



NEWS RELEASE

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USI THEATRE TO PRESENT CHURCHILL'S MAD FOREST

For Immediate Release
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The University of Southern Indiana Theatre will close its 1994 season in April with Caryl Churchill's *Mad Forest*, a unique exploration of the 1989 Romanian Revolution and the reign of Nicolae Ceausescu.

Mad Forest is performed in three acts focusing on the lives of two ordinary families before, during, and after the revolution. Through the lives of the families the audience learns what life is like under a totalitarian regime -- and even worse, what it is like when the regime collapses and leaves chaos in its place.

Mad Forest, coming on the heels of USI's most successful production, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, continues to portray the anxiety of people bound by oppression. USI Theatre has commissioned Nick Faust to direct Churchill's exploration of this revolution. Faust is a graduate of Webster University and received his M.F.A. from Tulane University. He has directed professional, university, and summer stock theatre across the country, including Phipps Center for the Arts in Hudson, Wisconsin, and Court Theatre at the University of Chicago.

The 31-member cast will be made up by 15 USI actors in multiple roles, depicting the Vladu and Antonescu families, Ceausescu, and those around them. In the cast are J. David Anderson, Jeremy Beck, Casey Bell, Anthony DeVries, Carla Forston, Jack Jones, Kathy Kirsch, Jolie McCraw, Jackie Moorie, Maria Peters, Bob Porch, Chris Riddle, Jim Schellhase, Tara Taylor, and Timothy Paul Taylor (see back side for home towns).

The play opens Thursday, April 7, with performances at 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 7-8-9 and 14-15-16, and at 2 and 7 p.m. Sundaes, April 10 and 17, at the USI Theatre, Barker and Igleheart avenues.

Tickets are \$7 for general admission, \$5 for the USI community and senior citizens. Tickets will be available at the door or in advance by calling 812/465-1668.

Students in cast of *Mad Forest*

INDIANA

Bluffton -

Tara Taylor, 3776 E. 200 South

Ellettsville -

Timothy Paul Taylor, 7450 W. Walker

Evansville -

Casey Bell, 1701 N. St. James

Anthony DeVries, 7025 Spry Road

Jack Jones, 916 SE Second (1985 graduate, Gibson Southern)

Kathy Kirsch, 900 S. Hoenert

Jolie McCraw, 1706 McConnell

Jackie Moore, 4804 Stringtown

Maria Peter, 3330 N. Burkhardt

Bob Porch, 2713 W. Virginia

Jim Schelhase, 319 S. Cullen

Gentryville -

Carla Forston, RR 1

Marengo -

Chris Riddle

Mt. Vernon -

J. David Anderson, 5830 Sailer

Newburgh -

Jeremy Beck, 7300 Oakdale

CONNECTICUT

Ridgefield -

Jackie Moore, 21 Glen Road

OKLAHOMA

Norman -

Jolie McCraw, 3701 Bellwood