SFA College of Fine Arts and the School of Theatre present

The Heidi Chronicles

by Wendy Wasserstein

April 28 - May 2, 2009
W.M Turner Auditorium
7:30 p.m.

sponsored in part by
SFA SCHOOL OF THEATRE  
and the 
COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS  
present

The Heidi Chronicles

by 

Hendy Wasserstein

Directed by Alan Nielsen

Scenery by Jathan Innerarity
Costumes by Angela Bacarissee
Lighting & Sound by CC Conn
Hair & Makeup by Courtney Parker
Stage Manager: Brittany Nelson
Assistant Director: Austin Chason

Playwrights Horizons, New York City, first produced THE HEIDI CHRONICLES Off-Broadway in 1988 following a workshop production by the Seattle Repertory Theatre.

Produced on Broadway by the Shubert Organization, Suntory International Corp., and James Walsh in association with Playwrights Horizons.

April 28-May 8, 2000
K.M. Turner Auditorium
About the Cast

Daniel Anderson (Steve) is a senior from Skidmore. On the SFA Mainstage he has appeared as Munsee in Cornbury as a part of the 2008 Play Reading Festival. Daniel was also in the Studio Hour Shakespeare and Mushrooms.

Arianna Bermudez (April), a senior from Houston, has performed in This Day Forward, As You Like It, and Grease as well as being a member of the Original Cast. She has helped choreograph for Big River and The Bartered Bride.

Garrett Cross (Peter Patrone) is a junior theatre education major from Texas High School in Texarkana. He as acted as Johannes in This Day Forward on the Mainstage and in The Rising of the Moon and Line in the Downstage.

Brittany Djie (Betsy/Woman #2) is a senior from Houston. She has acted in China Dolls, The Tempest, The Member of the Wedding, and Bonjour, là, Bonjour and directed Purgatorio and Naomi in the Living Room.

Lucy Drury (Denise) is an American Theatre Arts student from London. While at SFA, Lucy had choreographed for the Original Cast. In London, she acted in Keely and Du and The Reunion and directed The Glass Menagerie.

Nashanna Gates (Fran) a senior from Garland, has appeared in The Bartered Bride, Tribute, Dimly Perceived Threats to the System, The Servant of Two Masters, Anton in Show Business, and The Piano Lesson.

Kelli Grimes-Baggett (Jill), a senior from Lufkin, has served on props crew for Brighton Beach Memoirs and The Elephant Man. While at Angelina College, she acted in James and the Giant Peach, Ramona Quimby, and Miss Julie.

Sarah Hale (Debbie), a senior from Kilgore, has acted in Big River, Crimes of the Heart, This Day Forward, The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie, and Penguin Blues. While at Kilgore College, she appeared in Scapino and Bus Stop.

Caroline G. Harrell (Lisa) is a sophomore from Athens. She has acted in Big River, Take Five, The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie, and The Bald Soprano at SFA as well as being a member of the Original Cast.

J. Kyle Harris (Scoop Rosenbaum) is a senior from Longview. He has acted in Grease, Hair, Raised in Captivity, and The Whole Shebang at SFA. He was an acting intern for the Texas Shakespeare Festival and was in Six Characters in Search of an Author and The Cherry Orchard at Kilgore College.

Jt Hearn (Ray), a freshman from Emory, acted in Big River on the SFA Mainstage. He appeared in Black Angel, Rhinoceros, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and Oklahoma! at Rains High.

Jazzay Jabbar (Ensemble) is a freshman from Garland. She appeared in Big River on the SFA Mainstage and Getting Out, South Pacific, The Exonerated, Death of a Salesman, and The Scarlet Letter while at Naaman Forest High School.
About the Cast (continued)

Nicholas Mills (Chris Boxer) is a senior from Houston. He has performed in Big River, Brighton Beach Memoirs, Six Degrees of Separation, Grease, China Dolls, Hair and Animal Keepers, as well as the Original Cast. He spent last year on internship at Rose Bruford College in London.

