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Glossary of terms in the play

ANGRY BOY—bully or quarreler.
BLACK-POT—leather tankard for beer.
BONA-ROBA—slang for whore.
BOTCHER—tailor who mended clothes.
CHANGE—exchange.
CHIAUS—cheat; derived from the Turkish word for messenger.
CITY-DAMES—merchant's wives.
EAR-RENT—ear clipped off in the stocks as extra punishment.
FEIZE—deal with.
FIRK—act lively.
FLIES—familiar spirits.
GOLDSMITH—usurer.
HOLE—in the stocks.
HUMORS—character traits.
ORDINARY—inn, used by young men to drink, eat and gamble.
PUCK-FIST—airy nothing.
RIFLE—gamble.
SHIFT—stratagem.
'SLID—God's eyelid.
TUNE—program for political or religious platforms.
VACATIONS—periods between terms of court.

English 333 & UR Theatre
PRESENT

The Alchemist
Jonson

Todd Theater
April 27-29, May 3-5, 1990

Director........Mervyn Willis
Set & Light Design........Q. Brian Sickels
Costume Design........Connie Singer
Music & Sound Design........Jeffrey Taylor

This production of The Alchemist is made possible, in part, with funds provided by The Donald Richardson Clark Endowment for the Enrichment of the Humanities

Fall 1990 Theater Classes, Productions & Auditions

Classes
Eng. 178 (4 hr)—Acting (15 student limit; Permission of instructor needed)
Eng. 380 (2 or 4 hr)—Plays in Production—The Lark by Anouilh & Hellman
Eng. 174 (2 hr)—Costume Design and Construction—8 wks.
Eng. 381 (4 hr)—Scene Design
Eng. 380.3 (2 hr)—Theatrical Improvisation and Movement (15 students)

Productions
The Lark—Todd Theatre; Nov. 9-11, 15-17, 1990
Juvie—Drama Center; Oct. 4-6, 1990
"Master Harold"...and the boys—Drama Center; Early Nov.

Auditions
The Lark—18 men, 7 women; Sunday, Sept. 16, 1990—1-4 pm
Monday, Sept. 17, 1990—7-10 pm
Juvie and "Master Harold"—TBA
Street Scene—Spring Opera/Musical
Preliminary Auditions: Friday, Sept. 7, 1990 (Kilbourne Hall by Appt.)
Open Auditions: December TBA
Production Staff

Producers .................................................................David Runzo
Production Coordinator ..................................................Peter Nuwayser
Stage Manager ...............................................................Randall Fippinger
Assistant Stage Managers ................................................Jean Cardinale, Adam Silverstein
Assistant to the Deck Manager .........................................Sandra Liptau
Assistant to the Director ....................................................Adam Konowe
Technical Director .........................................................Graham Blyth
Master Electrician ..........................................................Walter Weiner
Assistant Master Electrician ..............................................Jose Sambade
Sound Engineer .............................................................Matt Armata
Properties Head ............................................................Jody Taylor Barasch
Properties Crew ............................................................Mark Abrams, Paul Flansburg, Alison Miller, Elizabeth Pine
Publicity Head ..............................................................Peter Nuwayser
Publicity Crew ...............................................................Kate Hoefler, Heatherlynn Kraft, Joshua Levine, Karl Wagenführ
Costume Managers .........................................................Joshua Levine, Nathan Poling
Costume Crew ...............................................................Michelle Marocco, Peter Q. Parish
Makeup Head .................................................................Mark James Schryver
Makeup Crew ...............................................................Paul Flansburg, Michelle Marocco, Peter Q. Parish
House Managers .........................................................Deborah Feldman, Eric May
Box Office .................................................................Alix Sharnoff
Set and Light Crews .......................................................Jenny Bluth, Greg Brill, Harlan Budd, Stephen Cihaneck, Sean Colbath, Alisa Cording, Nancy Klocke, John LaFever, Timothy E. Lewis, Jr., Kat Meyer, Salvatore Pavone, Mark Schaad, Zoe Solomkin, Peter J. Sosko, Geoffrey Stewart, Adam Zuckerman

The Players

Prologue........Salvatore Pavone
Subtle........Geoffrey Stewart
Face........Peter J. Sosko
Dol Common.........Kate Hoefler
Dapper.........M.C.T. Yohn
Druger..........Timothy E. Lewis, Jr.
Sir Epicure Mammon.......Roger Gans
Surly........Karl Wagenführ
Tribulation........Cara L. Starr
Ananias........Gregory Brill
Kastril..........Nathan Poling
Dame Pliant........Michelle Lara Marocco
Lovewit........Mark James Schryver
Priest.........Joshua Levine
Officer........Adam Konowe
Neighbors..........Paul M. Flansburg, Adam Konowe, Heatherlynn Kraft, Joshua Levine, Alison Miller, Salvatore Pavone, Peter Q. Parish

The play consists of five acts; there will be a 15 minute intermission between acts III and IV.

Director's Note

The Alchemist, written in 1610 by Ben Jonson, is one of the great comedies of the English language. It is filled with rich characters drawn from the life Jonson keenly observed around him. The basis of Jonson’s plays are “character”. In The Alchemist we are indulged to a succession of outrageous characters, each out-doing the last. With clockwork precision he peoples the stage with slaves to “eternal youth”—“easy money”—“endless pleasure”—“ unrivalled wealth”. As the obsessions grow, so does the pace of the events. Through the events of one day (an example of supreme craftsmanship), Jonson uses comic devices as contemporary as they are old. The world we live in is not far removed from the world of Jonson—TV commercials replace the “mountebank”—credit cards the “philosopher’s stone”. This is the immediacy one is caught up in in The Alchemist, and, like for Jonson’s own characters, it is too enjoyable to notice. Ben Jonson at his best is an arch magician, richly entertaining and the master of black-comedy.

1Denotes member Alpha Psi Omega, National Honorary Dramatic Society