

The Occasional Players Present

Spike Heels



by Theresa Rebeck

Directed by Andrea Humez

Friday, August 14, 2009 • 8:00pm

Saturday, August 15, 2009 • 2:00pm

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Director's Note

This play explores (among other things) how hard it is to truly understand someone else's point of view, or even one's own; how there really are at least two sides to most issues, even the ones you'd like to think are black and white; and how people can be both better and worse than they imagine themselves. It's also about different kinds of power, including the power of getting to define the rules of the game and the meaning of other people's actions, or one's own.

A friend of mine is fond of noting that "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" is a good first step, but not sufficient; better, but much harder, is to do unto others as they would like you to do unto them.

I was drawn to Spike Heels because it both entertained and provoked me; I hope it will do the same for you.

Cast

<i>Georgie, a secretary</i>	Erica Schultz
<i>Andrew, a professor</i>	Brian Bermack
<i>Edward, a lawyer</i>	Tom Giordano
<i>Lydia, Andrew's fiancée.</i>	Marleigh Norton

Crew

<i>Director</i>	Andrea Humez
<i>Technical Director.</i>	Jerry Marty
<i>House Manager</i>	Ken Raeburn
<i>Program.</i>	Laura Baldwin
<i>Fight Choreographer.</i>	Tom Giordano
<i>Run Crew</i>	Erika Reinfeld Jan-Willem Maessen

The Occasional Players (www.occasionalplayers.org) are a group of MIT alumni and friends who perform together when the occasion presents itself. We are non-profit and funded entirely through ticket sales. Previous Occasional Players productions have been *Arcadia*, *Hapgood*, and *The Lion in Winter*. We hope that tonight's performance of *Spike Heels* gives as much pleasure to the audience as we have taken in creating it.

Thanks To:

The Arlington Center for the Arts

Theatre@First

Dave Policar

Jan-Willem Maessen

Eon Harry



Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Produced in workshop by New York Stage and Film Company in association with the Powerhouse Theatre at Vassar, July, 1990.

Laura Baldwin
(*Program*) is pleased that, unlike other groups she has made programs for, the Occasional Players are good about writing their biographies. Except for Brian, who she is
LOOKING AT RIGHT NOW.

Brian Bermack
(*Andrew*) is an MIT graduate with a degree in Computer Science, and has been a professional software developer for ten years. He is particularly good at working with clients in their own language - the language of the business problem to be solved - and turning those business needs into technical solutions.

Tom Giordano
(*Edward*) is thrilled to be working with The Occasional Players again, after playing Bernard in *Arcadia*, Kerner in *Hapgood*, and Geoffrey in *The Lion in Winter*. Other recent roles include: Fletcher in *Men of Tortuga* (Apollinaire Theatre); Mr. Marks in *Intimate Apparel* (The Footlight Club); Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet* (Hovey Players); and Algernon in the IRNE-nominated production of *The*

Importance of Being Earnest (The Longwood Players), for which he was awarded the EMACT DASH award for Best Actor. Tom has trained with Shakespeare & Company.

Andrea Humez
(*Director*) has directed the Occasional Players' past 3 shows: *Arcadia*, *Hapgood*, and *The Lion In Winter*. More recently, she has directed *Arms and the Man*, *The Rimers of Eldritch*, and two 10-minute plays for Theatre@First. Having now directed two "problem plays" in a row, she vows that her next project will be *The Happy Fluffy Bunnies Go To The Park*. Or possibly *Ten Female Characters Find A Plot*.

Jerry Marty
(*Technical Director*) is accustomed to providing ambitious (some would say, foolhardy) set pieces for the Occasional Players. He submitted a plan for an on-stage space shuttle launch at the beginning of Act 2, with a pyrotechnics display and earth-shaking surround sound, but Andrea turned that plan down and asked for a working doorknob instead. That was probably for the best.

Marleigh Norton (Lydia). This is either Marleigh's third or fourth play with the Occasional Players, depending on whether the "stealth wedding performance" mentioned on the website is what she thinks it is¹. Parts she's certain she's played are Hannah in *Arcadia* and the title role in *Hapgood*. She also enjoys voice acting and can be heard in the Post-Meridian Radio Players' production of *Tomes of Terror II* and several shows by Pendant Productions, her favorite being Barbara Gordon in *Batman: The Ace of Detectives*. Look for her soon in PMRP's *The Mask of Inanna* and Pendant's *Red Sands Investigations*.

Erica Schultz (Georgie) has previously appeared onstage with Brian and Tom

¹ If it involves monkeys, then it's four.

in the Occasional Players' *The Lion in Winter* (2004); with Andrea in Theatre@First's *The Margaret Ghost* (2006); and with Andrea, Brian, and Marleigh (not all at once) in various productions by the MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players. By day she is a graphic designer and vice-president of her synagogue (!). She thanks her husband Justin for his steadfast love and support, even when her rehearsal commitments suddenly quadrupled and she began coming home at odd hours with suspicious bruises on her forearms.

Erika Reinfeld (Run Crew) had not done any theatre in more than a year. She thanks Andrea for her assistance in remedying the situation.



