

Top Girls

By Caryl Churchill

Directed by Abigail Holland

Hanesbrands Theatre

February 27—March 1, 2020

Presented By

UNC School of the Arts

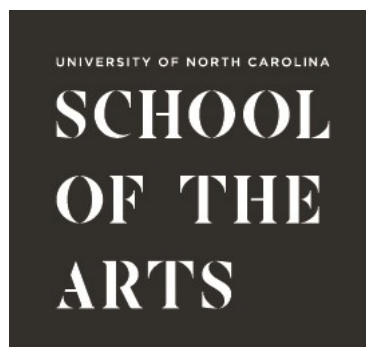
Brian Cole, Interim Chancellor

School of Drama

Scott Zigler, Dean

School of Design & Production

Michael J. Kelley, Dean



uncsa.edu/performances

PERFORMANCE NOTES

British playwright Caryl Churchill published “Top Girls,” an iconic piece of feminist theater, in 1982, with its premiere coming later that year at the Royal Court Theatre in London. It premiered on Broadway in 2008.

Fourth-Year Drama Directing major Abigail Holland directs this provocative play as her thesis, putting into practice all she has learned at UNCSCA School of Drama. Holland’s focus in her course of study has been on how women navigate power. Central to her interests are “the interpersonal and institutionalized power dynamics that affect women and how these fit into a patriarchal society,” the director says. And “Top Girls” is the perfect vehicle for exploring these interests.

Churchill explores how her characters do and don’t take on patriarchal traits to survive. The double- and triple-casting highlights the women of the first act and how their lives mirror the women of the second and third acts. Costumes echo this structural device. All in all, there’s plenty here to chew on.

Given the current political and social environment, “Top Girls” feels like a timely offering at the School of Drama.

Abigail and the cast have dedicated the process to Josh Foldy and his devotion to joy.

Top Girls

By Caryl Churchill

Directed by Abigail Holland

Assistant Directed by Caroline Cearley

ACT I

INTERMISSION

ACT II - PART 1

INTERMISSION

ACT II - PART 2

CAST LIST

Marlene.....	Ana Evans
Isabella Bird / Joyce / Mrs. Kidd.....	Katelyn Kelley
Lady Nijo / Win.....	Belle Le*
Dull Gret / Angie.....	Emma Davis
Pope Joan / Louise.....	Kate Pittard
Patient Griselda / Nell / Jeanine.....	Ainsley Seiger
Waitress / Kit / Shona.....	Linnea Scott

“Top Girls” is a Studio 4 Production

*Indicates a member of Studio II.

“Top Girls” is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

Original New York Production by the New York Shakespeare Festival.

Produced by Joseph Papp.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Scenic Design
Cari Noel

Lighting Design
Max Wurtz

Sound Design
Rowan Wilkerson

Costume Design
Diana Haberstick

Wig & Makeup Design
Brittany Hains

Fight Director
Kelly Mann

Voice and Text Coach
Sara Becker

Dramaturg
Dean Wilcox

Production Manager
Kathryn Sykes

Production Stage
Manager
Helen Moreau

Technical Director
Zak Stevenson

Assistant Production Manager.....Joel Magill
Assistant Stage Managers.....David Mercier, Ashley Pennington
Assistant Lighting Designer.....Danielle Dodd
Assistant Scene Designers.....Juli Reed, Jessica Scott
Costume Design Assistant / Wardrobe Head.....Melissa Thurn
Assistant Wig & Makeup Designer.....Whitney Cline
Assistant Sound Designer.....Elizabeth Copenhaver
Assistant Technical Director.....Kevin Douglass Jr.
Lead Carpenter.....Adam Aucoin
Carpentry Crew.....Nova Cunningham, Sandra Gracia,
Cris George, Tyler McKinnon
Paint Charge.....Izzie Miller
Lead Painter.....Olivia Hill
Painters.....Anah Galinski, Pablo Gonzalez,
Tess Crabtree, Lauren Eckard, Emma Smith
Production Electrician.....Michael Capretta
Master Electrician.....Maggie Turoff
Deck Electrician.....Eli Thomas
Electricians.....Natalie Carriero, Lauren Eckard,
Stephanie Brown, Johanna Fleischer, Petko Novosad
Costume Shop Manager.....Pam Knourek
Assistant Costume Shop Manager.....Trey Gray
Drapers.....Olivia Dilworth, Jocelyn Dubose, Rebecca Eckes,
Karen Milla, Hunter Stansell, Jenna Travis
First Hands.....Melina Hernandez, Lily Mateus, Taylor Newell,
Maya Patrick, Andrew Senn, Maggie Tennant
Stitchers.....Hannah Andrews, Jami Brooks, Adam Davis,
Whitney Fabre, Zoe Gilreath, Makenna Jordan, Damarius Kennedy,
Molly Klemm, Leo Murphy, Mackenzie Potter, Cassie Sisson,
Joey Todd, Chloe Walters, Emmy Babyak, Renee Chasey,
McKenna Farlow, Patrick Hearn, Kayli Kemerer, Dustin Kirby,
Emma Thomas, Natasha Dvorak, Aisha Sougou,
Brooke Stephenson, Rachel Walker, Trevyn Wong
Craft Head.....William Kerns-Stanley

