

The Trial

Directors' Note

The Trial- "For What It's Worth"

There's something very positive about doing a play that paints a negative picture of the world. The novel *The Trial* by Franz Kafka is a disturbing literary work, offering a view of existence that is filled with isolation, confusion, and vulnerability. I have tried to create that same type of feeling in my adaptation of this classic. On many levels, *The Trial* is a challenging play to perform. It asks a lot of those involved. The production unit, which includes the actors, creative team, technical group, and management unit, had to commit to producing a new play in a very short amount of time. And each one has followed through on that commitment with energy, dedication, and trust.

And for what it's worth, the experience of putting this production of *The Trial* together with all of these people has been amazingly positive. It's been hard work, a lot of fun, and sometimes even hysterically funny. There's something exceptionally uplifting about creating a work of art that paints such a negative portrait of humankind with such a caring, kind, and unselfish group of people. I've been inspired by them. I hope you are too.

Sincerely,

Paul Mroczka

Cast (in order of appearance)

Joseph Kaye	CAM DOWNING
Leni Leiber-Rapport	SOPHIA SHAY
Helen Putch, Suzanna McLeod, Employee, May Kaye, Ms. Nance B. Wallace	MOLLY RICKER
Frances Strong, LizBeth O'Malley, Malloy, Erna, Anna Maria Titorelli	ROSE CHAFFEE
William Luse, Dave, Scott Lincs, Edmund, Thomas Block, Father Dom	JEROME TORRES
Norm Tweksbury, Neil Light, Employee, Otto Huld	JACOB TILTON
Klar Carson, Justine Malone, H.R.A. Cane, Mary Laskowitz	ALEXANDRA FLAMMIA

Place

New York City, NY

Scenes

Prologue: Preshow (The Theatre)

Scene 1: Kaye's 30th Birthday and Arrest (Kaye's Apartment and Another Room)

Scene 2: That Night at Home (Kaye's Apartment)

Scene 3: Work Week (E-Vest)

Scene 4: Friday Night Out (Le Bain)

Scene 5: Initial Interrogation (The Court)

Scene 6: Proceedings (The Court)

Intermission

Scene 7: Court Mandated Punishment (E-Vest Mailroom)

Scene 8: Legal Disease (E-Vest and Otto Huld's Law Office/Apartment)

Scene 9: Connections (E-Vest and an Artist's Studio in The Village)

Scene 10: Free Fall (Otto Huld's Law Office/Apartment)

Scene 11: In God We Trust (St. Patrick's Cathedral)

Scene 12: Kaye's 31st Birthday (Kaye's Apartment and Exteriors in NYC)

Artistic/Production Team

Producer/Director	PAUL MROCZKA
Assistant Director	SARAH KELLY
Choreographer	REBECCA MANSFIELD
Scenic Designer	MATT KIZER
Lighting Designer	REBECCA BEAULIEU
Costume Designer	DANEÉ R. GRILLO
Puppet Designer	NATHANIEL VINSON
Media Designer	TYLER MCCARTHY
Stage Manager	KATHERINE PEREIRA
Assistant Stage Manager	ALICIA EDGAR
Master Carpenter	KELLYJO BOLAND
Properties Master/Run Crew	NICK COCHRAN
Sound Board Operator	CAMERON DOWNING
Media Operator	ERIK DOW
Wardrobe	JEANMARIE LAPOINT
Followspot Operators	ROBERT HERSTEDT, ALYSSA DESAUTELLE
Publicity	REBECCA BEAULIEU
Program	SHARLEIGH THOMSON

Company Biographies

BECCA BEAULIEU (Lighting Designer/Publicity) is a junior Theatre Arts major with options in Arts Administration and Tech & Design. She spends her summers operating the lights and sounds at Canobie Lake Park. This last summer she was the Assistant Stage Manager for Prescott Park Art's Festival's production of *Mary Poppins*. Past PSU productions include, *Cowboys! The Musical*, *Oedipus the King*, *Stage Kiss*, *We Think It's Funny*, and *Sylvia*. She also creates promotional trailers for Plymouth State Theatre and other professional artists.

ROSE CHAFFEE (Frances Strong, LizBeth O'Malley, Malloy, Erna, Anna Maria Titorelli) is very excited to be part of this production as it is her first here at Plymouth State University. Amanda has been involved with theatre her entire life. She feels very thankful that she gets to continue her theatrical education while working with her incredibly talented professors and peers. *The Trial* has been a big challenge for Amanda as she is playing six roles including herself. She wishes to welcome you, and hopes you enjoy all of the hard work put into this show.

NICK COCHRAN (Properties Master/Run Crew) is a Costume Design student here at PSU, but recently he has been dabbling in the art of props. This is his second show at Plymouth State as properties master, his first being *Oedipus The King* directed by Elizabeth Daily, in which he also performed as part of the Chorus. This summer, he was Hair and Makeup Designer at the Winnepesaukee Playhouse for their production of *The Rocky Horror Show*. Later this semester, he will be playing Joe Josephson in PSU's production of *Merrily We Roll Along*. He hopes you all have brought a lawyer, and that you enjoy the show.

