SPEAKEASY
BY JOANNA SCOTT

DIRECTED BY MERVYN WILLIS
SET AND COSTUME DESIGN BY BILL CLARKE
LIGHTING DESIGN BY KEVIN LAMOTTE
COMPOSER AND SOUND DESIGN BY OBADIAH EAVES
CIRCUS ADVISOR PANNI SPIERS
WARDROBE SUPERVISOR PATTI HUNT

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
JASON BARTHOLOMEW
STAGE MANAGERS
GULSHARAN KAUR
REBECCA VANDAWALKER
CAST OF SPEAKEASY

clown
bartender
carrie perkins
dorothy perkins
mickey conners
tommy templeton
first patient
second patient
third patient
first reporter
second reporter
third reporter
speakeasy clowns
david moo
dennis cohen
michael joseloff
julie ann pasquinelli
rachel holz
sasha harris
shane mcgaffey
emily therway
erik gopel
carolyn slesinski
ray rahman
kathryn sorensen
carolyn slesinski
emily therway, kathryn sorensen,
carolyn slesinski, erik gopel,
ray rahman

The Theater Program would like to thank

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Dr. Ellen Henry
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Mrs. Monica Hayden
Mrs. Sharon Garelick
Ms. Gertrude Bartleson

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In Speakeasy a teenage girl kills her fiancé, justice turns to farce, and a vaudeville clown takes control of a family’s destiny. Inspired by the sensational trial of Dorothy Perkins in 1924, this two-act play explores the divisive passions aroused by Prohibition. The action moves freely back and forth through time, from Kansas to New York City, as we follow the deterioration of the Perkins family. The title refers not only to the illegal saloons that sprang up during the twenties but to a variety of verbal manipulations as well—characters use stories, half-truths, dreams and songs both to recount the past and to obscure it.
Joanna Scott is the author of three novels: *Fading, My Parmacheene Belle, The Closest Possible Union,* and *Arrogance.* Her most recent publication is a collection of stories, *Various Antidotes.* Awards include a MacArthur fellowship, the Richard and Hilda Rosenthal Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and a Guggenheim fellowship. Her fourth novel, *The Manikin,* will be published by Henry Holt in 1995. *Speakeasy* is her first play.

Bill Clarke designed the Broadway production of *A Walk in the Woods.* Other credits include Yale Repertory, American Theatre in Boston, and recently, the Playwright's Conference at the Eugene O'Neill Center.

Obadiah Eaves is a recent graduate of Rochester's School of the Arts and of Bard College. Eaves was set designer for a 1992 production of Sondheim's musical *Assassins* and assisted with the music for the 1994 UR production of *Orpheus Descending.*

Kevin LaMotte is Associate Lighting Designer for the Shaw Festival. He designed the lighting for the UR's production of *Travesties* and *Cloud Nine.* His work includes designs for Banff Centre/Factory Theatre, YPT, Canadian Stage and Vancouver Opera.

**Future Productions:**

*Waiting for Godot* by Samuel Beckett  
Directed by Wesley Savick

Opens Thursday, 17 November at 8 pm

*The Seagull* by Anton Chekhov  
(Translation by David Magarshack)  
Directed by Yosef Raikhelgaus

Opens Thursday, 13 April at 8 pm
The Todd Theater Troupe, a resident alumni company at La MaMa Experimental Theatre, New York City, will perform *Speakeasy* in a joint La MaMa/U of R Theater Program Production opening at La MaMa on 2 March 1995. The cast and company include: David Moo, Rachel Holz, Dennis Cohen, Jason Bartholomew, P. J. Sosko, Mari Cipriani, Rishad Lawyer, Mathias Dill, John Fulbrook and Steve Bertetti.

*Spleakeasy* by Joanna Scott is a participating production in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival XXVII.