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PARKLAND COLLEGE
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EDGAR LEE MASTERS’
Lie Quiet Sweet,
Here’s The End Of Pain
And The Flowers
To Bring You Back Again

Spoon River Anthology

PARKLAND THEATRE
Parkland College Department of Fine and Applied Arts proudly presents

Edgar Lee Masters' Spoon River Anthology

Adapted by
Charles Aidman

Directors
Randi Jennifer Collins Hard
J.W. Morrissette

Musical Director
Tim Schirmer

Scenic Designer
Adam Rowe

Lighting Designer
Sean Murphy

Costume Designer
Barbara Schoenoff

Technical Director
David G. Dillman

April 11, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21 at 8 pm
April 22 at 3 pm
Parkland College Theatre
2007

Produced by special permission from Samuel French, Inc.
The Cast

David Barkley
Aaron Clark*
Ruben Painter, Harry Willmans, Elijah Browning

David Dillman
Fiddler Jones, Willard Fluke, Batterton Dobyns

Hannah Doty*
Rosie Roberts, Emily, Mrs. Purkapile, Mabel Osbourne

Patty Dudley
Pauline Barrett, Mrs. Williams, Hannah Armstrong

Jake Foster*
Statue

Christiana Frosberg*
Nellie Clark, Aner Clute, Wertman

Joshua Gegg*
Statue

Al Heckman
Eugene Carmen, Franklin Jones, Doctor Meyers, Deacon Taylor

Holly Humphrey*
Statue

Reuben Ivy*
Shack Dye, Abel Mellvaney, Frank Drummer

Lisa Krohn
Mrs. Kessler, Amanda Barker, Emily Sparks

Lincoln Machula
Walter Simmons, Enoch Dunlap, Fletcher McGee, Barney Hainsfeather

Lindsey Markel
Lydia Puckett, Nancy Knapp, Faith Matheney

Brad Mehrtens
Benjamin Painter, Roscoe Purkapile, Judge Seleh Lively

Breelyn Mehrtens
Margaret Fuller Slack, Lois Spears, Daisy Fraser

Charles Mericke*
Statue

Thom Miller
Higbee, George Gray, Silas Dement, Rev. Sibley

Michelle Mills
Mrs. Benjamin Painter, Anne Rutledge, Minerva Jones, Mrs. Charles Bliss

Anne Moore*
Russian Sonia, Zilipha Marsh, Mrs. Sibley

Janice Moore
Dora Williams, Ida Frickey, Flossie Cabanis

Mike Prose
Greene, William, Hoheimer, Petit the Poet, Willie Metcalf

Nick Schneider
Thorn Beatty, Alexander Throckmorton, Indignation Jones, Lucias Atherton

Angela Schneider
Ollie Mcgee, Mrs. Myers, Lucinda Matlock

Noah Ward*
Searcy Foote, Hod Putt, Henry Phipps

Rob Zaleski*
A.D. Blood, Village Atheist, Hortense Robbins

Musicians
Rebecca Grosser ... Guitar
Bill Kirby ... Bass
Laura Sleade ... Fiddle

Hilary Valentine ... Dulcimer, Penny Whistle

Act I
There will be a 10-minute intermission

Act II

* Theatre Major
"You're haunted, you're hunted,
wherever you roam-
Spoon River, Spoon River is
calling you home."

This play, like so many other great works of the theatre, finds its inspiration from a work that was never intended to be a play at all. The fictional town of Spoon River comes to us from a collection of Edgar Lee Masters' free verse poetry. Published originally in 1915, Masters' Spoon River Anthology consists of over 200 brief poems where the imaginary inhabitants of Spoon River are given the ability to speak from the grave about their past lives. The pieces serve to create a moving pastiche of small town American life with all its joys, successes, failures, ironies, and even sordidness.

Masters was born in 1869 in Garnett, Kansas. At the age of 12 he moved with his family to Lewistown in Fulton County, Illinois. With the presence of an actual Spoon River in Fulton County it can be safely assumed that the fictional people that Masters presented are in actuality a mixture of observation and invention. In fact, legend asserts that after spending the majority of his adult life in Chicago, Masters chose not to return to Lewistown because residents there were angered and even embarrassed by their representative treatment in Spoon River Anthology.

