

This Season at the School of Drama

She Stoops to Conquer

by Oliver Goldsmith
directed by Matthew Arbour
Meany Studio Theatre
February 3 — 17

Disguise, mistaken identity,
falseness and pretences abound
in this rollicking comedy classic.

Gibraltar

by Octavio Solis
directed by Desdemona Chiang
Penthouse Theatre
February 24 — March 9

A poignant exploration of love, loss, danger,
guilt and salvation.

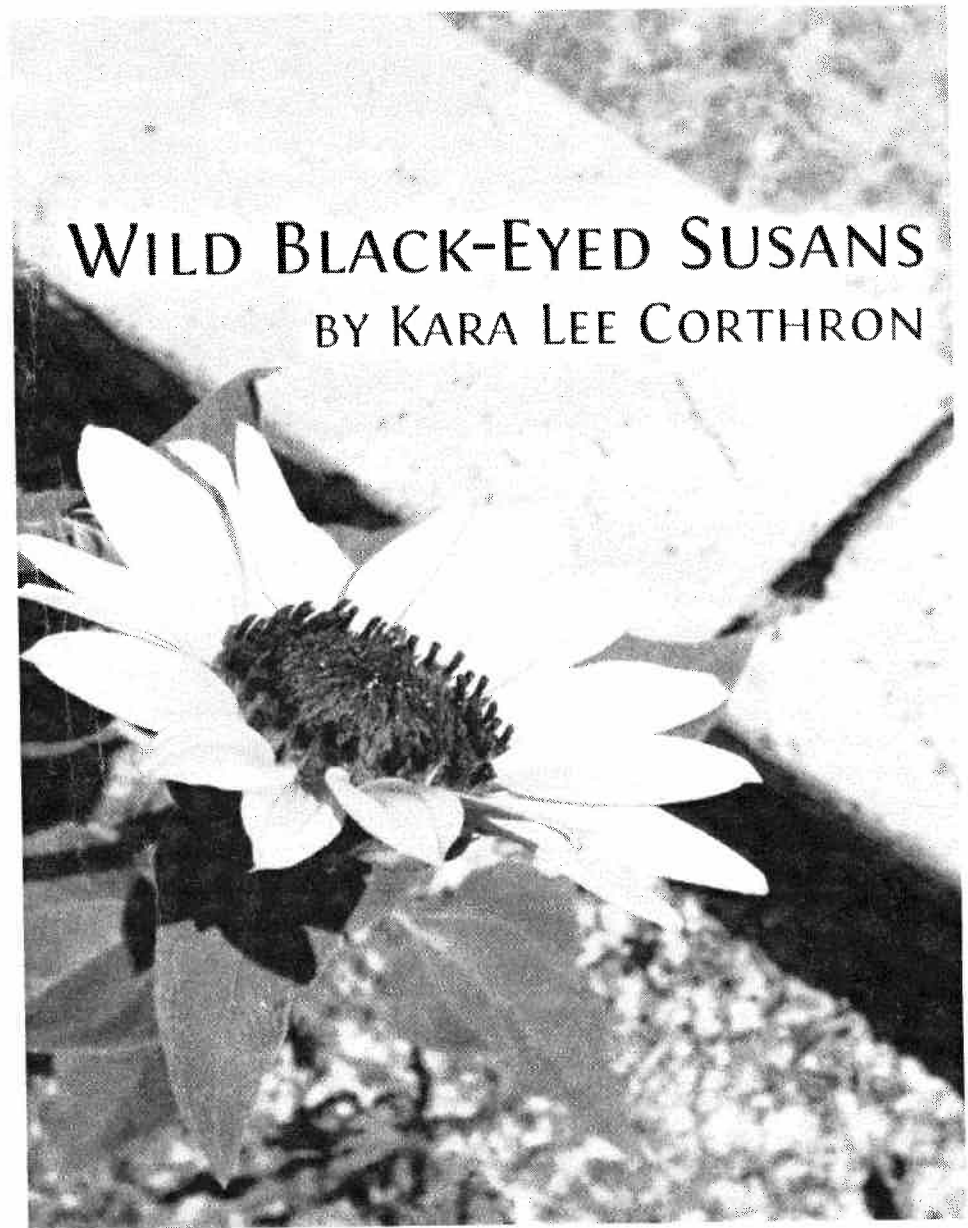
*Tickets available at 206.543.4880 and
on-line at <http://depts.washington.edu/uwdrama>*

Support the School of Drama!