PRODUCTION STAFF

(continued)

Craft Artisan.....Matthew Campbell
Wardrobe.....Haley Burdette, Carlos Castilla-Virelles,
Damarius Kennedy
Wig & Makeup Build Crew.....Brittany Hains, Whitney Cline,
Brittan Furr, Molly Stevens, Camryn Maiorana, Heather Hardin,
Cheyenne Hart, Davis Campbell, Madison Skinner, Dylan Silver,
Kelsey Millett, Amelia Brown, Cayla Mahome, Nic See,
Spencer DiBiase, Natalie Garcia, Joan Paluska, Gina Makaroff,
Benjamin Psimer, Nathaniel Jones, Ying-Syuan Zeng,
Ashley Wise, Cassandra Richardson
Wig & Makeup Run Crew.....Whitney Cline, Brittan Furr,
Molly Stevens, Camryn Maioranna, Heather Hardin,
Cheyenne Hart, Davis Campbell
Properties Director.....Sierra Labrousse
Assistant Properties Director.....Jack Covitz
Lead Properties Artisan.....Matterson Haglund
Properties Artisans.....Hunter Booth, Sonia Crouse,
Alex Jarus, Lora Press, Amber Marie Trotter, Brooke Downing,
Anna Baldwin, Sierra J Anderson, Olivia Miller, Natalie Carreiro
Properties Run Crew.....Alex Drake, Alyssa James,
Jeremy Ivory-Chambers, Kennedy Jackson
Food Run Crew.....Sierra Marie, Jack Covitz, Matteson Haglund
Sound Engineer (A1).....Nicholas Teeter
Deck Sound Engineer (A2).....Camille Everett

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

Caryl Churchill was born on September 3, 1938, in London and grew up in the Lake District and in Montreal, Canada. She was educated at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford. "Downstairs," her first play written while she was still at university, was first staged in 1958 and won an award at the Sunday Times National Union of Students Drama Festival. Churchill's plays include: "Owners," "Traps," "Light Shining in Buckinghamshire," "Cloud 9," "Top Girls," "Fen," "Serious Money," "Ice Cream," "Mad Forest," "The Skriker," "Blue Heart," "This is a Chair," "Far Away," "A Number," "Drunk Enough To Say I Love You?," "Seven Jewish Children," "Love & Information," "Here We Go" and "Escaped Alone." Music theatre includes "Lives of the Great Poisoners" and "Hotel," both with Orlando Gough. Churchill has also written for radio and television.

BIOGRAPHY

Abigail Holland is a fourth-year director in the School of Drama. Her work focuses on odd women navigating odd circumstances. While at school, she's directed "I Wanna Fucking Tear You Apart," "Does This Woman Have a Name?," "This Flight Tonight," and she created an adaption of Edna O'Brien's short story "Long Distance." She created "Fat: Civil Disobedience" with Emma Davis and is currently working on an original piece with Sean Stack. Holland has assistant directed "Luna Gale," "Romeo and Juliet," "Still Life with Rocket" and "Balm in Gilead," as well as produced "Yen," two play festivals and School of Drama's Intensive Arts.

Holland would like to thank her mother and sister, Scott Zigler, Andy Paris and Carl Forsman.

THE SCHOOL OF DRAMA

Ranked among the best drama schools in the world, the School of Drama is an immersive experience that prepares talented young artists for successful careers on stage, online, and in film and television. Conservatory training grounded in classical values adds technical skills practice to shape creatively inspired, versatile actors who are in-demand today. Students perform constantly in both small workshops and major productions across the theatrical repertory. An outstanding resident faculty gives personalized attention to their students' growth.

THE SCHOOL OF DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Unlike others schools that incorporate design and production within theatre studies programs, the School of Design and Production is a highly regarded, independent conservatory. The school is ranked #3 in the nation. Employing a resident faculty of experienced professionals, the school offers a comprehensive curriculum in every aspect of modern stagecraft, from scene design to stage management. Students gain practical experience working on a variety of productions inside theaters of all styles and sizes, and within 100,000 square feet of production space. Graduates have careers in theater, film, television, dance, opera, live and themed entertainment, and more.