CAM DOWNING (Joseph Kay) is a senior Theatre Arts major with an option in Acting. He is originally from Manchester, New Hampshire. Past credits include *Carrie* (George), *Cowboys!*(Ensemble), *Romeo and Juliet* (Peter), *The Wedding Singer* (Ensemble), *A Chorus Line* (Mark), and *Sweet Charity* (Oscar). He would like to thank his family and friends for their never-ending love and support; as well as Paul, Sarah, Katherine, Alicia, and the entire cast for making this process such an incredible experience.

ALICIA EDGAR (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore at Plymouth State University. This is her first time being an assistant state manager, as she is usually found onstage in dance or theatrical performances. Highlights include *CATS*, *Addams Family*, and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*. She has also been the choreographer for Parkside Middle School for four years, as well as sound for their program. Alicia is proud to be ASM-ing this show and is so thankful to work with such a wonderful cast!

AILEXANDRA FLAMMIA (Klar Carson, Justine Malone, H.R.A. Cane, Mary Laskowitz) is excited to start of her junior year with preforming in *The Trial*. Alexandra has also been in *Oedipus the King*, *Ismene* and *Chorus*, as well as *Romeo and Juliet*, *Juliet*, at Plymouth State University. Alexandra would like to thank her cast and her family for all the support and love they give.

JACOB TILTON (Norm Tweksbury, Neil Light, Employee, Otto Huld) is thrilled to be taking part in this adaptation of *The Trial*. Jacob is a junior Theatre Arts major with an option Music Theatre Performance, and has had an interest in theatre for most of his life. At Plymouth State University, Jacob has been seen in *Cowboys! The Musical* (Alfred), and will be performing in *Merrily We Roll Along* later in the semester. Jacob would like to thank his family and friends for all of the support that they've given him all through his college career.

SARAH KELLY (Assistant Director) is a senior Theatre Arts major with an in Music Theatre Performance. She is excited to be assistant directing this adaptation of *The Trial*. She's appeared in seven productions here at Plymouth, including *Carrie* (Chris), *Oedipus The King*(Priestess), and the concert production of *Ragtime* (Sarah). She will play Gussie in *Merrily We Roll Along*. Recently she played Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde* and Ariel in *Disney's The Little Mermaid* at Company Theatre. She'd like to thank the cast and crew for their beautiful talents and hard work and Paul for this incredible opportunity! And lastly, thank you to her loved ones for their constant support.

MATT KIZER (Scenic Designer) has been the resident designer for Plymouth State since 1996. He has presented workshops on projections for performance nationally and internationally, including the National Opera Association in New York, and The Cyprus Theatre Organization in Nicosia. His work has been presented at the Kennedy Center in D.C., and with A-Fortiorni dance company in Germany. He designed for two years with Operafestival Di Roma in Italy with the Orchestra

Sinfonica dell' International Chamber Ensemble at Sant'Ivo alla Sapienza in central Rome. He has a B.A. from Purdue University, and an M.F.A. from The Ohio State University.

KATHERINE PEREIRA (Stage Manager) is a senior Theatre Arts major with options in Dramatic Writing and Acting. The first act of her play *Game Night* was featured in the Playwrights' Showcase last semester. She is ecstatic to be stage managing for the first time at PSU! Recent PSU Credits: *Oedipus the King* (Assistant Stage Manager), *We Think It's Funny* (Various). She will also be appearing in next month's *Much Ado About Nothing* as Verges.

REBECCA MANSFIELD (Choreographer) is a senior Theatre Arts major with an option in Music Theatre Performance and a minor in Dance. Having a passion for creating dance, Becca is so thrilled to be able to choreograph for a mainstage show. Her choreography was featured this summer at The Palace Theatre in Manchester. Becca's work has also been seen in four PSU Contemporary Dance Ensemble performances. Past credits include *A Man of No Importance* (Assistant Choreographer), *Carrie: The Musical* (Dance Captain) and *Once Upon a Mattress* (Dance Captain). She thanks her friends, loved ones, cast, crew, and parents for their never ending support.

PAUL MROCZKA (Director, Writer) has written numerous plays, including *The Watercress* and *Hero by Proxy*, both produced at Plymouth State University. Paul, who serves MTD as Director of Theatre, has had his plays produced by numerous companies including Latino Flavored Touring (NYC), Off Square Theatre (WY), and La MaMa La Galleria (NYC). Awards include NEA Playwriting, Shubert, and Time-Warner Fellowships, as well as numerous commissions. Works he's developing include the drama *Smart Money*, and the musical *Where Two Rivers Meet* with composer Andrew Morrissey. This summer he directed *Wittenberg* (Advice to the Players), and last year *Brilliant Being* (PSU).