To donate to the School of Drama, please make your check
payable to UW Foundation/Drama and mail to:

UW School of Drama, Box 353950, Seattle WA 98195-3950.

To give on-line, go to: www.uwfoundation.org



WILD BLACK-EYED SUSANS BY KARA LEE CORTHRON

UW
SCHOOL OF
Drama

Ethnic Cultural Theatre
Presented in collaboration with
the Hansberry Project at ACT
February 3—17, 2008



School of Drama
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THE PROFESSIONAL ACTOR TRAINING PROGRAM (PATP)

The PATP is a three-year conservatory program leading to a Master of Fine Arts degree, designed to prepare students for careers in the professional theatre. Ten actors are chosen every year from national auditions of approximately one thousand candidates.

The rigorous training includes work in a range of types and styles of performance, including non-realistic, realistic, classical and contemporary plays. The program is intense and demanding, with actors working from 9-5, Monday-Friday, with an additional 25 hours per week spent in rehearsals. The overall aim of the program is to provide students with the practical skills necessary to fully reveal their artistic ideas. The PATP is consistently ranked among the very best graduate training programs in the nation.



Othello

The financial commitment our students undertake to complete their training is considerable. The School of Drama's Adopt-an-Actor program provides a major source of funding for their essential career entry activity in the Showcase Audition Tour, which introduces them to national casting agents. Donors become part of the PATP family, and are matched with individual actors. If you are interested in the Adopt-an-Actor program, please call the School of Drama at 206.221.6797 or visit us online at <http://depts.washington.edu/uwdrama/support/support.html>.

Cast

Rita	Khatt Taylor*
Riley	Jose Rufino*†
Brady	TaLena Bennett*
Daisy	Amy Dawn Harrison*

* Members of the Professional Actor Training Program
† Indicates a member of Actor's Equity

Time: The Present

Place: A trailer in Highstown, West Virginia

There will be one ten-minute intermission.

Wild Black-Eyed Susans is produced by special arrangement with Abrams Artists Agency and is produced in collaboration with the Hansberry Project at ACT and the Ethnic Cultural Center and Theatre.

Special Thanks

- A Contemporary Theatre •
- Charles Picard • Vivian Phillips • Kim Powell •
- Paul and Patti at Singletons RV Salvage & Sales •
- John at Starbucks Towing • Michael and David Danilchick •
- INTIMAN Theatre • Seattle Repertory Theatre •
- Seattle Children's Theatre • Drama 461 •

Wild Black-Eyed Susans

by Kara Lee Compton

Director	Valerie Curtis-Newton
Scenic Design	Deanna L. Zibello
Costume Design	Candace Frank
Lighting Design	Amiya Brown
Sound Design	Melissa Dow
Technical Director	Alex Danilchik
Stage Managers	Kelly Clark Micah Meryman

Composer	Bill Wolford Valerie Curtis-Newton
Assistant Costume Designer	Daniel Floresca
Scenic Artist	Janet English
Assistant Scenic Artists	Song Yi Chun Jenna Kearns
Property Master	Chris Brown
Photographer	Adam Sanders
Lighting Crew	Rachel Eichorn, Spencer Hirsch, Sarah Kleehammer, Chia-Huei Seetoo, Alex Schmidt, and the Students of Drama 212
Running Crew	Allison Abbott, Kailena Ayers, Sydney Davis, Heather Myltenbeck, Spencer Thomas, Marlaina Youch

