

DIRECTOR/PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTES

This play had its inception in 1989 when, after moving from New York City to Nebraska to start the Blue Barn Theatre, I drove with my wife through the Sandhills of northwestern Nebraska. The landscape out there entranced me. The beauty of it, the silence, the ocean-like movement of the rolling hills. It was a great time of transition in my life. The effort of founding a theatre took such a blind leap of faith. Perhaps it's appropriate that the play is being mounted again on the eve of the Blue Barn's tenth season. In many ways we are coming around the circle to the place where we began, and, as the saying goes, it's the same, and at the same time, it's completely different.

This production is a new exploration of the play's themes. Bill Van Deest (Scenic/Lighting Designer) came in with a wonderful genesis of ideas from sources as diverse as photographs of real third world slums to images that had risen in his dreams. The resulting set provides a canvas which works stylistically with the text to create the inner and outer worlds of the characters, while allowing the audience a share of the creative freedom in defining the worlds of the play. Wendy Stark (Costume Designer) adds to this with a costume design which physicalizes the psychic/spiritual journey that each character goes through in the span of the play. Steve Hitch (Sound Designer) creates a soundscape to round out the creation of this strange world, which again allows the audience's imagination to participate in the story.

Finally, the actors bring to the play their own deep sense of growth and change, and the struggles that ensue when life asks us to follow that path. It is my hope that these elements will work together to give you a powerful telling of *THE EMPTY PLOUGH*.

- Kevin Lawler
Director/Playwright

GLIDING O'ER ALL

GLIDING O'ER ALL, THROUGH ALL
THROUGH NATURE, TIME AND SPACE,
AS A SHIP ON THE WATERS ADVANCING,
THE VOYAGE OF THE SOUL - NOT LIFE ALONE
DEATH, MANY DEATHS I'LL SING.

- WALT WHITMAN



Department of Fine & Performing Arts

Roger Aikin - art history - *Department Chair*
Marilyn Kielniarz - music - *Acting Associate Chair - Performing Arts*
Michael Flecky, S.J. - photography - *Associate Chair - Visual Arts*

Theatre

Alan Klem - *Theatre Coordinator*
Mark Krejci - *Technical Director*
Bill Hutson - *Associate Chair - Performing Arts (on sabbatical)*
Kevin Lawler - *Adjunct Theatre*
Michael J. McCandless - *Building Operations Director*
Wendy Stark - *Costume Designer*
Bill Van Deest - *Scenic Designer*

Music

Carole Seitz - *Music Coordinator*
Fred Hanna
Adjunct Music
Nestor Hirzbaum - flute/piccolo John Bennett - chorus/piano
Craig Bircher - trumpet Mary Bircher - harp
Margaret Carpenter - violin/viola Ron Cooley - guitar
Ken Kielniarz - euphonium/tuba Paul Koenig - voice
Elaine Majors - piano David Moore - music education
Margo Romig-Motycka - violin/viola Louis Stout - horn
William Ritchie - string bass Claudette Valentine - chorus/piano
Luigi Waites - percussion M. Eugene Williams - clarinet/saxophone
Margaret Wilmeth - cello Jay Wise - trombone

Dance

Valerie Roche - *Dance Coordinator*
Adjunct Dance
Lynn Nevin Patrick Roddy

Visual Art

Littleton Alston - sculpture
G. Ted Bohr, S.J. - art history - *Gallery Director*
Bob Bosco - painting
Don Doll, S.J. - photography - *Charles & Mary Heider Endowed Jesuit Faculty Chair*
Jerome K Horning - ceramics
John Thein - printmaking

Staff

Robert Caudillo - *Promotions Coordinator*
Elaine Witt - *Department Secretary*

THE EMPTY PLOUGH

A DRAMA WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY KEVIN LAWLER



FEBRUARY 17 - 22, 1998

STUDIO THEATRE

LIED EDUCATION CENTER FOR THE ARTS

24TH & CASS STREETS ON THE CREIGHTON CAMPUS

THE EMPTY PLOUGH

KEVIN LAWLER

DIRECTOR

BILL VAN DEEST

SCENIC/LIGHTING DESIGNER

WENDY STARK

COSTUME DESIGNER

STEVE HITCH

SOUND DESIGNER

THE KENNEDY CENTER AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATER FESTIVAL XXXI

Presented and Produced by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
Supported in Part by The Kennedy Center Corporate Fund
The U.S. Department of Education
The National Committee for the Performing Arts

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 production. 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.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KC/ACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KC/ACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, in the spring of 1999.

Last year more than 900 productions and 18,000 students participated in the American College Theater Festival nationwide. By entering this production, our department is sharing in the KC/ACTF goals to help college theater grow and to focus attention on the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

NOTICE

THE USE OF CAMERAS OR OTHER RECORDING DEVICES IS
STRICTLY PROHIBITED DURING PERFORMANCES.

CAST

LILLIAN KRYSTAL ANNE KREMLA

FRAN NICOLE CANNON

VERN NICK ZADINA

FERN JERILYN MARIE BURESH

JOSEPH KEVIN LAWLER

SCENES

ACT ONE

THE CITY IS A VAST, DESOLATE PLACE THAT IS RAPIDLY DYING.

ALONG THE PERIMETER OF THIS CITY IS A HUGE STRIP OF ABANDONED STREETS AND BUILDINGS KNOWN AS "THE DEAD ZONE."

SCENE 1	PROLOGUE
SCENE 2	ANOTHER DAY
SCENE 3	THE WIND
SCENE 4	THE ACTUAL EDGE
SCENE 5	GHOSTS AND SHIPS
SCENE 6	A VESSEL
SCENE 7	SETTING SAIL

10 minute intermission

ACT TWO

JUST BEYOND THE DEAD ZONE IS A MYSTICAL PLAIN THAT STRETCHES OUTWARD TOWARD INFINITY. THIS PLACE IS KNOWN AS THE "PRAIRIE SEA" OR "THE VOID."

THE STARS ARE A PLACE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF DEATH.

SCENE 1	WAKING UP TO STARS
SCENE 2	FIRST VOYAGE
SCENE 3	WHERE ARE WE
SCENE 4	ROW, ROW, ROW YOUR BOAT
SCENE 5	THE SIRENS

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director Mark Krejci

Charge Scenic Artist Bill Van Deest

Stage Manager Brad Gude

Light Operator Denise Chapman

Sound Operator Rick Silva

Costume Construction Emily Karovance,
Denae Smith, Erin Dunn,
Mary Applegate, Nicole Cannon,
Ann Coombs, Rachel Collen

Costume Running Crew Erin Dunn

Assistant to Costume Designer Erin Dunn

Running Crew Ann Griner

Set Crew Nicole Cannon, Denise Chapman,
Nader Deeik, Preet Goraya,
Ann Griner, Scott Lancaster,
Jake Mason, Brian McKeran,
Nanofa Modikwa, Nick Payne,
Kammi Skrdla, Brent Tierney,
Matt Toyne, Laura Vacanti,
Rick Silva, Dan Fix

Light Crew Scott Kurz, Travis Ausen,
Jenni Taylor

Box Office Kelly Goodall

House Manager Elizabeth Mangrich

SPECIAL THANKS

Brad Finkle