Wake Forest University Theatre

The Brothers Menaechmus

by Plautus
adapted & translated by Erich Segal

Sept. 23-24 & Sept. 28-Oct. 2, 2011



Wake Forest University

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Welcome to *The Brothers Menaechmus*, lovingly set in the fun loving and wacky 70's (the 270's BCE that is). Often considered Plautus' greatest play, this is the original comedy about mistaken identity. Featuring a set of twins, Menaechmus of Epidamnus and Menaechmus of Syracuse, it incorporates various Roman stock characters that we recognize today including the parasite, the comic courtesan, the comic servant, the domineering wife, the doddering father-in-law and the quack doctor – common fare in popular entertainment even today!

Intellectual and academic critics have often judged Plautus's work as crude; yet playwrights throughout history have looked to Plautus for character, plot, humor, and other elements of comedy. His influence on later literature is impressive—especially on two literary giants, Shakespeare and Molière. This play was the major source for Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors*, which was subsequently adapted for the musical theatre by Rodgers and Hart in *The Boys from Syracuse*. Molière in turn made great use of stock characters in many of his works including *The Misanthrope* and *Tartuffe*.

-- Compiled from Wikipedia

The Kennedy Center

THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival™ XLIV

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education; Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation; The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; the Kennedy Center Corporate Fund; and the National Committee for the Performing Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). 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 KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KCACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KCACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC in the spring of 2011.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

Wake Forest University Theatre presents

The Brothers Menaechmus

by Plautus
adapted and translated by Erich Segal

September 23-24 & September 28-October 2, 2011

Director
John Gulley

Scenic Designer
Mary Wayne-Thomas

Lighting Designer
Jonathan Christman

Costume Designer
Lisa Weller

Sound Designer
Cam Roberts*

Fight Choreographers
John Aguilar*
Rebecca Speas*

Choreographer
Taylor Miller-Meeks*

Stage Manager
Lindsey Davis

CAST

Menaechmus I.....Jake Meyer
Menaechmus II.....Ryan McCarthy*
Peniculus.....John Wesley Hughes*
Messenio.....Dean D. Guerra*
Wife.....Mara McCaffray*
Erotium.....Emily Mannon
Father.....Andy Belt*
Cylindrus.....Nick Reichert*
Doctor.....Sarah Wheeler*
Maid.....Amy Shackleford*
Decio.....Langdon Page
Sailors/Servants.....Johanna Beach§, Langdon Page§
Zac PierceMessick§, Alyssa Spelios Hudson§

*denotes a member of the Anthony Aston Players

§denotes a Presidential Scholar in Theatre

Produced by special arrangement with Samual French, Inc. New York City

The Brothers Menaechmus will be performed without intermission.

BIOGRAPHIES



Johanna Beach (Sailor/Servant) is a freshman who is thrilled to be a part of her first play at Wake Forest. She is from Barrington, Illinois and is likely going to major in Theatre or Communications. Johanna is glad to have this opportunity and thankful to the cast and crew for welcoming her into this production. She'd like to also thank her family and her cat, Elphie. Enjoy the show!



Andy Belt (Father) is a junior Theater and English major from West Hartford, Connecticut and is excited to be performing again with the Wake Forest Theater Department. While at the University, Andy has performed in several plays including *Smash*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, and *Moonchildren*. He would like to thank John for this opportunity.



Lindsey Davis (Stage Manager) is a sophomore from Chicago, Illinois. This is her first time stage managing for a Mainstage production at Wake and she is so grateful to have been given this chance. First, she would like to thank John Gulley for being such a fabulous director to work with and for being so understanding of her as a new stage manager! She would also like to thank the amazing cast, crew, and production team for making the show such a blast and for working so hard in the small amount of time they had, especially her two wonderful ASMs, Natalie and Serena. She would also like to thank Nate Musgrove for encouraging her to jump into stage management and for his wonderful advice along the way. Special thanks go out to her wonderfully supportive family who she loves and without whom she would surely go insane.



