The Way Of The World
By William Congreve
Directed by John DeMita

Scene Dock Theatre
April 2–5, 2015

THE WAY OF THE WORLD

USC School of Dramatic Arts 2014/15 SEASON
THE WAY OF THE WORLD

By William Congreve

WITH (in alphabetical order)

Katie Baker     Maximilian Banta     Courtney Berck
Dominic Bournes     Francesca Calvo     Caribay Franke
Dor Gvirtsman     Austin Hammer     Harold Kast
Mikael Mattsson     Natalie Nagar     Katie Polley
Kamille Robertson     Michael Sturgis     Kapil Talwalker

SCENIC DESIGN          COSTUME DESIGN          LIGHTING DESIGN
Nick Farmer          Jiwon Shin          Justus Bradshaw

SOUND DESIGN          STAGE MANAGER
Kelsi Halverson          Sophia Nagar

DIRECTED BY
John DeMita

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DIRECTOR'S BIO
John DeMita is delighted to be directing again at USC, where he is an Assistant Professor of Theatre Practice. Directing credits include: Andak Theatre Company (North Hollywood): The Elephant Man, Betrayal (Garland Award), The Misanthrope (Backstage West Award), Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center: SubUrbia, Equus, Death of a Salesman, As You Like It, Rumors, El Camino Center for the Arts: Six Characters in Search of an Author, The Crucible, Picnic, Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth, The Hot l Baltimore, Mother Courage and her Children, Hay Fever, and the USC productions of Dark of the Moon and 27 Wagons Full of Cotton. As a voice actor, John has performed in hundreds of projects, including Miyazaki's Princess Mononoke, Castle in the Sky, and Kiki's Delivery Service, the anime series Naruto, The Animatrix, Final Fantasy and Dynasty Warriors video games, and SEGA's Binary Domain, for which he traveled to Tokyo to create the critically acclaimed motion capture robot "Cain."

DIRECTOR'S NOTE
When I told a college friend I had been asked to direct The Way of the World here at the School of the Dramatic Arts, he responded briefly but prophetically: "Oh, what fun. And hard. Good, hard fun."

That is what it has been, and we are grateful and better for it. Personally, I am grateful for the exceptional BA students here at USC. I am truly amazed at what they have accomplished, and I am happily reminded how much fun can be had with a group of hard working, like-minded theatre practitioners in pursuit of excellence.

I am also indebted to my friend and mentor Dakin Matthews, not only for his guidance in editing this complex play, but also for decades of inspirational collaboration in the theatre. Here is an excerpt from his own notes for a production he adapted in 1994:

"The Way of the World is not only Congreve's last play, it is, for all intents and purposes, the last play that qualifies as a pure Restoration comedy. The world of which Congreve was a part — turn of the seventeenth century London, was a world not unlike our own — confused in its ethics, obsessed with fashion, money, and sex, undergoing a radical change of cultural values. It was perhaps a wittier era than our own, but probably no wiser. So don't be fooled by the trappings or lulled by the language; listen closely, watch carefully, judge fairly and you will discover the way of his world is very much the way of ours."

We have certainly discovered this to be true, and look forward to sharing this work with you.

SPECIAL THANKS
Dakin Matthews, Isaac Jay
ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Located in Los Angeles, a city synonymous with artistic innovation and excellence, the top-ranked USC School of Dramatic Arts is a leader in dramatic arts education. The School uniquely blends artistic training in a conservatory environment with world-class faculty artists and the full academic experience found only within a major research university. This close-knit, supportive environment offers students the freedom to explore their artistic passions. Through programs of the highest caliber, as well as initiatives that provide access to professional experience, students are prepared for leadership in every facet of dramatic arts. For more information, please visit http://dramaticarts.usc.edu.

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To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday  
By Michael Brady  
Directed by Cameron Watson  
Scene Dock Theatre  
October 2–5, 2014

4.48 Psychosis  
By Sarah Kane  
Directed by Paul Backer  
McCintock Theatre  
October 2–5, 2014

Dark of the Moon  
By Howard Richardson and William Berney  
Directed by John DeMita  
Bing Theatre  
October 9–12, 2014

The Dream of the Burning Boy  
By David West Read  
Directed by Edward Edwards  
Scene Dock Theatre  
October 23–26, 2014

Summer Brave  
By William Inge  
Directed by Robert Bailey  
McCintock Theatre  
October 30–November 2, 2014

Cat Among the Pigeons  
By Georges Feydeau  
Translated by John Mortimer  
Directed by Michael Keenan  
Bing Theatre  
November 6–9, 2014

Anna in the Tropics  
By Nilo Cruz  
Directed by Denise Blasor  
McCintock Theatre  
November 20–23, 2014

The American Clock  
By Arthur Miller  
Directed by Cameron Watson  
Scene Dock Theatre  
November 20–23, 2014

MFA Acting Spring Repertory  
Scene Dock Theatre  
February 7–March 8, 2015

The Seagull  
By Anton Chekhov  
Directed by Kate Burton

The Servant of Two Masters  
By Carlo Goldoni  
Translated by Sylvie Drake  
Directed by Andy Robinson

Blood Match  
By Oliver Mayer  
Inspired by the play  
Bodas de Sangre  
by Federico García Lorca  
Directed by David Bridel

Red Noses  
By Peter Barnes  
Directed by Stephanie Shroyer  
McCintock Theatre  
February 26–March 1, 2015

As You Like It  
By William Shakespeare  
Directed by Michael Arabian  
Bing Theatre  
March 5–8, 2015

The Way of the World  
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Grease  
Book, Music and Lyrics by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey  
Directed by Jeff Maynard  
Bing Theatre  
April 2–12, 2015

The Waiting Room  
By Lisa Loomer  
Directed by Larissa Kokernot  
McCintock Theatre  
April 9–12, 2015

New Works Festival Year 2  
The Master of Fine Arts in Dramatic Writing Playwrights Workshop  
Massman Theatre  
April 10–26, 2015

What We Were Up Against  
By Theresa Rebeck  
Directed by Jack Rowe  
McCintock Theatre  
April 23–26, 2015

Crumbs from the Table of Joy  
By Lynn Nottage  
Directed by Gregg T. Daniel  
Scene Dock Theatre  
April 23–26, 2015

New Works Festival Year 3  
The Master of Fine Arts in Dramatic Writing Play Project  
The Carrie Hamilton Theatre at The Pasadena Playhouse  
May 26–30, 2015

For tickets and information, visit dramaticarts.usc.edu