The Good Person of Szechwan

October 4 - 14, 2001 • Trueblood Theatre
UM School of Music • Department of Theatre and Drama
The Good Person of Szechwan

Director: Malcolm Tulip
Composer: Frank Pahl
Scenic Designer: Vincent Mountain
Costume Designer: Rachael Laritz
Lighting Designer: Rebecca A. Hibbs
Sound Designer: Henry Reynolds
Stage Manager: Alissa Koerner

Setting:

There will be one intermission.

The Good Person of Szechwan is produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Latecomers will be seated at a suitable break or scene change. As a courtesy to others, please set pagers to silent mode. Cellular phones should be deactivated. Please deactivate your electronic watch alarm so it will not interrupt the performance.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KC/ACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater productions. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KC/ACTF representative, and certain students are selected to participate in KC/ACTF programs involving awards, scholarships, and special grants for actors, playwrights, designers, and critics at both the regional and national levels.
Cast of Characters

First God ................................................................. Sandra Abrevaya
Second God .............................................................. Brad Frazier
Third God ................................................................. Joshua Lefkowitz
Shen Teh/Shui Ta ..................................................... Lauren Spodarek
Wang ................................................................. Ethan Kogan
Yang Sun ................................................................. Joseph A. Hendrix
Policeman ............................................................ Michael Mischler
Mrs Shin ................................................................. Téhaura Henning
The Gentleman, Carpenter, Crowd ......................... Dan Granke
Old Prostitute, Mi Tzu-The Lady Tobacconist ............ Katherine Banks
Elderly Husband, Opium Smoker, Crowd ................. Steve Best
Elderly Wife, Opium Smoker, Crowd ....................... Jennifer Alexander
Limping Brother, Mr Shu Fu, Crowd ......................... David Jones
Pregnant Sister-in-law/Opium Smoker, Crowd .......... Michelle Alizabeth Roberts
Grandfather, Opium Smoker, Crowd ....................... Robert Weiner
A Gentleman Nephew, Opium Smoker, Crowd .......... Zachary Leland
Niece, Opium Smoker, Crowd .................................. Alyson Grossman
Boy, Opium Smoker, Crowd ..................................... Zachary Dorff
A Gentleman, Unemployed Man, Opium Smoker ....... Aubrey Levy
Children ........................................................... Henry Mountain, Sophie Tulip

About the Playwright

BERTOLT BRECHT was born in Germany in 1898 and grew up amid the violence and turbulence of twentieth century Europe. His experiences as a medical orderly in World War I and as a witness to the political and social turmoil in defeated Germany helped shape the Marxist vision that informed his poems and plays, beginning with Baal in 1918. One of the most influential writers in Germany in the years before 1933, with such triumphs to his credit as The Threepenny Opera and Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny (both with music by Kurt Weill), Brecht fled the country upon the Nazi assumption of power. The Good Woman of Szechwan was written in 1939-40, during a period of exile spent in Finland and revised during his time in Santa Monica, CA, in 1943. After World War II, Brecht returned to Europe, living first in Switzerland, then in East Germany, where he died in 1956.
About the Cast

SANDRA ABREVAYA (*First God*) senior, BFA Performance/BA English, Chicago, IL
JENNIFER ALEXANDER (*Elderly Wife, Opium Smoker, Crowd*) senior, BFA Performance, Lubbock, TX
KATHERINE BANKS (*Old Prostitute, Mi Tzu-The Lady Tobacconist*) junior, BFA Performance, Northville, MI
STEVE BEST (*Elderly Husband, Opium Smoker, Crowd*) senior, BFA Performance, Jackson, MI
ZACHARY DORFF (*Boy, Opium Smoker, Crowd*) sophomore, BFA Performance, Irvington, NY
BRADLEY FRAZIER (*Second God*) sophomore, BFA Performance, Saginaw, MI
DAN GRanke (*The Gentleman, Carpenter, Crowd*) junior, BFA Performance, Ann Arbor, MI
ALYSON GROSSMAN (*Niece, Opium Smoker, Crowd*) junior, BFA Performance, Pepper Pike, OH
JOSEPH A. HENDRIX (*Yang Sun*) senior, BFA Performance, Troy, MI
TÉHAURA HENNING (*Mrs Shin*) junior, BFA Performance/BA Political Science, Temecula, CA
DAVID JONES (*Limping Brother, Mr Shu Fu, Crowd*) junior, BFA Performance, Beverly Hills, MI
ETHAN B. KOGAN (*Wang*) junior, BFA Performance, Los Angeles, CA
JOSHUA LEFKOWITZ (*Third God*) junior, BFA Performance, West Bloomfield, MI
ZACHARY LELAND (*A Gentleman Nephew, Opium Smoker, Crowd*) senior, BFA Performance, East Lansing, MI
AUBREY LEVY (*A Gentleman Unemployed Man, Opium Smoker*) sophomore, BFA Performance, Hamilton, Ontario
MICHAEL MISCHLER (*Policeman*) senior, BFA Performance/BA Film & Video Studies/BA English, Kalamazoo, MI
HENRY MOUNTAIN (*Child*)
LAUREN SPODAREK (*Shen Teh/Shui Ta*) senior, BFA Performance, Birmingham, MI
SOPHIE TULIP (*Child*)
ROBERT WEINER (*Grandfather, Opium Smoker, Crowd*) junior, BFA Performance, Portage, MI

