



by  
**Karel Capek**

Directed by Dana Buck  
Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre  
Ann Arbor, Michigan  
March 6 - 9, 1996

**AACT**

LIEBER  
1996

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre  
CenterStage Productions Presents

# THE SECRET GARDEN

**The Tony Award Winning Musical**

by Marsha Norman and Lucy Simon

Directed by Joy Baker Dennis

Choreography by Ann Chapman

Musical Direction by Richard Berberian

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## PEOPLE DANCING: Whitley Setrakian and Dancers March 7-10

An evening of original choreography by company members Whitley Setrakian and Terri Sarris (Loose Threads), as well as guest artists Jeremy Steward and Markus Wischmeyer. A smorgasbord of dance, theatre, multi-media and music represents the new collaborative style of this trend-setting company.



## THE MAIDS: by Jean Genet March 14-17, 21-24

Two maids both love and hate their mistress. They obsessively enact their fantasy of her murder. A master of artifice, Genet creates a living Escher drawing where the line between appearance and reality all but disappears. Starring Joanna Woodcock.

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March 6,7,8 & 9, 1996

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre CenterStage Productions

Presents

# R.U.R.

(Rossum's Universal Robots)

Written by

Directed by

Produced By

**Karel Capek**

**Dana Buck**

**Tom Coogan**

Featuring

**Charles Sutherland**

**Melanie J. Wilson**

**Phillip Matora Mary L. Pettit Tom Underwood Ric Smith Ed Morin**

**Erica Dutton Ben Tabios Carrie Favre Andy Jentzen Peter J. Dennis**

**Setting:** The Cybernetics Lab of Rossum's Universal Robots, Inc. on an island in the Pacific Ocean

**Time:** 20 minutes into the future....

## CAST

### In order of Appearance

Alquist	Phillip Matora
Primus	Ric Smith
Robot Helena	Melanie J. Wilson
Domin	Charles Sutherland
Sulla	Erica Dutton
Marius	Ric Smith
Helena	Melanie J. Wilson
Fabry	Mary L. Pettit
Gall	Tom Underwood
Heller	Andy Jentzen
Etta	Carrie Faivre
Radius	Ben Tabios
Robot	Peter J. Dennis

## PLAY

### Order of Performance

Prologue:	Cybernetics Lab - R.U.R., Inc.
Act I:	Office of the Central Director of Rossum's Universal Robots, Inc.
Act II:	Same Location - 10 Years Later
There will be a 15 minute intermission between Acts II & III	
Act III:	Same Location - 1 hour Later
Act IV:	Same Location - 5 Years later
Epilogue:	Cybernetics Lab - R.U.R., Inc.