Flosi Jón Ófeigssons (Waiter/Hippie) is an American Theatre Arts student from Iceland. While at SFA he has been a member of the Original Cast. While at Rose Bruford he appeared in Bullets over Broadway and Dracula.

Allison Ostrander (Heidi Holland) is a junior from Plano. While at SFA she has acted in Big River on the Mainstage and in the Studio Hour Emotional Baggage. Allison also designed hair and make up for Defacing Michael Jackson and The Rising of the Moon in the Downstage.

Jacqueline Pirtle (Clara/Announcer/ Sandra Zucker-Hall), a sophomore from Houston, has acted in 27 Wagons Full of Cotton and Finger Food. She represented Texas in the Poetry Out Loud competition in Washington, D.C.

Kory Pullam (Mark), a freshman from Corpus Christi, appeared in the Big River ensemble at SFA and in Catfish Moon, ¿De Donde?, Suessical the Musical, and Boys Next Door while at Foy H. Moody High School.

Sammy Stanphill (Becky) is a junior from Katy. A BFA performance major, she has acted in This Day Forward and The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie on the Mainstage and Perchance, Happy Mug, and Da’Nile in the Upstage.

Sarah Zabinski (Susan Johnson) a senior from League City, has acted in Big River, Crimes of the Heart, Babes Off Broadway, The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie, and Grease. She is an Original Cast member and has acted in several SFA films.

About the Artistic Staff

Angela Bacarisse (Costume Designer) has designed over 200 productions in academic and professional theatres across the country. Her recent SFA costume designs include The Elephant Man, Big River, Brighton Beach Memoirs, and Driving Miss Daisy. She also designed lights for Crimes of the Heart.

Steve Bacarisse (Assistant Technical Director), who joined the SFA staff this fall, has worked extensively backstage and in the scene shop at the Texas Shakespeare Festival. He also has a background in professional carpentry.

Barbara Blackwell (Costume Shop Supervisor) is in her ninth year as costume shop supervisor. She has also designed or co-designed Tribute, The Member of the Wedding, and Trudi and the Minstrel, and she was Costume Illustrator for The Land of the Dragon.

Christine Branch (Assistant Stage Manager) is a senior from Sugar Land. She has assistant stage managed Brighton Beach Memoirs and stage managed This Day Forward, Catastrophe, The Boy in the Basement and Can-Can.
**Cast List**

Heidi ........................................ Allision Ostrander *
Susan .............................................. Sarah Zabinski *
Peter .................................................. Garrett Cross
Scoop .................................................. J. Kyle Harris
Ensemble .......................................... Daniel Anderson, Arianna Bermudez *,
                                          Brittany Djie, Lucy Drury, Nashanna Gates *,
                                          Kelli Grimes-Baggett, Sarah Hale *,
                                          Caroline G. Harrell *, Jt Hearn, Jazzay Jabbar,
                                          Nicholas Mills, Flosi Jón Ófeigsson,
                                          Jacqueline Pirtle, Kory Pullam, Sammy Stanphill

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**Synopsis of Scenes**

**ACT ONE**

Scene 1: 1965, A high school dance, Chicago
    Chris ............... Nicholas Mills
Scene 2: 1968, Manchester, New Hampshire
    Hippie ...... Flosi Jón Ófeigsson
Scene 3: 1970, A church basement, Ann Arbor, Michigan
    Jill .......... Kelli Grimes-Baggett
    Fran ............... Nash Gates
    Becky .............. Sammy Stanphill
Scene 4: 1974, Outside the Chicago Art Institute
    Debbie ............. Sarah Hale
    Clara .............. Jacqueline Pirtle
    Woman 3 .......... Brittany Djie
    Mark ............... Kory Pullam
Scene 5: 1977, An Anteroom at the Pierre Hotel, New York
    Molly ............... Jazzay Jabbar
    Lisa .............. Caroline G. Harrell

