

THE USC SCHOOL OF THEATRE
presents

TOO L E V E R B Y H a l f

by **a**lexander **O**strovsky
directed by **B**rian **P**arsons

November 4-7, 2010
Bing t**H**eatre

FALL 2010 SCHEDULE

RABBIT HOLE

By David Lindsay-Abaire
Directed by Robert Bailey
Sept. 30 – Oct. 3 / Scene Dock Theatre

DRACULA

By Mac Wellman
Directed by Paul Backer
Sept. 30 – Oct. 3 / McClintock Theatre

VENUS

By Suzan-Lori Parks
Directed by Anita Dashiell-Sparks
Oct. 7 – 10 / Bing Theatre

BE AGGRESSIVE

By Annie Weisman
Directed by Jon Lawrence Rivera
Oct. 14 – 17 / Scene Dock Theatre

IS HE DEAD?

By Mark Twain
Adapted by David Ives
Directed by Michael Keenan
Oct. 21 – 24 / McClintock Theatre

THE COLORED MUSEUM

By George C. Wolfe
Directed by Gregg T. Daniel
Oct. 28 – 31 / Scene Dock Theatre

TOO CLEVER BY HALF

By Alexander Ostrovsky
Directed by Brian Parsons
Nov. 4 – 7 / Bing Theatre

CABARET

Music by John Kander
Lyrics by Fred Ebb
Book by Joe Masteroff
Directed by L. Zane
Nov. 18 – 21 / Scene Dock Theatre

Fall Dance Concert:
**AROUND THE WORLD
IN 80 MINUTES***
Directed by Rafael Garcia
Dec. 2 & 3 / Bing Theatre



Ticket Information

SHOWTIMES

(except where noted otherwise)
Thursday & Friday at 7pm • Saturday at 2:30 & 8pm • Sunday at 2:30pm
*Thursday & Friday at 7pm

TICKET PRICES

General Admission \$10 • Seniors or USC Faculty/Staff with ID \$8 • USC Students with ID \$5



For tickets and information: www.usc.edu/spectrum • arts@usc.edu • 213-740-2167

THE USC SCHOOL OF THEATRE

presents

TOO cLevER by Half

By Alexander Ostrovsky

English Version by Rodney Ackland

with

Victoria Time Beckerman • Emily Burton • Kevin Comartin

Efrosini Constant • Kevin Graber • Bryce McBratnie

Betsy Newman • Kevin Riffin • Jon Rudnitsky

Matthew Salvatore • Latoya Shaw • Gabrielle Walsh

Keelin Woodell • Garrett Zwiener

SCENIC DESIGN

Sarah Steinman

COSTUME DESIGN

Leah Piehl

LIGHTING DESIGN

James Tan

SOUND DESIGN

Dave Mickey

STAGE MANAGER

Taylor Ruge

DIRECTED BY

Brian Parsons

November 4 - 7, 2010

Bing Theatre

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

**The USC School of Theatre dedicates this production to the late
Suzanne Grossmann Scales (1937 – 2010), wife of former Dean Robert Scales.**

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(In Order of Appearance)

Styopka (Gloumov's Servant)/ aka Blind Boris (Mamaev's Servant)/ aka Grigori (Madame Tourousina's Servant)	Kevin Comartin
Glafira Klimovna Gloumo	Victoria Time Beckerman
Yegor Dimitrich Gloumov.....	Garrett Zwiener
Yegor Vassilitch Kourchaev	Bryce McBratnie
Golutvin.....	Kevin Riffin
Maniefa.....	Latoya Shaw
Neel Fedoseitch Mamaev.....	Kevin Graber
Colonel General Anton Kroutitzky (Marshall of the Soviet Union)	Jon Rudnitsky
Kleopatra Ilvovna Mamaev	Keelin Woodell
Yoko, the Dog.....	Bently Walsh
Ivan Ivanovitch Gorodoulin	Matthew Salvatore
Matriosha	Gabrielle Walsh (Fri eve, Sun mat)
	Emily Burton (Thurs & Sat eve, Sun mat)
Lubinka	Efrosini Constant (Fri eve, Sun mat)
	Betsy Newman (Thurs & Sat eve, Sun mat)
Sofia Ignatievna Tourousina.....	Efrosini Constant (Thurs & Sat eve, Sun mat)
	Emily Burton (Fri eve, Sun mat)
Mashenka	Gabrielle Walsh (Thurs & Sat eve, Sun mat)
	Betsy Newman (Fri eve, Sun mat)

TIME & PLACE

1986, Soviet Moscow.