Serena Daya (Assistant Stage Manager) is a freshman who is super excited to be a part of this production of *The Brothers Menaechmus*! This is her first experience as an ASM but her high school theater experience includes the roles of June in Chicago and Marcy Park in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. She is grateful to all of her family and friends for their continuous love and support. A shout out to the classy girls of Collins 2C! Much love.



Dean D. Guerra (Messenio) is a junior Theatre major and a Womens and Gender Studies minor from Waller, Texas. He is so excited to be playing the role of Messenio! He would like to thank John for letting him be a part of the show! Also, thank you to Lindsey, Serena, and Natalie for all of their hard work as our great Stage Management team! He would like to thank his family, his best friends Michael, Alex, Nick, Suz, and all of his housemates-I love you! Also thanks to Lisa for his amazing costume, and his family in the box office- I love you, Leslie! He also wishes to thank Whitney Houston. He hopes you enjoy the show!



John Gulley (Director) A native of Winston-Salem, John received his BA in Theatre from Wake Forest and his MFA in Directing from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. After receiving his MFA, John worked at the Asolo Theatre Company in Sarasota, Florida, as the Resident Director and Literary Manager. While there he also taught acting in Florida State University's Professional Actor Training Program. John now teaches acting and directing at UNC Greensboro. As a professional director, John has directed Off-Broadway and for a number of regional theatres.



Wes Hughes (Peniculus) is a senior Theatre major from Baltimore, Maryland and is extremely happy to be back on the Mainstage in *The Brothers Menaechmus!* This is the sixth Mainstage production Wes has been involved in at Wake, and you may have seen him last year in *Eurydice*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, or *Smash*. He is in the a cappella group Plead the Fifth and loves to act and sing. Wes would like to thank his family for their love and support and hopes you all enjoy the show!



Emily Mannon (Erotium) is a sophomore Theater major and Communications minor from a-small-town-no-one-has-ever-heard-of, Virginia. This is her first Mainstage production, and she feels so lucky to be working with such a funny and talented cast and director. Thank you thank you to Lindsey for being such an amazing stage manager! This is her third time playing a . . . loose woman and it gets more fun every time. She would like to dedicate this to Granny Dee. I love you and always will.



Mara McCaffray (Wife) is a junior Theatre/English double major and is so happy to be in such a fun production here at Wake. She's not actually that angry of a person. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Ryan McCarthy (Menaechmus II) is a senior Mathematical-Business major and Theatre minor. This is his first Mainstage play at Wake Forest, and he is very grateful to John for giving him this opportunity. He is extremely excited to be working with such an awesome cast and has enjoyed this rehearsal process immensely. He would like to thank Lindsey for all of her hard work and for keeping us all in line. He would also like to thank his family and friends for their support, and he hopes everyone enjoys the show.



JakeMeyer (Menaechmus I) is a senior Theater and Philosophy double major currently residing in Indiana. He is living the dream



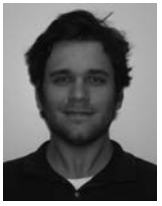
Natalie Michaels (Assistant Stage Manager) is a freshman at Wake Forest University from Wilton, Connecticut. She has been performing from the age of six, when she was cast in her first musical as a child in *Evita*. She has performed in productions such as *The Wizard of Oz*, *Anything Goes*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Tempest*, and *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. She studied ballet, pointe, jazz, tap, and musical theater dance for ten years. Last summer, Natalie performed in her first professional production in *Into the Woods* at Barrington Stage Company's Youth Theater. Most recently, Natalie spent the summer at Yale University as a student/performer at the Yale International Cabaret Conference.



Langdon Page (Decio/Sailor/Servant) is a freshman and is very grateful for the opportunity to be a part of *The Brothers Menaechmus*. He would like to thank the cast and crew for making rehearsals fun, as well as Mr. Gulley for directing the show.



