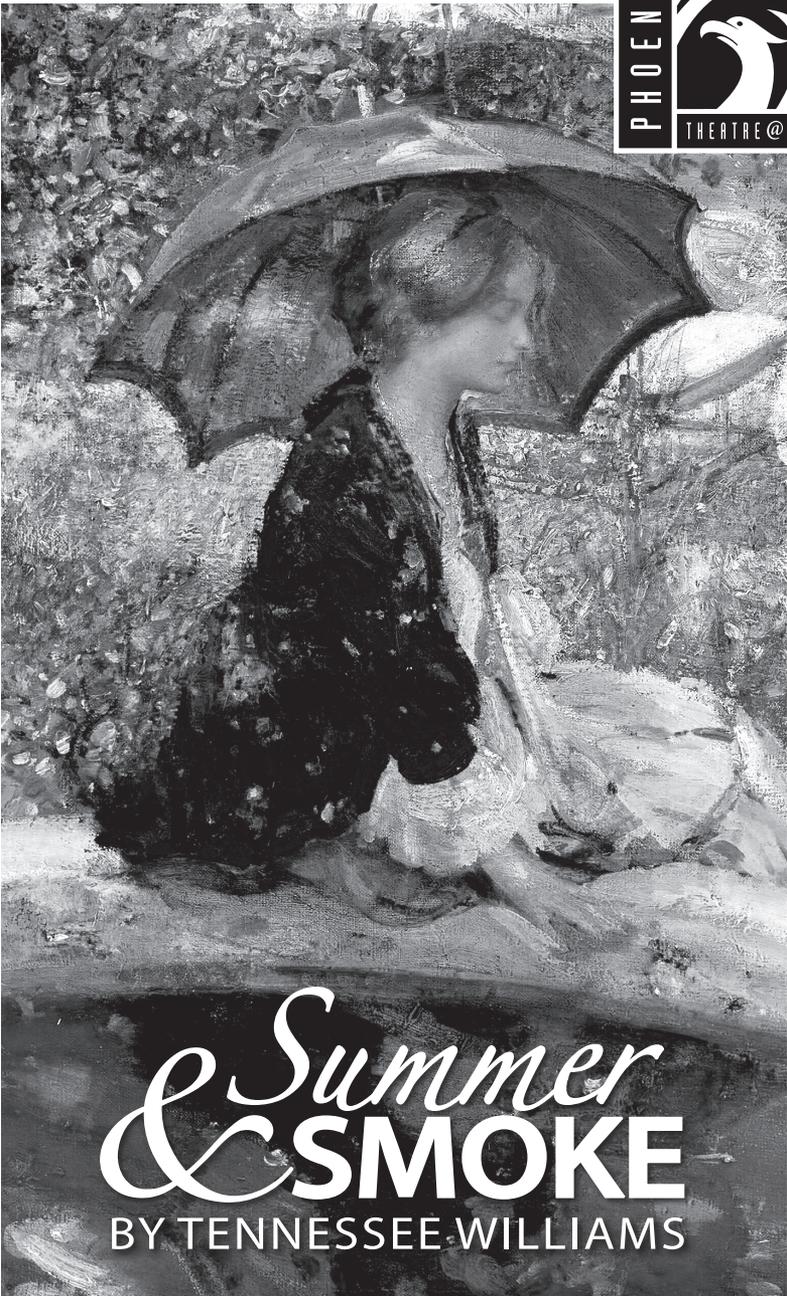


PHOENIX



Summer
& SMOKE
BY TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

MARCH 10-19, 2016

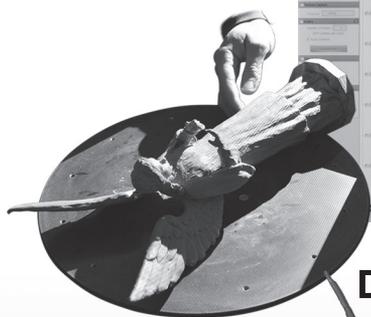


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Summer and Smoke

By Tennessee Williams

CREATIVE TEAM

Director	Alan Brodie
Set Designer	Allan Stichbury
Costume Designer	Tim Matthews
Lighting Designer	Eryn Griffith
Sound Designer	Laura-Jane Wallace
Composer	Michael Chambers
Dialect Coach	Iris MacGregor-Bannerman
Stage Manager	Barbara Clerihue
Assistant Costume Designer	Hana Ruzesky-Bashford

CAST

In order of appearance

Rev. Winemiller	Nick Postle
Mrs. Winemiller	Zoë Wessler
John Buchanan Jr.	Aidan Correia
Alma Winemiller	Gillian McConnell
Rosa Gonzales	Sophie Underwood
Nellie Ewell	Renée Killough
Roger Doremus	Duncan Alexander
Dr. John Buchanan Sr.	Lindsay Robinson
Mrs. Bassett	Alannah Bloch
Vernon	Stephen Dopp
Rosemary	Estee Klue
Dusty	Brett Hay
Papa Gonzales	Nicholas Yee
Archie Kramer	Julien Bruce

Summer and Smoke is presented by arrangement with Dramatists Play Service on behalf of The University of the South, Sewanee Tennessee.

