



News Release

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WESTERN PRESENTS “HOUSE OF YES”

St. Joseph, Mo. —Oct. 27, 2006—And you thought *your* family was odd?

The second production in the Missouri Western State University’s theatre season, Wendy MacLeod’s “The House of Yes,” opens Nov. 2 at the Black Box Theatre in Thompson E. Potter Hall on Western’s campus. The production begins at 8 p.m. and runs from Nov. 2-4 and 9-11. Matinee performances will be shown at 2 p.m. Nov. 5 and 12. Ticket prices are \$8 for general admission, \$4 for senior citizens and Western students, faculty and staff. Seating is limited. Please call ahead for reservations at 816-271-4443.

An experiment in environmental theatre, “The House of Yes” is a comedic tragedy that follows an upper class family’s destruction from the John F. Kennedy assassination. Marty Pascal, played by Brandon Hylton, Smithville, Mo.; returns home for Thanksgiving dinner to introduce his fiancée, Lesly, played by Amber Redmond of St. Joseph; to his family. Upon arrival, Lesly starts to uncover disturbing family secrets. Audience members can expect the unexpected, warns director Jeremy Warner, instructor of theatre.

The play is a search for one’s identity, dealing with inner secrets, and one’s own sense of family and belonging as overshadowed by the political catastrophes we witness which are warped by the media’s coverage, said Warner. The play is hilariously funny, yet deeply disturbing as it probes the skeletons hidden in a rich family who has cut themselves off from the rest of the upper class.

“I am particularly excited about the show, because the audience will be centered in the action instead of outside the action,” Warner said. “I can guarantee that most people attending this play will have never had a theatre experience like this before, as we step out of the proscenium stage and into the magical realm of environmental theatre.”

“The House of Yes” was originally performed in April 1990 in San Francisco at

the Magic Theatre. It has since been seen in 1993 at the Gate Theatre in London and in 1995 at the SoHo Repertory Theatre in NYC.

Along with Hylton and Redmond, cast members include Christiana Hansen, Omaha, Neb.; Jennifer George, St. Joseph; and Grant Metcalf, Smithville, Mo. Justin Gabbert, St. Joseph, is assistant director, and Matthew Flynn, St. Joseph, is stage manager.

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Missouri Western State University is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The university offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.