This adaptation by Charles Aidman not only captures the spirit of Masters' original work but also manages to cast its own mystical spell through live performance. That may seem to be a contradiction—a live performance of a collection of voices from the grave—but in truth there are very few things as vibrantly theatrical as hearing people look back on the whole of their lives and sharing their thoughts, feelings, and frustrations on how it all turned out. We hope you enjoy our presentation of this timeless work.

"All, all are sleeping,
sleeping, sleeping on
the hill."

Production Staff

Stage Manager.......................... Dana Stremming
Assistant Stage Manager.............. Yen Vi Ho
Master Electricians.................... Bernard Wolff, Charles Mierickle*
Assistant Master Electrician........ Cailyn Arnott*
Light Board Operator................ Rachel Ladd*
Run Crew................................ Zach Lutz*
Make-up Run Crew..................... William Rose II*
Spotlight Operator...................... Alexandra Tilford
Costume Run Crew..................... Elaine Richardson*


Ticket Office Manager............... Dallas Street
Assistant Ticket Office Manager..... Zach Lutz*
House Manager....................... Jill Rannebarger
Assistant House Manager............. Jarrod Sophrer*

* Theatre Major
The Cast

David Barkley (Hill, Singer)
David hopes this show brings everyone rest and peace.

Aaron Clark* (Ruben Painter, Harry Willman, Elijah Browning)
Aaron is thrilled to return to the Parkland stage once again. You may have seen him recently as the director of A Christmas Story and in Untitled/Love/Affair in A Weekend of One Acts. Aaron is a theatre scholarship student at Parkland College and plans to go on to school to receive his bachelor's degree in technical theatre somewhere this fall. Aaron would like to thank his family and friends for all their support over the years here in C-U and give a special thanks to Yen Vi for her love over the past year. "Sorry honey, but maybe next year we won't be doing a show on our anniversary! Love ya!"

David Dillman (Fiddler Jones, Willard Fluke, Batterton Dobyns)
David is doing it again: pulling double duty, as if he didn't already have enough to do. But like Randi says, all he really wants to do is act. As Parkland Theatre's technical director, his past credits include Labors of Love, Little Shop of Horrors, Sunday in the Park with George, among many others. His acting credits? Well, he won't go into those right now, but you've seen him here and there. David earned his associate arts in theatre and both his bachelor and masters in fine arts at the University of Illinois in the Department of Theatre. "Still love you, Randi and Tim, for just being who you are." And most of all, to the one who keeps him close to the theater, his wife Debby. "So, Spoon River, call me home. Enjoy the show!"

Hannah Doty* (Rosie Roberts, Emily, Mrs. Purkapile, Mabel Osborne)
Hannah absolutely loves being played as Mabel Pussy, but is sad that this is her final Parkland show. She has been lucky enough to appear in Bat Boy: The Musical, Play On!, That Takes Ovaries!, The Mousetrap, Urinetown: The Musical, and Black Coffee. Next fall, Hannah is transferring to Illinois State, majoring in theatre education. She has had a wonderful time at Parkland, and would like to thank Randi, J.W., Tim, Dillman, Dallas, and all the other terrific people she's met. Miss you already!

Patty Dudley (Pauline Barrett, Mrs. Williams, Hannah Armstrong)
Patty has been directing theatre for the last 25 years after studying theatre, music, and dance in Chicago, Virginia, and Illinois State University. This is her debut on the Parkland stage and she is thrilled to work with this great cast and its talented directors. Patty has been a radio announcer for 19 years at WBGL radio.

Jake Foster* (Statue)
"This is my second show at Parkland and I love every minute of it—they got me out from behind the scenes. As Randi has said, 'there is something to say for an actor without lines,' and I am here as proof. I have portrayed only one other dead person, Jacob Marley, and enjoyed it immensely. Thanks for the once in a lifetime opportunity, Randi; performance art is fun!"

Christiana Frosberg* (Nellie Clark, Aner Clute, Wertman)
Christiana is a Parkland theatre major and this will be her second show at Parkland Theatre. She recently was in Untitled/Love/Affair in A Weekend of One Acts, but is excited to being doing a larger show with a tremendous cast. Christiana believes she could not have gotten this far in life without the love and support of her family and friends. She would like to dedicate this performance to her Godmother Pearl who has pushed her to be the best.