There will be one 15-minute intermission during the play.

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Director's Notes



It took me a while to return to school in pursuit of an MFA. I have worked for over 25 years as a lighting designer on approximately 300 plays, musicals, operas and dance productions. I felt that if I was going to put that work on hold for almost two years, I needed to undertake something that could be truly transformative in its impact on my practice as a designer. Studying directing has been just that. The past two years have been the most challenging and rewarding enterprise of my life.

From my course work, through scene-work and one-acts, to this incredible play by Tennessee Williams, arguably the greatest American playwright of the 20th Century, I have been learning to serve the play exclusively. While the designer does serve the play, he also serves a director. In this case, my role is quite different: I have experienced the reward of leading a team of passionate collaborators into the depths of a great work.

As I prepared for this production, I became fascinated by how Williams' biography informed his body of work. Williams said: *"I can't expose a human weakness on the stage unless I know it through having it myself."* This places his characters, their stories and their struggles within a framework that is grounded in personal truth, and that makes the work so much more compelling and accessible. From early in his career, Williams was interested in finding alternative forms of theatrical expression. My intention for our production was that it be firmly rooted in realism, and that we discover poetic inflections, as Williams desired in his writing: to find a compelling fusion of lyricism and realism.

As I have shifted my focus from the more narrow view of the play to the holistic, I have had to confront the inevitable - working with another lighting designer. Graduate student Eryn Griffith, the lighting designer for *Summer and Smoke*, has my utmost respect for taking on this challenge with determination, creativity and boundless enthusiasm. My friends and colleagues have said to me, *"Oh, I feel sorry for your lighting designer."* I hope Eryn has enjoyed being my first.

I have been so fortunate to work with an incredible team on this production. Designers, actors, stage managers, coaches, technicians, crew, staff, faculty, supervisors and advisors alike – all have conspired to give me a dream ride on my first major foray into directing.

Alan Brodie



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Saying Goodbye and Good Luck to **Allan Stichbury**



After 28 years as the Department of Theatre's set and lighting design professor, Allan Stichbury will be retiring this spring. *Summer and Smoke* marks his final design for the Phoenix Theatre as a member of our faculty. Since coming to UVic in 1988, he has demonstrated his commitment to engaging and mentoring a new generation of theatre artists with enthusiasm and excitement. He has submitted many of our students' work to be exhibited in the student section of the prestigious Prague Quadrennial in the Czech Republic and encourages students to attend the even in person. Allan's designs have regularly been featured in the Quadrennial's professional exhibitions.

For our stages, his designs have not only been beautiful and elegant, but have balanced his high standards and artistic vision with the necessary practicalities of a university environment. His influence on campus extends beyond our department, previously serving as the Associate Dean for the Faculty of Fine Arts, and the Chair of the Department of Visual Arts. Recently, Allan spearheaded our new student exchange program with the University of Bangkok, in Thailand.

Throughout his academic career, Allan continued to work as a professional designer for theatre and opera – and although he is retiring from UVic, watch for his designs at theatres across Canada and Thailand in the future. Good luck Allan!

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About the Playwright



Born in Mississippi, **Tennessee Williams (1911 - 1983)** is considered one of the greatest American playwrights of the 20th century. More clearly than with most playwrights, Williams' theatrical works were inspired by the troubles of his unhappy family background. His first great success, *The Glass Menagerie*, was produced in Chicago during 1944 and soon after moved to New York, where it became an explosive hit on Broadway. The plot resembles Williams' own personal life, depicting the struggles of a young man, his disabled sister, and their controlling mother. These and other such similarities to Williams' familial relationships also appear in his other classics, which include *A Streetcar Named Desire* (1947), *Summer and Smoke* (1948), *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (1955) and *Sweet Bird of Youth* (1959). During the 1950s and early 1960s, all of these plays were adapted into critically acclaimed Hollywood films that would reach global audiences and make Williams a household name. Despite criticism during the 1960s, Williams continued to write until his death in 1983. Afterwards, his plays experienced a resurgence in popularity as critics – who had derided his work during his life – admitted that it was more deserving than initially believed. Since then, Tennessee Williams' writing has come to be recognized as some of the greatest art of the 20th century.

