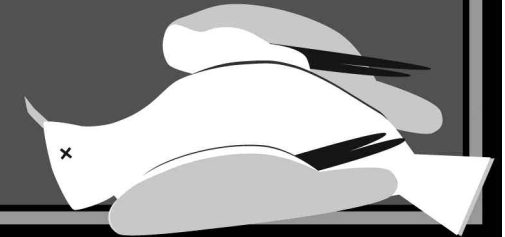
 UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA
DRAMA

The Seagull

by Anton Chekhov

Translated by Christopher Hampton

Directed by Amanda McRaven



Culbreth Theatre

February 18-20, 24-27, 2010

DEPARTMENT OF
DRAMA
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

Presents

The Seagull

by Anton Chekhov

in a new version by Christopher Hampton

Directed by **Amanda McRaven**

Scenic Design by **Kristin L. Freshwater**

Costume Design by **Christina Leinicke**

Costumes Facilitated by **Dorothy Smith**

Lighting Design by **Dale Marshall**

Sound Design by **Michael Rasbury**

Music Composed by **Shankar Srinivasan**

Technical Direction by **Jessica Cloutier**

Production Stage Management by **Will Rucker**

The Seagull is presented by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Services, Inc., New York.

First performance at the Royal Court Jerwood Theatre Downstairs,
Sloane Square, London on January 18, 2007.

CAST

Arkadina.....	Laura Rikard
Treplev.....	Geoffrey Culbertson
Sorin.....	R. Charles Wilkerson
Nina.....	Isabella Sazak
Shamrayev.....	Mark Ambrose
Polina.....	Caroline Ryon
Masha.....	Jacquie Walters
Trigorin.....	Andrew Cronacher
Dorn.....	Napoleon Tavale
Medvedenko.....	Robert Schwieder
Yakov.....	Matthew Minnicino
Cook.....	Norman Reategui
Maid.....	Audrey Edwards

This action takes place in the house and gardens of Sorin's estate.
There is an interval of two years between Acts Three and Four.

There will one 15 minute intermission.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

"You couldn't do without the theater." – *Pyotr Nikolayevich Sorin*

When Chekov wrote *The Seagull* in 1895, he had a bone to pick with the Russian theater elite. He filled the play with thinly disguised versions of the greatest actors and writers of the day and invited them all to opening night to watch how they would respond to themselves in less than glamorous situations! Ha! Brilliant. When I discovered this anecdote in my research, a play I had long considered dusty sprang to life in my imagination. I wondered what it would be like to try to capture a sense of the palpable friction that must have been in the air the night it debuted. To make the play about the theater – the comedy, melodrama, tragedy, and music...

How do a troupe of university actors in Virginia in 2010 interpret this story? Because I believe that we must interpret, revisit, renew our golden oldies. We cannot simply repeat. Well, I can't anyway. I love theater that rolls around and explodes and crawls into your hearts or punches you in the gut, or catches your breath, but whatever the verb, it is a verb, not a noun. Even this play has verbs in it. We tried to find them.

Of *The Seagull*, Chekov wrote, "I am writing it not without pleasure, though I swear fearfully at the conventions of the stage. It's a comedy, there are three women's parts, six men's, four acts, landscapes (view over a lake); a great deal of conversation about literature, little action, tons of love." We have attempted to swear fearfully at the conventions of the stage, wrap our tongues around the meandering conversations, and honor the tons of love.

Many thanks to a wonderful cast for their bravery and trust, many thanks to you for supporting theater in America. We need you.

– Amanda McRaven, director

WHO'S WHO IN *THE SEAGULL*

Mark Ambrose (3rd Year Drama)

Jessica Cloutier (2nd Year MFA Technical Direction): *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *The Love Song of J. Robert Oppenheimer* (Asst T.D.), *Oklahoma!* (Asst T.D.) (U.Va. Drama).

Andrew Cronacher (2nd Year MFA Acting): *The Foreigner*, *The Love Song of J. Robert Oppenheimer* (U.Va. Drama); *The Garden* (Live Arts).

Geoffrey Culbertson (3rd Year English): *Much Ado About Nothing* (Hamner); *Sweeney Todd*, *Tartuffe* (Live Arts).

Audrey Edwards (4th Year Drama): *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Godspell* (Fauquier Community Theatre).

Kristin L. Freshwater (1st Year MFA Scenic Design): *Waiting for the Parade* (U.Va. Drama); *Jekyll & Hyde* (Wolfbane Productions).

Dale Marshall (2nd Year MFA Lighting Design): *The Foreigner*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Day of Absence* (U.Va. Drama); *Pump Boys and Dinettes* (HTF); *Intimate Apparel* (Live Arts).

Amanda McRaven (Fulbright '08, MFA UC Irvine, MA Massey University, BA Drama/English U.Va.): *Before The Birds* (Hokowhitu Theatre, New Zealand); *Antony and Cleopatra*, *Henry V*, *Much Ado About Nothing* (Blackfriars Playhouse); *Polaroid Stories*, *Orpheus Descending* (UC Irvine); *The Clean House*, *Boston Marriage* (Live Arts).

Matthew Minnicino (2nd Year Drama/English): *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Measure for Measure* (SotL).

Michael Rasbury (Assistant Professor, Sound Design)

Norman Reategui (3rd Year Drama): *She Loves Me* (Spectrum Theater); *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Damn Yankees* (FYP); *Ana en el Tropico* (Spanish Dept).

Laura Rikard (2nd Year MFA Acting): *Language of Angels*, *The Love Song of J. Robert Oppenheimer* (U.Va. Drama); *Food of Love* (Hampton Shakespeare).