Joshua Gegg* (Statue)
Joshua is in his fourth show and fourth semester at Parkland, transferring to ISU come autumn. After all that, he seems to have run out of things to say in theatre bios. Therefore he would just like to thank his friends, his parents (There, I mentioned you!), his directors, and his girlfriend for being the "good parts" of the last two years.

Al Heckman (Eugene Carmen, Franklin Jones, Doctor Meyers, Deacon Taylor)
Al has enjoyed getting to know these quirky residents of Spoon River whom he suspects he'll have the opportunity to meet in "person" sooner than most members of this cast! Other favorite roles he has performed on the Parkland stage include Bently in The Winner, Mrs. Boyle in Mousetrap, the Pope in Nunsense, Errorious in A Funny Thing Happened... and Cardiologist at Christie Cili... No wait... that was in another life! No wait... that was in a whole other life!

Holly Humphrey* (Statue)
This is Holly's second appearance on the Parkland stage. She first appeared in A Weekend of One Acts as Becca. She would like to thank Randi and J.W. for that great opportunity. A big thanks to family for being so patient with her in this busy time.

Reuben Ivy* (Shack Dye, Abel Mellvaney, Frank Drummer)
"A young, aspiring actor from Chicago, I enjoy writing poems, music, and making music. I hope to become the next best thing in the world of acting. I love to act because it gives me a chance to escape from the real world. Acting is not only a hobby for me, it's a way of life."

Lisa Krohn (Mrs. Kessler, Amanda Barker, Emily Sparks)
This is Lisa's first appearance acting on the Parkland stage or on any stage. She took a long, circuitous route to theatre, but she is very happy to be here now. She would like to thank directors Randi and J.W. She would also especially like to thank Emilie, for everything, no matter what.
Lincoln Machula (Walter Simmons, Enoch Dunlap, Fletcher McGee, Barnie Hainsfeather)
Lincoln is happy to be alive. He is grateful to Randi and J.W. for allowing him to be part of this lovely cast in this amazing play. He has appeared in various productions at the Parkland Theatre, the Station Theatre, and the Rantoul Theatre Group. “Whatever you are, be a good one.” — A. Lincoln

Lindsey Markel (Lydia Puckett, Nancy Knapp, Faith Matheney)
Lindsey is pleased as (dead) punch to be making her debut on the Parkland stage. Thanks, J.W. and Randi! She was recently seen in Suburbia and Three Sisters at the Station Theatre, and is a former Irene Ryan nominee. “All the ether of God and whatnot” to her family and to Larry.

Brad Mehrten (Benjamin Painter, Roscoe Purkapile, Judge Seleh Lively)
Brad was recently involved in Parkland’s A Weekend of One Acts and is very excited about participating in this wonderful production. Special thanks go to our duo of dynamic directors, and all the other fabulous Parkland people who make these shows successful and may or may not get their names in the program. By day, Brad is a relatively mild-mannered biology teacher at U of I, although his primary interest is hunting antelope. Well, one antelope in particular, and it’s mostly a catch-and-release program. “Enjoy the show, and may the force be with you.”

Breelyn Mehrten (Margaret Fuller Slack, Lois Spears, Daisy Fraser)
Breelyn is thrilled to have her first speaking role as a woman on the Parkland stage. Other show credits here include props master for Black Coffee, Ne in Batsboy: the Musical, and Miss Muse in Skin of Our Teeth. Breelyn credits all her acting latent to her acting teacher, J.W., and her three idols: A.J., M.M., and Beavis. “All of my love to my wonderful, winsome and witty Lion. Thanks to both directors, cast, crew, and statues! See you in the car!”

Charles Miericke (Statue)
Charles has appeared on Parkland’s stage in three shows this season. He feels very fortunate to work with such talented people. He would like to thank Randi and J.W. for casting him in the show. “Break a leg.”