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Creative Team



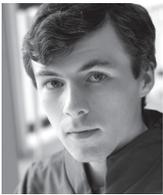
Alan Brodie *Director*

MFA candidate Alan Brodie came to his studies in directing from a long and distinguished career as a lighting designer. His work has been seen on the stages of all Canadian English language regional theatres. Noteworthy domestic productions include *The Overcoat* (Vancouver Playhouse / Canadian Stage), *Tear the Curtain* (Arts Club Theatre), *Mary's Wedding* (Belfry Theatre) and *Macbeth* (Pacific Opera Victoria). He has created lighting designs at both the Shaw and Stratford Festivals, in addition to the National Ballet of Canada, Vancouver Opera, Canadian Opera Company, and countless smaller and independent producers of dance, theatre and opera. On the American stage his work has appeared at Center Theater Group (Los Angeles), American Conservatory Theatre (San Francisco), Bushnell Center for the Arts (Hartford, CT), Pacific Northwest Ballet (PNB, Seattle) and Opera Kentucky (Louisville). Internationally, his work has been featured at the Barbican Centre (London), in Adelaide, Wellington, Bergen and The Hague. This February his lighting for the PNB production of *Emergence* will appear at New York's City Center. Alan decided to undertake graduate studies in directing in order to enhance his work as a designer, and with the intention of expanding his theatrical repertoire. He is grateful to the Phoenix, his instructors, supervisor and advisors, as well as his wife Michele, for their generosity and patience in helping an old dog learn some new tricks. He also recognizes the Faculty of Graduate Studies and the BC Arts Council for their financial support.



Allan Stichbury *Set Designer*

Recent Phoenix productions include set designs for *Unity: 1918; You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown; Inside; Twelfth Night*, and *Yerma*. Beyond the university, credits include set designs for *The Rake's Progress* and *Flying Dutchman* (Pacific Opera Victoria), *The Barber of Seville* (Vancouver Opera), *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (Theatre Calgary and The Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre), set and lighting design for Communion (Alberta Theatre Projects) and lighting design for *God of Carnage* (Theatre Calgary). He worked with Bangkok University to establish a Student Exchange Agreement and Memo of Understanding with UVic and our first exchange students spent the spring term of 2014 in Bangkok. Allan is a past president of Associated Designers of Canada.



Tim Matthews *Costume Designer*

A fifth-year student in the design specialization, Tim is excited to debut his first on-stage designs. Actively pursuing the hobby of cosplay for six years, he is inspired by popular culture, geometric shapes, and images from nature. Previous credits include assisting costume designer Dallas Ashby in the Phoenix's 2014 production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Tim wishes to express many heartfelt thanks to supervisor Mary Kerr, the wardrobe team, assistant Hana, his mom and dad, and girlfriend Meghan for tolerating his creative insanity.



Eryn Griffith *Lighting Designer*

Eryn is currently completing her MFA in Design at UVic. She has a BFA in Technical Theatre/Theatre Design & Technology with a focus on lights and costumes from Concordia University in 1997. She used her experience as a designer to work as an art gallery coordinator, interior designer, design instructor, business owner and theatre manager in Terrace BC. Her theatre work in Terrace has received best lighting design awards from the Theatre BC Mainstage Festival and the Skeena Zone Festival. For the Phoenix Theatre she was the Assistant Lighting Designer for *The Threepenny Opera* and *Wild Honey*.

Creative Team



Laura-Jane Wallace *Sound Designer*

LJ is in the final year of her BFA, with a double specialization in acting and applied theatre, and a minor in art education. She intends to take the professional education program next year at UVic. As a sound designer her past credits include *Jewel* (Directing Project, 2016) and *Lovers:Winners* (Directing Project, 2015). As an actor some of LJ's past credits include: Sybil in *Private Lives* (Blue Bridge, 2015), Emily in *Hello Out There* (MFA Project, 2015), Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Phoenix, 2014) and Miss T. Muse and Majorette in *The Skin Of Our Teeth* (Phoenix, 2013).



Michael Chambers *Composer*

Michael is a Victoria born composer and instrumentalist who has studied at the University of Victoria and the Victoria Conservatory of Music. He is currently in the last semester of the Bachelor of Music program at UVic majoring in composition and theory. Upon graduating he plans to pursue a career in composing for film, television, theatre, and other visual mediums.