Zachary Pierce-Messick (Sailor/Servant) is excited to be in his first Wake Forest Mainstage production. Zac would like to thank the cast and crew for all of the great work.



Nick Reichert (Cylindrus) is as gay as a spring chicken to be taking part in this historical farce of a production of *Twin Menaechmus*. He would like to thank you, the Queen, and the director for this wonderful opportunity.



Amy Shackelford (Maid) is a sophomore who was last seen in *Independence*. She is excited to be making her Mainstage debut with this wonderful cast and crew. Amy is currently the Public Relations Manager for the Anthony Aston Players, and she is considering a double major in Theatre and Communications. She would like to thank John, the director, for this opportunity, Lindsey, for her overall wonderfulness and everyone else involved in the show. She would also like to thank her sweet friends for being so supportive, always. Lastly, thanks to the audience for supporting the arts! Enjoy!



Alyssa Spelios Hudson (Sailor/Servant) is a freshman who is very excited to be a member of *The Brothers Menaechmus* cast. She is from Portland, Oregon and would like to thank the cast and crew for being welcoming, as well as her family and friends for all of their wonderful support.



Sarah Wheeler (Doctor) is a senior Theatre major and English minor who hails from the little Christmas-tree-farming-town of Lansing, North Carolina. Most recently you may have seen Sarah featured in either *Independence* or *Wake World*. Sarah currently serves as the Chaplain for Living Parables Christian Drama Troupe and as the Vice President of the Anthony Aston Players. On the rare occasion that Sarah does make it outside of Scales Fine Arts Center, she enjoys snuggling with Felix the (female) Cat and antiquing with her lovely roommate Danielle. Special thanks go out to Sarah's family, friends, and everyone who has helped make this show possible!

PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director.....R. Trevor Anderson
Assistant Stage Managers.....Serena Daya, Natalie Michaels
Properties.....Chris Garcia*
Master Electrician.....Mattos Paschel
Scene Shop Assistants.....Chris Garcia*, Adam Lavis, Danielle Thorsen*§
Donald "Ducky" Davidson§, Alex Aceituno, Mara McCaffray*
Chandalae Nyswonger*, Alex Priore, Nathan Musgrove
Perry Ransbottom*, Monty King
Lightning Assistants.....Danielle Thorsen*§, Jim French, Alex Priore
Donald "Ducky" Davidson§, Alex Aceituno
Scenic Artists.....Molly Dunn, Chandalae Nyswonger*, Perry Ransbottom*
Costume Studio Supervisor.....Lisa Weller
Costume Assistants.....Sara Lindsey*, Lomar Osbourne
Alyssa Gera-Rappe, Chakayla Taylor
Wardrobe Assistant.....Sara Lindsey*
Hair & Makeup Assistant.....Anita Ostrovsky*
Grip.....Soloman Jordan
Light Board Operator.....Ivan Mosley*
Sound Board Operator.....Ben Hege*
Photography.....Ken Bennett, Bill Ray III, Leslie Spencer
Audience Services Coordinator.....Leslie Spencer
Box Office Staff.....Dean D. Guerra*, SheRea DelSol*, Brandon Ferri
Jake Skillings, Hayden Newman, Emma Stockert
Emma Northcott, Ben Benzing