Thom Miller (Higbee, George Gray, Silas Dement, Rev. Sibley)
Thom Miller received his B.A. (performance) and M.F.A. (playwriting) from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. He recently directed his one-act play, Untitled Love/Affair for Parkland’s A Weekend of One Acts. This is his second appearance on the Parkland stage, having appeared as Prior Walter in Angels in America: Millennium Approaches. “Thanks to all my friends at The Fitness Center for making me laugh, and a special thanks to the Big Guy for all his support in my theatrical endeavors.”

Michelle Mills (Mrs. Benjamin Painter, Anne Rutledge, Minerva Jones, Mrs. Charles Bliss)
This is Michelle’s first time on the Parkland stage, having disappeared behind it as stage manager for Skin of Our Teeth and Urinetown. “Many thanks to Randi and J.W. for letting me step out front once again.”

Anne Moore (Russian Sonia, Zilpah Marsh, Mrs. Sibley)
Anne is a first-year theatre scholarship student. Though she has done a lot of theatre locally, this is her first show on the Parkland stage. She was most recently seen as Elizabeth in Rantoul’s Playing with Fire after Frankenstei. “Thanks to Randi, J.W., Mom, and the Techies. Josh-wo ai ni!”

Janice Moore (Dora Williams, Ida Frickey, Flossie Cabanis)
This is Jan’s first appearance on the Parkland stage, although she has appeared in various productions in Champaign County, usually performing with Rantoul Theatre Group. She is excited to be a part of the Spoon River cast and hopes you like the show. When not doing theatre, she is a teacher at Lincoln’s Challenge Academy, or spending time with her family which includes her daughter Anne, who is also a member of the cast.

Mike Prose (Greene, William, Hoheimer, Petit the Poet, Willie Metcalf)
Mike was last seen at Parkland in Richard Morris’ one act Visiting Hour This June, he will be playing Brick in Cat on a Hot Tin Roof at the Station Theatre. “Lots of love to my BKR.”

Nick Schneider (Thom Beatty, Alexander Throckmorton, Indignation Jones, Lucas Atherton)
“Well there’s no picture of me hanging on the wall of the set and they can’t kill me off since the characters I portray are already dead. As a fill-in for Damn Yankees, this is a wonderful piece of theatre, and I’m sure you’ll be warmly entertained and enriched by the messages from the grave. For me, it’s great to once again be on stage with my lovely and talented wife, Angela, and I hope we’ll have 70 years together as did Lucinda and Davis.”

Angela Schneider (Ollie McGee, Mrs. Myers, Lucinda Matlock)
It was 50 years ago in Buffalo, New York, that Angela auditioned for a high school play that led to a best actress award and a four-year scholarship to Mercy College of Detroit. There, she not only earned her degree in speech and drama education, but she also won the heart of her Romeo, whom she met on stage. Their joint acts include the four children they raised, and the five grandchildren they enjoy. Nick and Angela will celebrate their 43rd anniversary on July 4, and the fact that they are together on stage tonight is testimony to the love and respect they have for each other and the theatre.

Noah Ward (Searcy Foote, Hod Putt, Henry Phipps)
This is Noah’s second time on the Parkland Stage, having previously appeared in the show Urinetown the Musical. You may recognize his work from such films as Police Academy: Centennial, Lethal Weapon 12, The Matrix: Crashed, The Whole
Twenty Yards, Superman IX: The Quest For World Peace, Jaws 12: Killer Nurse Sharks, Star Trek 12: The Final Final Frontier, Rocky 12, Blair Witch 9: Scary Forest, Speed 6: Runaway Bicycle, and Alien vs. Predator vs. Killer Cheese Creatures, all of which were shown only in select theatres...in the series creator's minds...Noah would like to thank America for watching cruddy sequels to dead franchises, the chance to work with Randi Hard, an amazing director, his family for their...support, and most of all, Elain, for constantly trying to make him into a better actor.

Rob Zaleski* (A.D. Blood, Village Atheist, Hortense Robbins)
Here lies Rob Zaleski; entertainer of sorts whose antics brought forth laughter among those who knew him best. Theatre goers may fondly remember him as the sassy nurse Barry in Visiting Hour, Richard Amory in Black Coffee, Scut Farkas in Christmas Story, "the guy wearing no shirt" in Angels in America. May he rest peacefully, and finally get some sleep. He'll sorrowfully miss Sarah Z, Ashley K, and his parents and friends.