**ACT TWO**

Scene 1: 1980, Scoop & Lisa’s Apartment, New York
    Denise ............... Lucy Drury
    Betsy ............... Brittany Djie
Scene 2: 1982, A TV Studio, New York
    Steve .............. Daniel Anderson
    April .............. Arianna Bermudez
Scene 3: 1984, A Restaurant, New York
    Waiter ...... Flosi Jón Ófeigsson
Scene 4: 1986, The Plaza Hotel, New York
    Sandra Zucker-Hall .... Jacqueline Pirtle
Scene 5: 1987, A Children’s Ward in a NY Hospital, Christmas Eve
    Ray ............... Jt Hearn
Wendy Wasserstein (1950-2006) lived most of her life in New York City. She was educated at Mount Holyoke College and the Yale School of Drama. Her plays include: Uncommon Women and Others, Isn't It Romantic, The Heidi Chronicles, The Sisters Rosensweig, An American Daughter, and Third. She also wrote three books: Bachelor Girls, Shiksa Goddess, and, completed just before her death, The Elements of Style.

The director Andre Bishop wrote, “Wendy’s plays are about many things: friendship, loneliness, independence, achievement. They manage at once to be shrewdly observed and deeply personal. . . . Let me simply say that they are about a generation of women—intelligent, attractive, educated, uncommon women—who, while attempting to deal with their fears and disappointments, manage to define and redefine who they are. At the end of the each play, [her heroines] come to terms with themselves.”

This is certainly true of Heidi Holland, the protagonist of The Heidi Chronicles. In a play that covers almost 25 years, from 1965 to 1989, Heidi stands apart and observes her friends as they move “from the idealism and political radicalism of their college years through militant feminism and, eventually, back to the materialism that they had sought to reject in the first place.” Moreover, Wasserstein astutely places these characters in the larger world by setting her scenes during historic moments in our nation’s turbulent history: 1965, arguably among the last few years of American innocence; 1968, at the beginning of the doomed Eugene McCarthy campaign and the riots and assassinations yet to come; 1970, when everyone’s consciousness was being raised by Est and Esalin and “I’m Okay, You’re Okay”; four years later when Watergate has brought down Richard Nixon; 1980, and the death of John Lennon; and so on. The issues these characters debate, and the choices they make in response to those issues, capture perfectly the “elevator ride from the radical sixties to the heartless eighties.”

But unlike her friends in the play, Heidi learns from what she sees, and follows her own course accordingly. And, as noted, at the end of the play Heidi has come to peaceful terms with her past and now looks forward to the future. Like Wendy Wasserstein herself, Heidi is successful, self-confident, and well respected. She is her own woman.

The Heidi Chronicles began as a workshop production at the Seattle Repertory Theatre and had its New York debut at Playwrights Horizon on December 12, 1988. It transferred to Broadway on March 9, 1989, and subsequently won the Pulitzer Prize, the Tony Award, the New York Drama Critics Circle Award, the Outer Critics Circle Award, and the Drama Desk Award, among others.
About the Artistic Staff (continued)

Austin Chason (Assistant Director) is a junior from Spring. He has assistant directed Side Man and Animal Keepers, and acted in Big River, As You Like It, and The Servant of Two Masters. Austin served as the master electrician for The Elephant Man and Props Master for the 2008 Play Reading Festival.

CC Conn (Lighting and Sound Designer) holds an MFA from Indiana University. Her most recent SFA credits include lights and sound for The Elephant Man, Brighton Beach Memoirs and Driving Miss Daisy, lights for Androcles and the Lion, and sound for Big River and Crimes of the Heart.

Jathan Innerarity (Scenic Designer), a senior from Lindale, has done assistant scenic design for Big River and designed Defacing Michael Jackson and The Rising of the Moon. Jay is the student production technical director and will attend the University of Memphis in the fall to pursue a Master of Fine Arts in Scenic Design.

Nikki Marie Johnson (Master Electrician), a sophomore from Nacogdoches, has designed lights for Defacing Michael Jackson and Line. Nikki was also the light board operator for Brighton Beach Memoirs and Crimes of the Heart.

Aaron Kline (Assistant Hair and Makeup Designer), a junior from Brenham, has served on wardrobe crew for the Original Cast and Defacing Michael Jackson and acted in Androcles and the Lion and Emotional Baggage.