Acknowledgments

Special thanks to Eli Bleiler.
About the Artists

Rebecca A. Hibbs (Lighting Designer) is a BFA candidate in design and production in the Dept. of Theatre and Drama. UM: Measure for Measure; Asst. lighting designer: To Kill a Mockingbird; asst. master electrician: The Tempest; director/lighting designer: Control Freaks; lighting designer: And Baby Makes Seven, Keeping Brothers, Basement Arts; Much Ado About Nothing, Rude Mechanicals; stage manager: Polly Puts Her Foot Down, Basement Arts; asst. stage manager: Colored People’s Time, Orphan Train.

Alissa Koerner (Stage Manager) is a BA theatre major. UM: Assistant stage manager: La Périchole, To Kill a Mockingbird; assistant stage manager: Sweet Charity, MUSKET; stage manager: Hamlet, assistant stage manager: The Nerd, Rude Mechanicals. Regional Theatre: Rehearsal assistant, UM Festival of New Works, 2000.

Rachel Laritz (Costume Designer) is a BFA candidate in design and production in the Dept. of Theatre and Drama. UM: Measure for Measure; Asst. costume designer: Falstaff, Candide; costume designer, Sweet Charity, MUSKET. Regional Theatre: Asst. Costume Designer: Great Lakes Theatre Festival, The Wild Duck; Garsington Opera Festival, London, England; Spoleto Festival USA; The Shattered Mirror, Ann Arbor, MI and Orlando, FL.

Vincent Mountain (Scenic Designer) is an asst. professor of design in the Dept. of Theatre & Drama. UM: La Périchole, The Heiress, Falstaff, The Importance of Being Earnest, Candide, Blood Wedding, The Turn of the Screw, Le Rossignol/L’Enfant et les Sortilèges, Pamela, Gianni Schicchi/Ill Campanello, Twelfth Night, Born in the RSA. Regional Theatre: Macbeth, Orpheus Descending, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Alley Theatre; Playland, Intiman Theatre; Roosters, Seattle Group; La Traviata, Opera Theatre of St. Louis; Little Women, Central City Opera. Other: MFA in Design, UCSD.

Frank Pahl (Composer) received his MFA in 1998 from the School of Art and Design where he studied sound art and built musical automatons. Previously, Frank collaborated with Malolm Tulip for Lysistrata and Peter Sparling on the music for “The Delirium Waltz” and “Travelogue.” He has also composed music for theatrical productions by Malcolm Tulip’s Prospero Theater, Walk and Squawk and Terri Sarris’ Loose Threads. In addition to four solo CDs, Frank has several releases available with his group Only a Mother. His current group is the Scavenger Quartet.

Malcolm Tulip (Director) is a lecturer in physical theatre in the Dept. of Theatre & Drama, a graduate of L’École Jacques Lecoq and Artistic Director of Prospero Theatre Co. Regional Theatre: New Jersey Shakespeare Festival: Lord Byron, Toby Belch, Schastilivtev; Michigan Shakespeare Festival: Falstaff, Touchstone, Dogberry; other roles in: Waiting for Godot, The Good Person of Szechuan, Three Sisters, Volpone. At Iowa State University he created a new clown show, A Poke in the Eye. Recently he directed The Visit for the Musical Theatre Dept. and Art for Performance Network, where he will direct Elizabeth Rex this season.
The Secret Rapture

By David Hare • Directed by John Neville-Andrews
November 15 – 17 at 8pm • November 18 at 2pm • Mendelssohn Theatre

In The Secret Rapture, one of England’s greatest contemporary playwrights David Hare examines the ambiguities of what is good and evil. Two sisters clash when the ambitious, social climber one joins with the alcoholic, young second wife of their recently deceased father to impose on the other sister’s innate goodness as they pursue get-rich schemes. But their machinations have a disastrous effect on the second sister’s personal and professional life. A modern morality play, The Secret Rapture is a powerful look at the Darwinist economic model of the Margaret Thatcher era and the exploitation of goodness in a society preoccupied with gaining wealth.

