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10-8-2007

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University Relations

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#### Recommended Citation

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**Sam Shepard's "A Lie of the Mind" opens UMM theatre season**

*Summary: Examine human existence, debate right and wrong, get down and dirty in classic Greek style and rhyme without reason. Relish the mad variety of human experiences all year long with another exciting, provoking and entertaining theatre season at the University of Minnesota, Morris.*

(October 8, 2007)-Examine human existence, debate right and wrong, get down and dirty in classic Greek style and rhyme without reason. Relish the mad variety of human experiences all year long with another exciting, provoking and entertaining theater season at the University of Minnesota, Morris.

Winner of the New York Drama Critics "Best Play of the Year" in 1985-1986, Sam Shepard's "A Lie of the Mind" will jump-start this 2007-2008 season with a powerful gripping tale. Director and UMM Professor of Theatre Siobhan Bremer commented, " 'A Lie of the Mind' is about the myriad victims of violence as family members find themselves trapped in a web of self-delusion spinning out of control even as love still hangs in the air."

"A Lie of the Mind" will be performed in the Humanities Fine Arts Proscenium Theatre from Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 1-3. Show times are 7:30 p.m. for the evening showings, and 2 p.m. for the Saturday matinee. Tickets are now being reserved. The play contains strong language and mature content.

This winter, visiting theater artist Deidre Onishi breathes fresh air into Aristophanes' comedy, "The Birds." With a lively translation and adaptation by Peter Meineck, this Greek classic provides sharp social commentary and plenty of bawdy language, excitement and action to make one's chilly night a warm and memorable one. "The Birds" flies into the HFA Black Box Theatre February 7-9. The curtain goes up at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday and at 2 p.m. for the Saturday matinee.

The 2007-2008 season concludes in April with UMM's 39th annual children's theater production. This year UMM theatre is excited to bring to the Proscenium Theatre stage the warm-hearted whimsical musical, "Seussical."<sup>TM</sup> Debuting on Broadway in 2000 and playing to sold-out audiences of all ages, "Seussical"<sup>TM</sup> was developed by Lynn Ahrens, Stephen Flaherty and Eric Idle based on the works of Dr. Seuss. The music was composed by Flaherty with lyrics by Ahrens. This fantastically fun musical should keep the audience's toes tapping and lips rhyming for days after. Bremer will direct this green-eggs-and-ham extravaganza in collaboration with musical director Melissa Hanson of the UMM music faculty and choreographer Jennifer Sommers of the UMM dance faculty. Performances are at 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, April 24-25, and at 1 p.m. Saturday, April 26. "Seussical"<sup>TM</sup> is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International.

For all shows, ticket prices are \$8 for general admission and \$5 for UMM students and senior citizens. The highly successful season tickets are again available at a savings of \$1 per show. All three shows for \$21 for general admission and \$12 for UMM students/seniors. A special discount is available for a group of six or more. For reservations, advanced ticket sales and information, including details about school performances of the musical, contact the UMM Theatre Publicity and Box Office at (320) 589-6249, M-F 3-4:30 p.m. or by email: thrpub@thrpub.email.umn.edu.

In addition to the faculty directed shows, senior UMM theatre major Nick Lostetter will direct Neil Labute's thought provoking "The Shape of Things." This modern show promises to leave audiences talking about art, censorship, seduction and perhaps even about their own relationships in a slightly altered manner. This show contains sexual content and adult themes. No children will be admitted. The show runs in the HFA Proscenium Theatre at 7:30 p.m. on December 5-8 and also at 2 p.m. on December 8. Tickets are \$5. Contact the UMM box office for further information.

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