## Lydia Mendelssohn Theater

R.U.R. is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

# R.U.R. Cast & Crew

## R.U.R. Cast - Listed Alphabetically

- Peter J. Dennis (Robot)** - This is Peter's 1st Civic Theatre production. A recent graduate in Biology from MSU, Peter is a 1st year dental student at the U. of M. (Who will he cheer for now?) Theater runs in Peter's family. He started in tech work 14 years ago in the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre. Stage credits include "Jesus Christ Superstar" with the Dexter Players.
- Erica Dutton (Sulla)** - Erica recently appeared in "Remember Me" at the Performance Network. Prior to that, she was in "Lazarus Convening", "Gin", "Quartet", "Les Belles Sœurs" and "A Day in the Death of Joe Egg" (also directed by Dana Buck). When not performing, Erica has worked as a Producer and Stage Manager. When not having fun in the theater, Erica is a Psychotherapist, primarily working with people who have a chronic or long term illness.
- Carrie Faivre (Etta)** - Carrie is another 1st time Civic Theatre performer. Auto racing has first priority in Carrie's life. She currently is the Historian for Penske Racing, which keeps her on the racing circuit a good portion of the year. She hopes to build a career in Public Relations in the automotive racing world. Her stage credits include "Androcles and the Lion".
- Andy Jentzen (Heller)** - When he's not on TV or in commercials, Andy has been making people laugh by doing stand-up comedy from California to Michigan. Having trained in Detroit and Los Angeles, we are happy that Andy chose to return to Michigan and that he could join us in this production.
- Phillip Matora (Alquist)** - Phillip is a seasoned veteran, having performed with 13 theater groups. His credits span the range from comedy in the "Odd Couple" to tragedy in "Of Mice and Men" and classics such as "A Midsummer Night's Dream", "Lysistrata", and "Christmas Carol". Phillip's Civic Theatre credits include "I'm Not Rappaport", "Watch on the Rhine", "A Macbeth" and "Woyzyk". Phil has the distinct (and mutual) pleasure of being married to Mary L. Pettit.
- Ed Morin (Berman)** - Besides acting, Ed is a published poet, translator, technical writer and Cub Scout leader. This is Ed's first production with AACT. He has appeared with the U of M G&S Society in "The Mikado" and in "Robinson Crusoe" for the Comic Opera Guild and "Tobacco Road" with the Detroit Repertory Theatre.
- Mary L. Pettit (Fabry)** - Mary L. is delighted to work with Dana again. She began with AACT in 1973 in "Thieves' Carnival". Other shows include "Tartuffe", "Robber Bridegroom", "The Dining Room", "Steel Magnolias" and "Jacques Brel is Alive.." (also directed by Dana). Under the direction of Simon Ha, Mary L. performed in "Woyzyk", "I'm Not Rappaport" and "Duet for One" at AACT, as well as "Jacques and His Master", "Frankie and Johnnie in the Claire de Lune" and "Quartet" at Performance Network. Mary L. teaches acting in Ann Arbor and Birmingham.
- Ric Smith (Primus)** - Ric double majored in Theater and the Entertainment Industry and earned a B.A. at the U. of M. This is his first production with AACT, but he has appeared in several at the U. of M., including "Auricula Matricula". Ric currently is a Production Assistant at the Kelsey Museum, but plans to head west to L.A. in the fall to pursue his career.
- Charles Sutherland (Domin)** - Charles is well known in the theatrical field. He has appeared in numerous productions for AACT, including "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest", "Seascape", "Cat On a Hot Tin Roof" and "Shadow Box". He has also appeared in "The Sorcerer" for the U. of M. G&S society. When not on stage, Charles has been involved in producing and directing several works, while still finding time to sing with the vocal ensemble "Encore".
- Ben Tabios (Radius)** - Ben appeared in "Jeffrey" for AACT and "Angels in America" for the Michigan Basement Theatre. Ben studied Theater at Purdue University. His theatrical credits at Purdue include "As Is", "The Indian Wants the Bronx", "Romeo & Juliet" and "Wandering". Ben would like to thank his friends for all their support with a special kudo to Becky, who has given him inspiration to pursue what he loves best - to ACT!
- Tom Underwood (Gall)** - A Psychologist in real life, Tom has probably seen every B-grade horror and science fiction film made from 1940 to 1958. A fan of television's Golden Age, Tom says the episode "Nightmare" from "Outer Limits" and the "Twilight Zone's" "Six Characters in Search of an Exit" both had a profound effect on him. Recently, Tom was in AACT's production of "Accomplice", for which he was nominated for Best Comedic Actor by the Ann Arbor News.
- Melanie J. Wilson (Helena/Robot Helena)** -Melanie is excited to be in her first Civic Theatre production. A recent graduate from Wright State University with a BFA in acting, Melanie's stage credits in Dayton include "Hamlet" and "Steel Magnolias" at the Festival Playhouse, "Romeo and Juliet" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream" with the Blue Jean Shakespeare Company and "Tis a Pity She's a Whore" at the Celebration Theatre.