School of Drama EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Sarah Nash Gates

FACULTY

Professors
Jon Jory, Sarah Nash Gates,
Thomas Lynch, Barry Witham

Associate Professors
Sarah Bryant-Bertail,
Valerie Curtis-Newton,
Mark Jenkins, Odai Johnson,
Shanga Parker, Andrew Tsao

Assistant Professors
Geoff Korf, Katherine Mezur

Adjunct Faculty
Herbert Blau

Affiliate Professor
Thomas Postlewait

Senior Lecturers
Catherine Madden, Judith Shahn,
Deborah Trout

Lecturers
Scott Hafso, Matt Smucker

Part Time Faculty
Geoffrey Alm, Nancy Knott, Howie
Seago, Andy Smith, Chris Walker

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Robert Dahlstrom, William J. Easter,
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From the Director

This production is unique in the School of Drama season. It is a co-production of the School of Drama and the Hansberry Project in collaboration with the Ethnic Cultural Theatre. Three organizations all coming together to support these emerging professionals and highlight the diversity of this program.

Of course, I am thrilled to be able to bring this project to the UW simply because it is a lovely play. Kara Corthron has a gift for telling a great story about an ordinary life. In this play, she has created characters who are rarely seen on the stage and in whom we immediately recognize a deep yearning for larger lives. These are characters whose flaws many of us will recognize as our own. Kara tells their story with tremendous humor and heart. We have been very fortunate to be able to spend time with Rita, Riley, Daisy and Brady.

About the Playwright

Kara Lee Corthron received the 2007 Helen Merrill Award for Emerging Playwrights for *Wild Black-Eyed Susans*. Her play *Like a Cow or an Elephant* was awarded the Theodore Ward Prize for African-American Playwrights. Her other awards include the New Professional Theatre Writers Award and the Lincoln Center's Lecomte du Nuoy Foundations Award. Ms. Corthron's plays have been developed or produced at the Ensemble Studio Theatre, Center Stage (Baltimore), African Continuum Theatre, De Theatre School, Julliard School, and the University of Maryland (Baltimore).

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The Hansberry Project



This production of *Wild Black-Eyed Susans* is directed by Hansberry Project Artistic Director Valerie Curtis-Newton, and has been produced by the UW School of Drama in cooperation with ACT and the Hansberry Project. Named after activist-playwright Lorraine Hansberry, the Hansberry Project is a professional Black theatre company dedicated to the artistic exploration of African-American life, history and culture. The mission of the Hansberry Project is to make significant and long-lasting contributions to the vitality of Seattle's performing arts community by producing work that is stimulating, relevant, emotionally satisfying, culturally specific, multi-faceted, entertaining, and artistically excellent. To that end, we are committed to producing the best plays of the Black theatre, classics and new works alike. In partnership with ACT, the Hansberry Project will produce a mainstage show, workshops, and other community-related activities during ACT's season. Our hope is that this theatre will become a center where the entire community can be enriched by the voices of professional Black artists, reflecting our autonomous concerns, investigations, dreams, and artistic expression.

Coming soon: *Fathers and Sons* by Michael Bradford, May 1-25

Join us this summer for the annual Juneteenth Gala, the Hansberry Project and ACT's annual formal event — an evening of theatre, elegance, and black-tie sophistication.

hansberryproject.org

The Ethnic Culture Center and Theatre

Our mission at the UW Ethnic Cultural Center and Theatre is to provide productions and events that expose the campus community to the richness of ethnicity, culture and theatre. The ECT works to create an avenue to inspire local artists and young people to take an interest in the University. The ECT produces an annual season of events featuring performances, readings, concerts, and films. In addition to producing its own season, the ECT is available for rent. While priority is given to UW activities, several local theatre companies, including Seattle Shakespeare Festival and Jet City Improv, have been tenants in recent years.