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# THEATER@CNU

2008/09 MAINSTAGE

## SEASON



CNU'S DEPARTMENT OF  
THEATER & DANCE



THEATER  
TCNU  
presents

# Summer & Smoke

BY TENNESSEE WILLIAMS



OCTOBER 10-12  
& 17-19, 2008

OCT 10-12  
17-19, 2008

## MUSIC & THEATRE HALL

TheaterCNU begins our new season with a play written by arguably the greatest American playwright of the 20th century, Tennessee Williams. *Summer and Smoke* – written at the same time as his Pulitzer Prize winning play, *A Streetcar Named Desire* – is a bittersweet romance of smoldering and repressed passion set in Glorious Hill, Mississippi right before World War I. The play centers on Miss Alma Winemiller, a young minister's daughter who struggles with her "affliction of love" for the boy next door – the handsome, charming and dissolute Dr. John Buchanan Jr. Their romantic tension arises from John's hedonistic lifestyle, which is in stark contrast to Alma's strict Episcopalian upbringing. What happens during this summer will lead to lives being changed forever in ways no one could have imagined.

## ALL SHOWTIMES:

NOV 14-16  
21-23, 2008  
STUDIO THEATRE

When Paul Rudnick set out to lovingly poke fun at the world of theatre, he aimed for its heart – Shakespeare. The result is an award-winning comedy, centered on TV heart-throb Andrew Rally. After the cancellation of his primetime show, *LA Medical*, Andrew seeks redemption by accepting the role of Hamlet for Shakespeare in the Park. But he soon finds himself in over his head and occupying a medieval style apartment that once belong to John Barrymore, one of the greatest Hamlets of all time. On the verge of quitting the role, Andrew is visited by Barrymore's (very solid) ghost who is determined to pass his legacy on to Andrew, whether he wants it or not! What ensues is a wildly funny duel of wits, egos, and swords over Andrew's future in theatre or television.

THEATER  
TCNU  
presents



I hate  
Hamlet

by PAUL RUDNICK

November 14-16 & 21-23, 2008

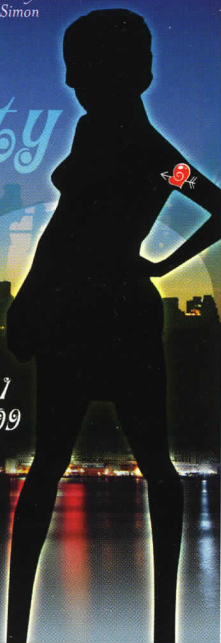


Produced in collaboration with CNU's Department of Music

Music by Cy Coleman,  
Lyrics by Dorothy Fields  
and book by Neil Simon

# Sweet Charity

February 27-March 1  
& March 6-8, 2009



# FEB 27-MAR 1 MAR 6-8, 2009

## MUSIC & THEATRE HALL

Produced in collaboration with  
CNU's Department of Music

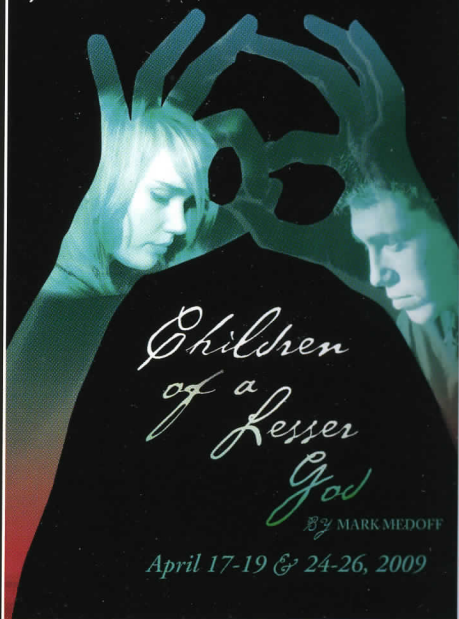
*Sweet Charity* is a musical satire of the romantic adventures (or rather, misadventures) of Charity Agnes Valentine, a dance hall hostess at the Fandango Ballroom in New York City. Charity and the other dance hall girls dream of a better life while propositioning patrons with the musical's most famous number, "Hey Big Spender". Set in the swinging 60's, Charity's adventures with men lead her to encounter: Charlie, a handsome thief; Vittorio Vidal, an Italian film star; and Oscar Lindquist, a shy tax accountant. Come and spend some time with TheaterCNU and enjoy the delightful misadventures of *Sweet Charity*.

**FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS – 8 PM • SUNDAYS – 2 PM**

# APR 17-19 24-26, 2009

## STUDIO THEATRE

Winner of the Tony, Outer Critics Circle and Drama Desk Awards as best play of the season, *Children of a Lesser God* had a highly successful run on Broadway and in Los Angeles and London. This deeply moving, beautifully written play details the passionate romance and stormy marriage of Sarah Norman, a sensitive and spirited young deaf woman, and James Leeds, an idealistic new teacher at the school for the deaf where she works. Their relationship is sparked by James' desire to help Sarah lead a less isolated life by learning how to talk. Come join TheaterCNU as we celebrate the final show of our season with this passionate theatrical experience.



*Children  
of a  
Lesser  
God*

BY MARK MEDOFF

April 17-19 & 24-26, 2009

# ORDER TICKETS TODAY!

[www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

**(757) 872-8100**

**Ferguson Center Ticket Office**

## SHOW PRICES

**\$12** – General Admission

**\$8** – Seniors & CNU faculty/staff

**CNU STUDENTS FREE**

## FERGUSON CENTER

### TICKET OFFICE

**OPEN M – F 10AM – 4PM**

**QUESTIONS? (757) 594-7475**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT**

**<http://theater.cnu.edu>**

# SUPPORT WHAT YOU LOVE! JOIN THE CNU THEATRE GUILD

The CNU Theatre Guild is a non-profit organization designed to enhance and promote the Performance Program of Christopher Newport University and to further the cultural interest of the campus and wider communities.

## CNU Theatre Guild members:

- **Raise funds**
- **Establish and award scholarships**
- **Administer scholarships**
- **Sponsor Guest Artists**
- **Underwrite special performance needs**



## A CNU Theatre Guild Membership

entitles you to ticket vouchers (four for Associate and above; two for Friend) valid for any mainstage TheaterCNU performance for the 2008-09 season.

Membership is tax-deductible and it's easy – *just fill out this short application form and return it with your contribution.*

### LEVELS OF CONTRIBUTION

☐ **Friend (\$50)**

☐ **Associate Single (\$100)**

☐ **Associate Double (\$200)**

☐ **Patron (\$201 - \$499)**

☐ **Sustainer (\$500 - \$999)**

☐ **Sponsor (\$1,000 - \$4,999)**

☐ **Benefactor (\$5,000 - \$9,999)**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**

**CNU THEATRE GUILD**

**1 University Place**

**Newport News, VA 23606**

Make all checks payable to: CNU THEATRE GUILD

# Dear

## THEATER PATRON!

On behalf of The Department of Theater and Dance faculty, staff and students, welcome to the 2008-09 TheaterCNU season and join us in celebrating our fifth year of creating exceptional educational theatre in the magnificent Ferguson Center for the Arts. TheaterCNU is committed to bringing our university and community audiences the highest quality theatrical experience within a liberal arts environment. Your patronage is an essential link in the educational growth of our students and the development of the next generation of theatre artists.

This year's TheaterCNU season presents stories and characters on the threshold of change and transformation. From the smoldering passions of Tennessee Williams' bittersweet romance, *Summer and Smoke*; to the swashbuckling thrills and irreverent humor of *I Hate Hamlet*; the satirical wit and jazz rhythms of the musical, *Sweet Charity*; and finally the poignant and passionate contemporary drama, *Children of a Lesser God*.

This new TheaterCNU season will be a journey of transformation and learning for us all.

Lastly, please take a moment and consider becoming a member of the CNU Theatre Guild. This non-profit organization takes an active role in bringing positive change and transformation to our department and the education of our students.

*See you at the theatre,*

Denise Gillman  
Director of TheaterCNU



2008/09  
mainstage season

VISIT US ONLINE:  
[HTTP://THEATER.CNU.EDU](http://theater.cnu.edu)

ORDER TICKETS  
**TODAY!**  
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Ferguson Center Ticket Office

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