DEAN'S COUNCILS FOR UNCSA

The Dean's Councils support each of UNCSA's five arts schools - Dance, Design & Production, Drama, Filmmaking, and Music. Dean's Council members support the school of their choosing with an annual gift of \$5,000 or more, work closely with the Dean to advance that school's mission and fundraising priorities, and enjoy a deeper relationship with the Dean and students of the school. If you are interested in joining one of these groups of committed individuals, please contact Vice Chancellor for Advancement Ed Lewis at 336-770-3330 or lewise@uncsa.edu.

DEAN'S COUNCIL FOR THE SCHOOL OF DRAMA

Dr. and Mrs. Malcolm M. Brown	Mr. Thomas S. Kenan III
Mr. and Mrs. F. Hudnall Christopher, Jr.	Mr. Joseph P. Logan
Ms. Jean C. Davis	Ms. Mollie Murray and Mr. Robert L. Francesconi
Mr. and Mrs. Barry A. Eisenberg	Mrs. Elizabeth M. Strickland
Dean Emeritus Gerald A. Freedman	Mrs. Adrian R. Tiemann
Mrs. Cynthia Graham and The Hon. William T. Graham, Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. William R. Watson
Ms. Deann Simmons Halper	The Robert and Mercedes Eichholz Foundation
Ms. Rosemary Harris*	*Honorary
Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Hauser	
Mrs. Kathrine B. Hoyt	

DEAN'S COUNCIL FOR THE SCHOOL OF DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Anonymous	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Johe
Dr. Leslie Banner	Mr. Thomas S. Kenan III
Faculty Emeritus Diane R. Berg	Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert L. Mathews
Dr. and Mrs. Malcolm M. Brown	Mr. and Mrs. Robert Slade
Mr. and Mrs. F. Hudnall Christopher, Jr.	Mr. Paul G. Tazewell
Mr. Henry W. Church	Mrs. Adrian R. Tiemann
Ms. Jean C. Davis	Mr. And Mrs. William R. Watson
Mr. and Mrs. Barry A. Eisenberg	The Robert and Mercedes Eichholz Foundation

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

UNCSA gratefully acknowledges Patty and Malcolm Brown
for their generous support.

Special Thanks to all the students and faculty who collaborated with us in
creating our UNCSA Heritage Floor

UNCSA MANIFESTO

We Believe

Artists enrich our culture, enlighten our society, lift our spirits, and feed our souls.

Integrative **arts education** from an early age sparks a lifetime of creative thinking, powerful self-expression, and innovative problem solving.

Rigorous **artistic training** empowers our students and graduates to engage our communities, advance local and global creative industries, and inspire the world.

Arts organizations improve the quality of life and place in big cities and small communities, transforming them from merely livable to truly lovable.

UNC School of the Arts nurtures the talent, hones the craft, and develops the unique voices of emerging artists. We realize the full potential of exceptionally creative and passionate students to do their best work and become their best selves.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

It is important for many of us, as settle-descended persons, to consider how the land we occupy continues to interrupt the cultural, linguistic, historical and political connections that indigenous peoples have to this land. We must continue to recognize how we have, wittingly and unwittingly, remained as actors in the colonization of what we regard as our original context of teaching and learning. UNCSA is on the ancestral land of the Tuleto, Sappony, Catawba and Keyauwee tribes.

A land acknowledgment gives honor to and recognizes indigenous territories and indigenous people respective to the location(s) we currently work and live. A land acknowledgment serves as a reminder that the land you currently occupy has long been occupied by indigenous peoples who have a distinct linguistic, cultural and historical connection to the land.

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

The Odyssey

by Homer

Adapted by Mary Zimmerman

March 26-28, April 2-4 at 7:30 p.m., March 29 at 2 p.m.

Catawba Theatre

Directed by Carlo Feliciani Ojeda (4th Year Directing Thesis)

When home is a question, more than an answer, what drives us to find it and go back to it? How does a 2,000-year old epic about a Greek hero and his 10-year journey have anything to teach us in 2020?

“The Odyssey,” adapted by Mary Zimmerman, directed by UNCSA fourth-year directing student Carlo Feliciani Ojeda, will blur the modern and mythical and bring Odysseus to life through the eyes of the goddess of wisdom, Athena. This production will take audiences on a journey of monsters, people and the haunts of the past.

Devised Theater Performance

Conceived and Written by The Company

April 16-18 at 7:30 p.m., April 19 at 2 p.m.

Cobb Studio

Directed by Andy Paris

A group of UNCSA students are currently working in multiple artistic and technical disciplines to write a performance together from nothing. Beginning in the embryonic stage of the Devised Theatre Classroom, our collaborative effort will grow throughout the year and culminate in a purely original theatrical performance, reflecting the students' desire to speak their truth in the most engaging and powerful form they can discover. Witness this as-yet untitled production come to life.

UNCSA

uncsa.edu/performances