## R.U.R. Production Staff & Show Crew - Listed Alphabetically

- Cheryl Berteel (Properties)** - Cheryl has performed various and sundry tasks for AACT in the past year. One of her most important (if unsung) tasks has been to be the "Official Sign Changer" at our theater on Platt Road. Having been stuck to that sign recently (in a blizzard of all things) while putting up the sign for "*Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*", Cheryl was glad to be involved in a production that only has 3 letters in the title.
- Gregg Blossom (Lighting Operator)** - Gregg comes to AACT from the Performance Network, where he has lent his technical skills in several productions including "*Remember Me*" and "*A Better Way to Die*". He has also performed in "*Godspell*" and "*God's Favorite*". When he has time, Gregg enjoys woodworking, photography, music and computers.
- Dana Buck (Director)** - A veteran of over 25 years in the theater, Dana has been an actor, director, designer and technician here in Michigan as well as Ohio and New York. For AACT, Dana has appeared in "*Bullshit Crummond*", "*Arsenic and Old Lace*" and "*Lion in Winter*". He directed "*Jacques Brel*" and "*Joe Egg*". His Stage Manager credits are numerous, including "*M. Butterfly*". He is a member of the AACT Board of Directors and a "doo-wop" singer with the "Gelcaps".
- Carol Buttrum (Head Usher)** - Carol has assisted as an usher for several AACT shows. As of our production, Carol will be taking on the leadership of the AACT ushering crew, without whose help we could not open our show.
- Gail Christopherson (A/V Production)** - Gail comes to our production straight from the science fiction community. Having recently participated in the "Deviant Confusion" Sci-Fi convention, Gail is our best judge of the "Sci-Fi" feel of our show. Gail will be assisting with the audio-visual presentation.
- Tom Coogan (Producer)** - This is Tom's first outing as a Producer for AACT. He appeared last fall in "*As You Like It*", but is normally found backstage handling Properties. His Props credits include "*M. Butterfly*", "*Accomplice*", "*Oklahoma*", "*Master Harold and the Boys*" and "*Mornings at Seven*". He thanks Betty Wamback for teaching him how to run Props.
- Barb Daniels (Head Usher)** - Barb is the AACT Volunteer Coordinator, a member of the CenterStage and Marketing committees and has organized the ushering crew for many shows. Her work on behalf of our show is very appreciated.
- Joy Baker Dennis (Stage Manager)** - Joy is directing AACT's upcoming production of "*The Secret Garden*". Her theatrical credits are many. For AACT, she has directed "*Lend Me A Tenor*", acted in "*Spoon River Anthology*" and did Costume Design for "*Oklahoma*" and "*Candida*". She is a member of the AACT Board of Directors, the AACT Librarian, a frequent volunteer in our office and she chaired the CenterStage Play Selection Committee for this season.
- Mishka Dudash (Associate Producer)** - Mishka has a great love for theater and a wide range of talents, both on-stage and behind the scenes. She recently ran Sound for "*M. Butterfly*" and has appeared on stage in several productions in California. A native of Ann Arbor, Mishka returned to our environs last year after several years on the West Coast.
- Matt Fulton (Web Page Coordinator)** - After a hiatus from theater, Matt returned to the stage last year as a Kurogo in "*M. Butterfly*". Matt's prior involvement in theater has been primarily backstage. He has been a Technical Director for the Performance Network, the Ann Arbor Medieval Festival and the touring production of "*Brigadista*". For "*R.U.R.*", Matt has been leading the charge into hyperspace by putting together our Web Page advertising, a first for AACT.
- Kathi Genik (Running Crew)** - Kathy loves to work behind the scenes, especially in costumes. She was involved in costumes for "*M. Butterfly*" and "*Blithe Spirit*". She has also been involved in several productions in Saline, including "*Finian's Rainbow*", "*Annie Get Your Gun*" and a very recent production of "*Guys and Dolls*".
- Chuck Griffin (Set Construction Coordinator/Properties)** - Chuck began with AACT as a set builder for "*Private Lives*". He continued in that area for "*Jeffrey*" & "*Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*". Chuck worked backstage on "*M. Butterfly*" and ran Props for the recent production of "*Blithe Spirit*". Chuck keeps thinking of taking a break from theater, but he just cannot seem to say "No" when opportunity (or a worried Producer) knocks.
- Deborah (Deb) Korastinsky (Technical Coordinator)** - Deb is in her 3rd season with AACT. She holds a BFA in technical theater and costume design and her normal habit is to be working on several projects at once. Along with "*R.U.R.*", Deb is working on "*The Secret Garden*", AACT's upcoming Spring Musical. She is also designing costumes for the next show at the Purple Rose Theatre, and there is always children's theater...
- Joan Korastinsky (Costume Designer)** - This is Joan's first Costume Designer assignment for an AACT CenterStage production. She designed costumes for "*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*" and ran Props for "*West Side Story*" and "*Private Lives*". Joan served as a Production Assistant on "*M. Butterfly*" and enjoys helping out wherever possible.
- Mike Limmer (Lighting Designer)** - Mike has been active in AACT for many years, including six years on the AACT Board of Directors. During those years, he served as Vice President and Treasurer of AACT. Mike has a wealth of experience behind the scenes. His lighting design credits include "*Broadway Bound*" and "*Brighton Beach Memoirs*".