Brittany Nelson (Stage Manager) is a junior from Midlothian. She has stage managed Crimes of the Heart and The Red Key and assistant stage managed Big River, the 2008 Play Reading Festival, and The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie.

Alan Nielsen (Director), a professor of theatre at SFA, is a published author, playwright, and composer/lyricist. He has written and directed for the Original Cast since 1991. He received the Teaching Excellence Award for the College of Fine Arts in 1999 and 2003. A PhD graduate of the City University of New York, he is a member of the Dramatists Guild. Recent SFA directing credits include Androcles and the Lion, Lend Me a Tenor, and Grease.

Courtney Parker (Hair and Makeup Designer) is a senior from Red Oak. At SFA she has done design for Brighton Beach Memoirs, Cornbury, Don't Say a Word, As You Like It, and Blithe Spirit. She also was the wig and makeup intern for the Central City Opera in Central City, CO, for West Side Story and Susannah.

Bree Sturtevant (Assistant Costume Designer), a sophomore from Schertz, has been wardrobe master for Brighton Beach Memoirs and the 2008 Play Reading Festival and on wardrobe crew for Big River and The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie.

Kendall Thompson (Props Master) is a junior transfer from Baytown. She has designed hair and makeup for the Original Cast, been on wardrobe crew for Big River, and been props coordinator for the School of Theatre.

Arrie Allen Tucker (Assistant Stage Manager), a freshman from Nacogdoches, has stage managed Defacing Michael Jackson, Line, Lunch With Ginger, and Emotional Baggage and was production assistant for Brighton Beach Memoirs.
Technical Staff

Technical Director .......................................................... Mark Porter
Costume Shop Supervisor .................................................. Barbara Blackwell
Assistant Technical Director ............................................. Steve Bacarisse
Assistant Stage Managers .................................................. Christine Branch, Arrie Allen Tucker
Assistant Projections Designer .......................................... Miguel Maymí *
Assistant Costume Designer .............................................. Bree Sturtevant
Assistant Hair and Makeup Designer ................................. Aaron Kline
Master Electrician .......................................................... Nikki Marie Johnson
Properties Master ........................................................... Kendall Thompson
Wardrobe Master ........................................................... Jessica Rodriguez
Assistant to the Sound Designer ......................................... Holly Adair *
Light Board Operator ...................................................... Natalia Gutierrez-Borja *
Sound Board Operator ...................................................... Jake Suggs
Projectionist .................................................................... Erin Morris
Scenery Construction ......................................................... Theatre 150 and 350
Props Collection/Run Crew .............................................. Chris Barcus, Becky Cunningham,
.............................................................. Marissa Harding, Katherine Rowe,
.............................................................. Samantha Walker
Fly Rail Operator ............................................................. Josh Turay
Floor Run Crew .............................................................. Janette Bauer, Katie Cleveland,
.............................................................. Christopher Fergurson, Amanda Hirsch,
.............................................................. Kara Killough, Marcos Rodriguez
Light Hang Crew ........................................................... Janette Bauer, Jon Garcia, David Hathway *,
.............................................................. Randy Hill, Lamar Jefferson,
.............................................................. Jasmine LaBome, Robert Meza *
Paint Crew ................................................................. Emmy Harris, Rosie Kolbo,
.............................................................. Lindsay Rigney, Kaitlin Wieseman
Load-In Crew ................................................................. Janett Bauer, Lindsey Fahmi,
.............................................................. Emmy Harris
Costume Construction ..................................................... Theatre 350
Wardrobe Crew .............................................................. Brooke Dennis, Cindy Law, Aiesha Lindsay,
.............................................................. Shaylynn Lynch, Katrina Tarson
House Manager ............................................................. Alicia Earls *
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* Designates a member of the Beta Phi cast of
Alpha Psi Omega,
the national honorary dramatics fraternity

The Heidi Chronicles
is produced by special arrangement by
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Jason Grigsby, Ella Haag, Sarah Hale,
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Caroline Harrell, TD Harris, David Hathway,
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Jay Innerarity, Lamar Jefferson, Aaron Kline,
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