Staff

Randi Jennifer Collins Hard (Director)
Randi is the artistic director of the Parkland College Theatre, program director, and professor of theatre at Parkland. Her directing career includes over 70 plays and musicals, including 19 world premieres. Parkland directing credits include Visiting Hour, Publish It, That Takes Ovaries, The Exonerated, The Skin of Our Teeth, Assassins, The Laramie Project, Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round, Crimes of the Heart, Sunday in the Park with George, Little Shop of Horrors, Company, Ten Minute Plays, Stories Like Ours, Man of La Mancha, Five Golden Rings, Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill, Agnes of God, Sweeney Todd, Labours of Love, Mrs. Coney, Chicago, and Futures. Other local directing credits include The Book of Dreams and Man of La Mancha at the Summerfest Dinner Theatre and The Book of Dreams, The Journey of the Fifth Horse, Burn This, Tartuffe, and The Odd Couple for the University of Illinois, Illinois Repertory Theatre at the Krannert Center. "Many thanks to all the brilliant and hard working designers, technicians, actors, students and volunteers who contribute so much to the success of this production. A special thanks to my co-director, J.W. Morrisette."

J.W. Morrisette (Director)
J.W. is currently the assistant program coordinator of the University of Illinois' Inner Voices Social Issues Theatre as well as an instructor in the Parkland College theatre department. He received his B.F.A. in acting from Otterbein College in Westerville, Ohio. After working as a casting director's assistant in New York, he moved to Chicago to tour with a children's puppet theatre. He completed his M.F.A. at the University of Illinois and remained in school to receive his M.A. in theatre history. He is ecstatic to be directing again at Parkland College where his earlier direction includes A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Nunsense, 1776, Sherlock's Last Case, The Mousetrap and Black Coffee. He also acted as the Emcee in Parkland's production of Cabaret. "A special thanks to Randi and Tim—partners in crime, indeed, and to all the cast and crew for their incredible talent and dedication." To his family Ann Marie, Miranda, and Olivia: Dad will be home again soon, and he really means it this time.

Barbara T. Schoenoff (Costume Designer)
Barbara returns for her seventh production at Parkland Theatre. Her previous credits include Black Coffee, The Mousetrap, Sunday in the Park with George, 1776, and Skin of Our Teeth. Ms. Schoenoff received her MFA in theatre design from Northwestern University. She has designed costumes for over a hundred plays including A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Matchmaker, Peer Gynt, and Romeo and Juliet. She has taught and designed for the University of Wisconsin, Wesleyan University, Northwestern University, University of Illinois, Parkland College, and Interlochen Fine Arts Camp. Barbara received the USAA award for Design Excellence for her production of Othello.

Adam Rowe (Scenic Designer)
Adam Rowe is thrilled to be returning to Parkland as the scenic designer for Spoon River Anthology. He has been with Parkland in seasons prior as the scenic designer for The Skin of Our Teeth, Assassins, Cabaret, and The Laramie Project. Adam is working on a new television series for AMC called Mad Men. This is his first television series, but he has painted for television commercials for DLH, LensCrafters, and Nike. He was the art director for the American Film Institute thesis film Traces; a set dresser for the exhibit "Noah's Park" at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles; as well as the assistant art director for publications issued in Allure, In Style, and The New Yorker magazines. Adam has also worked as the assistant scenic designer for the Denver Center for the Performing Arts as well as freelance designer for the United Artist Movie Theater, Seaside Music Theater, and Modern Muse Theatre Company. He was awarded the Baumann Technical Apprentice Award in 2004 from the Santa Fe Opera.

Sean Murphy (Lighting Designer)
Sean has been involved with the Parkland College Theatre since A Child's Christmas in Wales, in 2000 and most recently as lighting designer for last season's production of Batboy: the Musical. He joined the Nikolai Dance Theatre in 1986 as production manager and lighting director. Since that time he has toured with dance companies including; the Joffrey Ballet, the Trisha Brown Dance Company, Rudolf Nureyev, Ekaterina Maximova & Vladimir Vasilev, and the Paris Opera Ballet Ensemble. He has worked with Savion Glover and his company, Not Your Ordinary Tappers, in New York City. Theatrical projects...
include "Bring in Da Noise, Bring in Da Funk" and "Medea." Mr. Murphy formed a local lighting consulting firm, Sean Murphy LIGHTS, Inc., with the goal of increasing appreciation through illumination. LIGHTS, Inc. projects include the Ko Fusion Restaurant located in the One Main Building, and more. Sean, and his wife Sara Hook, live in Champaign with their daughter Melanie and two dogs, Ralph and Alice.