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE

Director of Theatre.....J. E. R. Friedenberg
Administrative Assistant.....Carol Lavis
Technical Director.....R. Trevor Anderson
Costume Studio Supervisor.....Lisa Weller
Costume/Props Conservator.....Alice Barsony
Audience Services Coordinator.....Leslie Spencer
Instructional Technology Consultant.....Jolie Tingen
Office Assistants.....Kara Harvey*, Melina Valderrey
Department Chair/Associate Professor.....Dr. J.K. Curry
Director of Dance/Associate Professor.....Nina Lucas
Professors.....Dr. Cindy Gendrich, Mary Wayne-Thomas
Associate Professors.....Sharon Andrews, Jonathan Christman, Dr. Brook Davis
Assistant Professors.....Rob Eastman-Mullins, Christina Tsoules Soriano
Senior Lecturers.....Lynn Book, Leah Roy
Lecturer.....Brantly Shapiro
Adjunct Instructors.....Amy Love Beasley, Shawn Bowman-Hicks, Ray Collins
Chris Martin, Gyula Pandi, Debbie Sayles
Robert Simpson, Tina Yarborough-Liggins, Tricia Zweier
Accompanists.....Erik Eaton, Hashim Saleh, Eric Schwartz

*denotes a member of the Anthony Aston Players

§denotes a Presidential Scholar in Theatre

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY THEATRE ASSOCIATION

2011-2012 Season

Septemer 16, 2011

Benefactors

John J. Casey
Mr. & Mrs. Julius H. Corpening
Caroline Sandlin Fullerton
James & Angela McNamara
Margaret Henry Moore
Harold & Josie Tedford
Estate of Robert Parker Wilson
Estate of John Arthur Collins III
Claire & John Friedenberg‡
Mr. & Mrs. Henry H. Jordan II‡
Sioban Nicole McNamara‡
Dr. James & Patricia Toole‡
Mary Wayne-Thomas
Don & Nancy Wolfe

Sustainers

Michael & Tamara Applegate‡
Gary A. Flower
Perry Patterson
Jonathan Christman
Cindy Gendrich & Woody Hood
Edwin‡ & Emily Wilson‡
Jane Bess Wooten‡

Patrons

Bobbi & Bill Caldwell
Brook Davis‡ & Michael Huie‡
Louise Y. Gossett
Sandria & William Kerr
Dr. & Mrs. Byron Moore‡
Elizabeth Rief‡ and Shawn Hooper
George & Alice Williams‡
Paul & Linda Edwards Early‡
Nancy Fowler Evans‡
Jill Carraway & Debora Horning
Ellen E. Kirkman
Lynn Sutton & William Kane
Gerald Thomas Taylor
Frances Wilson

Sponsors

Anne Boyle & Mark A. Espeland
Victoria Friendly
Albert & Martha Maddox
Meyressa Schoonmaker‡
Julie Stone‡
Denise Koch‡
Jeanne Newton
Howell & Jeanette Smith
Henry Weaver‡

Friends

Cmr. Michael L. and Melba Ann Graves
Catherine & William Rodgers

‡ Wake Forest Theatre alumni

SPECIAL THANKS

Kate Friedenberg
Jay Lawson
Casey Siega-Riz
UNCSA Prop Dept.



FALL 2011 STUDIO SERIES

Student-produced work performed by students in the Ring Theatre. Seating is limited, and admission is $2 at the door. Please note there will be no late admission in the Ring Theatre.

STUDIO SERIES ONE

Sept. 26 at 7:30 PM & Sept. 27 at 4:30 PM

Please Have a Seat and Someone Will Be with You Shortly by Garth Wingfield
Directed by Ashley Singer

The Winged Man by José Rivera
Directed by Perry Ransbottom

The Naming of Things by Matthew Minnicino
Directed by Rebecca Speas

STUDIO SERIES TWO

Oct. 17 at 7:30 PM & Oct. 18 at 4:30 PM

The Man Who Turned into a Stick by Kobo Abe
Directed by John Aguilar

Helter Skelter by Neil LaBute
Directed by Jake Meyer

Breast Men by Bill Bozzone and Joe DiPietro

STUDIO SERIES THREE

Nov. 7 at 7:30 PM & Nov. 8 at 4:30 PM

Dr. Fritz, or: The Force of Light by David Ives
Directed by Sarah Wheeler

Mountain Language by Harold Pinter
Directed by Cam Roberts

A Tiger in Central Park by José Rivera
Directed by Ben Hege

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