Iris MacGregor-Bannerman *Dialect Coach*

Iris' career has spanned more than 40 years as a performer and dialect coach. Iris trained in the UK and is a former member of the Royal Shakespeare Company. She has worked at the Stratford Festival Theatre (Ontario), was the Head of Acting at the Ryerson Theatre School and holds a doctorate from the University of Toronto. Since coming to the West Coast, Iris coaches at RailTown Actor's Studio (Vancouver), and is a performer and dialect coach at Blue Bridge Repertory Theatre. She is the author of an actor's voice workbook, *Think, Breath, Speak*, and teaches at the American College (Dublin). For the Phoenix, she was the dialect coach for November's *The Threepenny Opera* and is delighted to be the dialect coach on *Summer and Smoke*.



Barbara Clerihue *Stage Manager*

Barbara is a third-year design student. Select stage management credits include: *Under Milk Wood* (Victoria Academy of Dramatic Arts), *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Addams Family*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Singing in the Rain*, *The Neverending Story*, *Pan* (Kaleidoscope), *From the Heart* (Victoria International Development Education Association, 2013). Design credits include *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Munch-ersise* (Kaleidoscope). Her career in the Royal Canadian Navy was a dress rehearsal for organizing performers, curtains, lights, costumes, sets, sounds, smoke and pyrotechnics! She is excited to be learning and working with the great team at the Phoenix, and thanks her family for their support.

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Cast



Duncan Alexander *Roger Doremus*

This is Duncan's first mainstage production at the Phoenix. He is incredibly excited that his first experience here is with such a talented cast and crew, and a play that has the exploration of emotional depth and quality of writing that Tennessee Williams is known for.



Alannah Bloch *Mrs. Bassett*

Alannah is a fifth-year double specialist in acting and directing. Past Phoenix credits include *The Skin of our Teeth* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. After graduation, Alannah will continue her training at the Atlantic Acting School in New York. She would like to thank her family and friends for their love and support.



Julien Bruce *Archie Kramer*

Julien is a third-year student in the acting specialization. He has been heavily involved as an actor in SATCo productions and directing scenes such as *Birdwatching* and *Lipstick and Bourbon*. This is his second mainstage role at the Phoenix Theatre.



Aidan Correia *John Buchanan Jr.*

Aidan's fifth show at the Phoenix has taken him to the early 20th century for the first time since *Picnic*, his first show here. Since then he has performed in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Amadeus* and *The Threepenny Opera*. Aidan has also been a part of many SATCo shows as a writer, director and actor.



Stephen Dopp *Vernon*

Stephen is in his second year in the Department of Theatre, specializing in acting. *Summer and Smoke* is the first mainstage he has been cast in. Throughout rehearsal, Stephen has loved the process of learning a new accent – even if he doesn't use it directly in the show.



Brett Hay *Dusty*

Before coming to UVic, Brett lived in the Dominican Republic where he was an active member in the theatre community and participated in the Association of Columbian & Caribbean American Schools Theatre Festival with other international schools. Previous credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Phoenix), *Amadeus* (Phoenix), and *Arbutus* (SATCo).



Renée Killough *Nellie Ewell*

Renée is in her third year of the acting specialization. Past credits include *The Lab* (Theatre SKAM), *Daughter of Turpentine* (Victoria Fringe), and *Tic Tic Toc* (SATCo). She is very excited to be in the "wonderfullest" show and hopes you enjoy it!



Estee Klue *Rosemary*

Estee is a fourth-year acting student. Previous acting credits include: April in *Savage in Limbo* (2014) and Jenny in *The Threepenny Opera* (2015). Tennessee Williams is unforgettable, and as this is her final mainstage here at the Phoenix, working on this production has been a very touching and poignant process for her.

Cast



Gillian McConnell *Alma Winemiller*

Gillian is delighted to be working on her second mainstage at the Phoenix Theatre. She is a fourth-year acting student whose previous department credits include *Unity: 1918* (Phoenix), and *Birdwatching* (SATCo). She is a great admirer of Williams' work and is overjoyed to step into Alma's shoes.



Nick Postle *Rev. Winemiller*

Nick is a fourth-year student in the acting specialization. Previously he has performed in the Phoenix productions *Amadeus* (2015) and *The Skin of Our Teeth* (2013), as well as writing and directing *Vampires and Avocados* (SATCo, 2014).