Dana Stremming (Stage Manager)
Dana is thrilled to be back on her home stage at Parkland College Theatre. Past productions include stage managing "Nunsense," "Story Theatre," "Cabaret," and "Sylvia." Outside of Parkland, Dana has worked at The Little Theatre on the Square in Sullivan as an assistant stage manager for "It's Always Time for Christmas" the properties mistress for the 2005 summer season that included shows such as "42nd Street," "Swing!," "Disney's Beauty and the Beast," "The Fiddler on the Roof," and "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." Also, Dana worked at The Little Theatre as a properties mistress and production assistant for the 2006 Christmas production, "Plaid Tidings," as well as a stitcher in the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts' costume shop. Dana is currently pursuing a B.S. in advertising at the University of Illinois and will be graduating in May 2007. She would like to thank Randi and J.W. for giving her the opportunity to come back to work on her favorite stage. Dana would also like to thank her parents and friends for all of their love and support.

Yen Vi Ho (Assistant Stage Manager)
Yen Vi is happy to be ASM again for a Parkland show and will be pursuing a bachelor's in technical theatre next fall. Thank you to all her friends who made the semester go by quicker and a huge thank you to Aaron for his patience and for always being there."An lam em vui lam voi em thuong an nhieu."

*Theatre major
Tickets
All seats for theatre events are available by reservation. Reservations may be made by calling 217/351-2528 or sending e-mail to theatre@parkland.edu. The ticket office is open two hours before every performance. Discount prices are available to students, school children, senior citizens, and organized groups of 15 or more. For information on group sales please call 217/373-3874.

Rentals
The theatre can be rented for conferences, lectures, musical events, dance concerts, and theatrical productions. Rental of the space can be daily or weekly. In addition, props, costumes, and stock scenery are available for rent. Please call 217/353-2341 for more information.

Volunteers
Parkland College is your community college theatre. We would like to meet you and welcome your help backstage on our productions. Opportunities exist for building and painting scenery, hanging lights, make-up and hair, sewing and costuming, making props, and ushering. No experience is necessary. We also encourage high school students interested in the arts to experience the process firsthand. Please call 217/351-2531 for more information.

Parking
Parking lots C4 and M1 are adjacent to the theatre. Allow extra time for parking on the Wednesday and Thursday evening performances while college classes are in session.

House Policies
• All tickets are for general admission, non-reserved seating with the exception of groups of 15 or more who, with advance purchase of tickets, may have a block of seats reserved.
• Taking photographs or using recording devices during the performance is strictly prohibited. In consideration of our seated patrons and performers, latecomers will be seated at the discretion of the house manager.
• Please, no eating, drinking, or smoking in the theatre. Cough drops are available from the ushers as a courtesy to our patrons.
• Please turn off all cellular telephones and pagers before the performance begins.

Contributions
Tax deductible monetary gifts can be made through the Parkland College Foundation in support of the theatre. Your gift can be for general support or you may specify that it be used to support individual awards. The Randall Millas Theatre Scholarship Fund provides tuition, books, and fees for one year to a sophomore theatre major. The Theatre Production Award Fund provides a cash award for a student who excels in technical theatre production. The Susan and Derek Kraybill Musical Theatre Award provides a cash award for a music student with exceptional participation in musical theater productions. Please call 217/351-2529 for more information.
Donation of clothing, furniture, hats, jewelry, shoes, and other accessories are appreciated for use in our theatre productions and may be arranged by calling 217/351-2531.

Comments
Your opinions are very important to us! If you have a compliment, criticism, or suggestion, please call us at 217/351-2529 or write to Parkland College Theatre, 2400 West Bradley Avenue, Champaign, IL 61821-1899.