ACT I

Scene 1 – The Living Room of the Gloumov Apartment.

Scene 2 – A Conservatory in the Mamaev House.

ACT II

Scene 1 – The Drawing Room of Madame Tourousina's House.

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.

Scene 2 – The Living Room of the Gloumov Apartment.

ACT III

The Drawing Room of Madame Tourousina's House.

WARNING

Please be advised that this production contains mature language, adult themes, sexual situations and the smoking of tobacco products. Tobacco is known to the state of California to cause cancer.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director	Ashley Koenig
Hair & Make-up Design	Berfyn Ataman
Vocal Coach	Anne Burk
Fight Choreography	Edgar Landa
Scenic Artist	Vika Teplinskaya
Assistant Stage Managers	Christina Bryan Timothy Heidorn
Assistant Scenic Design	Kelly Paul
Assistant Costume Design	Alexander Altschuler
Properties Assistant	Kelly Ridder
Crew	Alexandra Carreon Pam Covington Helena Hamilton Sydney Laux Narumi Nakayama Kathleen Porter Leanna Spear Caroline Spinola Lindsay Tuchman Emma Everitt Ward Anna Zhang

DIRECTOR'S BIO

Brian Parsons is a Professor of Theatre Practice and Director of Undergraduate Acting. Directing credits include productions at the Bristol Old Vic; Central School of Speech and Drama; Royal National Theatre; Tisch School of the Arts (NYU); Royal Court; BBC; LIPA; Mountview Academy; Arden School of Theatre; Rose Bruford College; Aquila Theatre Company; Franklin Stage Company; Carroll College and the University of Hull Drama Department. Brian has won awards for his directing and currently serves as a Board member of the Aquila Theatre Company (N.Y.C.).

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Ostrovsky's play, written in late 19th Century Tsarist Russia but re-located to 1980s Soviet Moscow in our contemporary revisioning, poses many challenges to actors and audiences alike. Its central question – 'how far will you go to get what you want?' – is as provocative and pertinent today as it was in 1868 and 1986.

The cast of characters that populate this biting satire are willing to trade a part of themselves in order to realize their dreams and desires. They may fulfill those ambitions or discover, like many of us, that they are just 'too clever, by half'!

I dedicate all my work on this production to Dana Riedel, for helping me achieve my biggest dream.

SPECIAL THANKS

Tak Kata, Jill Barnes.

DEAN

Madeline Puzo

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Don Llewellyn (Director Of Scenic Design)

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Andrew J. Robinson (Director Of MFA in Acting)

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Brent Blair (Director Of MA in Applied Theatre Arts)

David Bridel (Associate Director Of MFA in Acting)

Joseph Hacker

Duncan Mahoney

Stephanie Shroyer

Eric Trules

L. Zane

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Anita Dashiell-Sparks

Mary-Joan Negro

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Jacqueline Pavlich, Leah Piehl, Debra Piver, Valerie Rachelle, Jon Lawrence Rivera,
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Courtesy Joint Appointments: Thomas G. Cummings, Larry E. Greiner (Emeritus), Bruce Smith

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We are grateful to those who have given wisdom, talent, time and financial resources to the benefit of the School's Annual Fund, the Robert Redford Award for Engaged Artists and the School's other scholarship funds. The following members have made pledges of \$1,000 or more over the past year:

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We hope that you will consider becoming a member as well. For more information about giving to the School of Theatre, please contact Chris Cook at 213.821.4047 or cc.cook@usc.edu.

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Theatre Manager: CB Borger

Assistant Theatre Managers: Fionnegan Justus Murphy, Christopher Paci

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