Lindsay Robinson *Dr. John Buchanan Sr.*

Lindsay is so grateful to work with Alan on his MFA project, and simply to be part of *Summer and Smoke*. Lindsay was in the previous Phoenix production of *The Threepenny Opera* and can be seen this summer as Sergius in the Classic Theatre Festival production of *Arms and the Man* (Ottawa Valley). Enjoy the show!



Sophie Underwood *Rosa Gonzales*

Summer and Smoke is Sophie's Phoenix mainstage debut. She is in her second year of a theatre and writing double major, and this past January her play *The Dinner Guest* was produced by SATCo. In town, she has performed with the Greater Victoria Shakespeare Society and Kaleidoscope Theatre.



Zoë Wessler *Mrs. Winemiller*

Zoë is excited to spend her last semester at the Phoenix Theatre delving into the brilliant mind of Mrs. Winemiller and eating ice cream every night on stage. Her previous UVic experiences include *Lovers: Winners* (Mag), *Lion in the Streets* (Laura/Christine), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hippolyta).



Nicholas Yee *Papa Gonzales*

This is Nicholas' final mainstage performance of his BFA. Previously, he performed in *The Threepenny Opera* (Phoenix), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Phoenix), *The Wyrd Sisters* (Damn Spot Theatre) and *Hedda Gabler* (workingclassstage).

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Phoenix Phacts

We are proud to announce that our second-year student **Ann-Bernice Thomas** was named Victoria's Youth Poet Laureate! Mentored by the current adult poet laureate, she will write and recite new poems at council meetings and youth council as well as participate in poetry readings at City of Victoria and Greater Victoria Public Library events. As part of the position, Ann-Bernice receives a \$1,750 honorarium and another \$1,000 for project funding. Congratulations!



In February, alumnus **Andrew Barrett (BFA'12)** and his company Impulse Theatre collaborated with alumna **Kathleen Greenfield (BFA'05)** to present the first workshop of their newest project, *The Hunt*, as part of the Intrepid Theatre's You Show series. **Matt McLaren (BFA'14)** directed Theatre Inconnu's production of the Off-Broadway smash hit *Bad Jews*. The production also featured current student **Kat Taddei** as Daphna. **Ian Case (BFA'91)** and UVic Writing MFA **Karen Lee Pickett** collaborated on the script for Craigdarroch Castle and the Greater Victoria Shakespeare Festival's production of *Where There's a Will*. The production celebrated Shakespeare with song, verse and cake in honour of the 400th anniversary of the English playwright's death, and also featured alumnus **Cam Culham (MFA'03)**. Alumnus **Matthew Payne (BFA'96)** organized ConVerge, part of the Victoria Film Festival, earlier this spring. This portion of the festival used a variety of unconventional venues – such as City Hall's attic, Trounce Alley, and the Bay Centre fountain – to display films to the public in unique and innovative ways. As Theatre SKAM's founder and Artistic Producer, Matthew also just celebrated SKAM's 21st anniversary with the company's annual Birthday Bash.

Coming up in March, Langham Court's production of *Female Transport* features several Phoenixers including current student **Taryn Lees** as well as alumni **Graham Roebuck (BFA'11)**, **Sarah Cashin (BFA'15)**, **Melissa Taylor (BFA'14)**, and **Ian Simms (BFA'14)**. Alumni **Chris Wilson (BFA'08)** and **Peter Carlone (BFA'08)**, otherwise known as Peter N' Chris, will be performing their hilarious "whodunit" detective story spoof *Peter N' Chris and the Mystery of the Hungry Heart Motel* at the Cowichan Performing Arts Centre on March 11. The award-winning comedy duo performed this very play at the Phoenix to sold out crowds in the fall of 2012. Back in Victoria at The Metro, alumnus **Logan Mitev (BFA'15)** premieres his new play *Prof.*, from March 24-26. It features a host of Phoenix students and alumni including **Dallas Ashby**, **Kieran Dunch**, **Sean Dyer (BFA'15)**, **Kevin Eade (BFA'14)**, **Emma Grabinsky**, **Laura Rasmoso**, and **Rebecca Waitt** in the cast, as well as design by **Emma Bozoian** and set by **Andrew Duffy**.

This summer, alumna **Mika Laulainen's (BFA'12)** play *Wild Society* will be touring Canada as part of the National Fringe Tour. Mika's company, star star theatre, won Fringe's CAFF touring lottery competition and will be performing in Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, Victoria and Vancouver. If you find yourself at any of these upcoming Fringe Festivals, make sure you see it, and keep an eye out for our August eNews for a full list of Phoenix Fringers!



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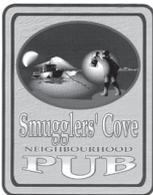
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