## *R.U.R. Production Staff & Show Crew - Listed Alphabetically*

**Steve Lieber** (Graphics Designer) - Steve is an accomplished artist and cartoonist. We owe him a great round of applause for the design and production of the artwork we have on our cover and posters. Steve is a science fiction enthusiast and a professional cartoonist. He is new to the theatrical arts, but we hope he will now be a part of AACT for years to come.

**Glen Massey** (Sound) - Glen can be a real blast, especially when handling pyrotechnics as he did in "Accomplice". Glen is a set builder, stage hand and all around helper. He has been involved in productions at the Performance Network and built the set for "Guys and Dolls" in Saline. Glen was with the Opus Mime production of "The Passion" for five years.

**Darla Miller** (Properties) - Theatrically, Darla's roles have included that of "the sheep," "the screaming woman" and "the townsman". Lest she be known as "the robot", Darla jumped at a chance to gather props for "R.U.R.". Professionally, she delivered circus tickets for the Knights of Columbus and telephone books in Detroit and worked at a funeral home. Recently, she has been a freelance writer and is employed at the U of M Medical Center. Personally, Darla longs to live a ho-hum life, but keeps getting hooked into helping behind-the-scenes, which is something she finds anything but boring.

**Rosemarie Rothe** (Make-Up & Hair Designer) - Rosemarie is better known as the "Make-Up Wizard". She enjoys making people look young, old, glamorous, gruesome and for this show, "out of this world". Rosemarie is often asked how she became involved in doing make-up for AACT. Her reply is that "I showed up at theater 13 years ago and said I want to get involved and here I am still involved and enjoying (almost) every minute of it".

**Eric Schultz** (A/V Designer) - Eric (the C) spawned in one of the many ancient libraries on the University of California at Berkeley and emigrated to Ann Arbor following some arcane instinct. He enjoys chasing accidents in an ambulance, playing with swords and writing. He dreams of conquering the world, but that will have to wait until after medical school.

**Erik Yokum** (Web Page & Audio Visual Production) - Erik (the K) is filling a dual role in our production. He worked with Matt Fulton to set up our very own Web Page and he will assist Eric (the C) with the audio-visual effects.

**R.U.R. Stage Construction Crew** - We are extremely fortunate to have had the assistance of the following students and faculty from the College of Architecture and Urban Planning. These people designed and constructed the set for our production:

**Jason Barish, Heidi Berner, Ray Chi, Leigh Christy, William DuBose, Scott Earhardt, Dean Enell, Scott Heywood, Steve Kim, Chris Kretovic, Gina Martin, Jessica Moore, Eli Neiburger, Matt Totilo,**

**Professor Bradford Angelini**



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