MOLLY RICKER (Helen Putch, Suzanna McLeod, Employee, May Kaye, Ms. Nance B. Wallace) is a senior Theatre Arts Major with an option in Acting at Plymouth State University. Previous credits include *Oedipus the King* (Jocasta), *Annie Warbucks* (Ella), *Romeo and Juliet* (Gregory, Watchman), *The Wedding Singer* (Large Lady, Ensemble), and *Into The Woods* (Baker's Wife). Molly would like to thank her family and friends, especially her mom, for always believing in her. She hopes everyone will enjoy the show and remember that the court is everywhere.

SOPHIA SHAY (Leni Leibert-Rapport) is a junior Theatre Arts major with an option in Music Theatre Performance at Plymouth State University. Previous Plymouth State credits include: *Carrie The Musical*, *Romeo and Juliet* (Abraham), *Cowboys! The Musical*, and *Ragtime: In Concert* (Sob Sister). Sophia would like to thank her family, peers and the MTD faculty for their overwhelming love and support.

JEROME TORRES-BOVE (Luse, David, Edmund, Thomas Block, Father Dom) is a sophomore Theatre Arts major with an option Music Theatre Performance. Last year he took part in Plymouth's production of *Oedipus The King* and most recently was seen in Prescott Park's production of *Mary Poppins* (Ensemble, U/S Burt). Jerome is very excited to partake in this original adaptation of *The Trial*, and will also be seen in *Merrily We Roll Along*. He thanks his friends and family for their never ending support through his college journey.

Photography By:

MAUNDY MITCHELL
P H O T O G R A P H Y

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Up Next:

Much Ado About Nothing

William Shakespeare

October 19 – 21 at 7:00pm

October 21 – 22 at 1:00pm

This classic comedy by William Shakespeare offers audiences hilarious twists and turns generated by rumor, innuendo and wit as its characters blindly find their way to love, bliss, and marriage. *Much Ado About Nothing* is the story of the witty war that defines the hilarious courtship of Benedick and Beatrice, the passionate misunderstandings, misdirection, and lies that almost destroy the love of Claudio and Hero, and the inept buffoonery of Dogberry and the Watch that ultimately helps to ensure a happy conclusion. This production will entertain on every comic level. Directed by Advice to the Players' Managing Director and PSU Alumna Jessie Chapman with Scenic Design by PSU Alumna Marni Blaint and Costume Design by PSU Teaching Lecturer and Alumna Ariel Couture.

Merrily We Roll Along

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Book by George Furth

November 16 – 18 at 7:00pm

November 18 – 19 at 1:00pm

Based on the 1934 stage play by the inimitable writing duo of George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart, the 1981 Stephen Sondheim and George Furth musical *Merrily We Roll Along* is still an innovative and intriguing work. The musical starts in the present and proceeds to move back in time as it chronicles the life of wealthy, jaded composer, Franklin Shepard and his two estranged friends. The trio revisits each milestone of their personal and professional lives, as they eventually go back to their beginnings when the three best friends were starting their careers and brimming with promises of brilliant futures. *Merrily We Roll Along* is directed by PSU Professor Beth Daily, Choreographed by PSU Director of Dance Amanda Whitworth, and Music Directed by PSU alumnus Andrew Morrissey.

PSU Chiors: A Joyful Noise

December 3 at 1:00pm

Begin the holiday season with the PSU Choirs, guest orchestra, and Dan Perkins. Featuring excerpts from Karl Jenkins' "The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace," and seasonal favorites.

Contemporary Dance Ensemble

December 8 & 9 at 7:00pm

PSU's dance performance group showcases original works by faculty and students in various dance genres along with special guests and community partners.

Silver Center Staff

Director	Stuart Crowell
Events/Business Coordinator	Sureya Ennabe
House Manager	Susanne Hastings
Assistant House Managers	Deb Esposito, Tracy Dickson, Claire McIver
Technical Director	Bob Bruemmer
Assistant Technical Director	Heather Manfredi
Box Office Manager	Trudy Pelletier
Box Office Staff	Katherine Bullen, Jordan Ditore, Taylor Fournier, Serena Gorham, Luke Nicolo, and Kara Pedro
Ushers	Sam Boyle, Caitlyn Button, Sean Dezurik, Larysa Marienko, Katie Servant, Nicole Tartagni, Sharleigh Thomson
Master Carpenters	Kellyjo Boland
Master Electrician	John Findlay
Audio Leads	Sarah Daley and Jacob Kallander
Production Staff	Becca Beaulieu, Kelly Boland, Cameron Brand, Alex Flammia, Tyler McCarthy, Clay Harbert, and Nathaniel Vinson

Theatre Costume Staff

Costume Shop Manager/Resident Designer	Daneé R. Grillo
Costume Technicians	Rose Chaffee, Rowan Cummings, Nick Cochran, Jeanmarie Lapointe, Sydney Moquin