Coming in November from the Dept. of Theatre and Drama:

Staff for The Good Person of Szechwan

SCHOOL OF MUSIC
Dean ........................................................ Karen Wolff

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DRAMA
Chair ..................................................... Erik Fredricksen

UNIVERSITY PRODUCTIONS
Director .................................................. Jeffrey Kuras
Administrative Associate .................. Fatima Abdullah
Office Assistant III ......................... Shelda Smith
Marketing Director ......................... Kerianne M. Tupac
Public Relations Director ............... Joel Aalberts
Computer Administrator .......... Henry Reynolds
Facilities Manager .......................... Shannon Rice
House Manager ............................... Dianne Widzinski
Graphic Design ................................. Mike Pieronek
Office Assistants .............................. Katie Banks,
................................................................. Jermaine Stephens, Justin Tannis
Theatre 386 .......... Heather Bryant, Kelly K. Irwin,
................................................................. Alissa Koerner, Michael Steelman

PRODUCTION STAFF
Production Manager ..................... Amanda Mengden
Production Stage Manager ............ Nancy Uffner
Technical Director (Frieze) .......... Richard W. Lindsay, Jr.
Technical Director (Power) ........... Douglas Edwards
Assoc. Tech. Director (Power) ...... Donald C. Watkins
Carpenter ............................. Robert Michael
Scenic Artist ............................... Kathleen Runey
Scenic Painter ............................. Toni Y. Auletti
Properties Master ........................... Arthur Ridley
Asst. Properties Master .......... Bryan Huddleston
Properties Artisan ....................... Rachel Wright
Master Electrician ...................... Mark Allen Berg
Costume Shop Manager ............. Julie Marsh
Assoc. Costume Shop Manager .... George Bacon
Draper ................................................. Virginia R. Luedke, Vickie Sadler
Crafts Artisan/Stock Manager ........ Rebecca Valentino
Sound Engineer ............................ Henry Reynolds
House Technicians .................... Ron Cypert, Mark Gordon,
................................................................. Jim Haven, Barry LaRue
Office Assistants ..................... Molly Daund, Kelly K. Irwin

PRODUCTION CREW
First Asst. Stage Manager ............ Blair Preiser
Asst. Stage Managers .... Katie Conrad, Lauren Molina
Assistant Director ....................... Raquelle Stieller
Scenery ............................... Jim Wright ‡, Bonnie Aumann,
................................................................. Justin Holmes, Caleb Levengood, Jennifer Lohman,
................................................................. Katie Powell, Megan Reinking, students of Theatre 250
Paint ........................................ Kate Armstrong, Martha Bermeo,
................................................................. Celibeth Donnelly, Connie Shea, Justin Titley,
................................................................. Youxin Mike Xia, students of Theatre 250
Props .. Anatha Alberda, Julie Brown, Monique French,
................................................................. Shannon McShane, students of Theatre 250
Costumes ............................... Laurie Kattner, Matt Mitchell,
................................................................. Monica Prince, Diane Tiel, Celibeth Donnelly,
................................................................. Beth Hart, Jennifer Langel, Christina Minkos,
................................................................. students of Theatre 250
Sound .............................................. Heather Bryant
Lighting ......................... Lincoln Gillette, Dan Granke,
................................................................. Mandy Hauermann, Rebecca A. Hibbs, Alix Mallory,
................................................................. Joe McEachern, Thomas Omar, Andrew Russell,
................................................................. Daniel Rutz, Joel Silver, Brooke Sinclair,
................................................................. Angela Zuck, students of Theatre 250

RUNNING CREW
Set .............................. John Machiorlatti, Jennifer Nweke
Props ................................. Nora Bonner, Jacuelyn Sykes
Light Board Operator ................. Christian Deangelis
Sound ........................................ Kelly Lee
Wardrobe ............................... Sabrina Quinn, Jordan Reed
Child Wrangler .......................... Benjamin Klein
‡ Member IATSE local 395