OUR TOWN
BY THORNTON WILDER
DIRECTED BY LISA DENMAN

September 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, October 1 at 7:30 p.m.
September 25 and October 2 at 2:00 p.m.

Jones Theatre

"This is the way we were—
in our growing up
and in our marrying,
and in our living,
and in our dying"
Dramaturg's Notes

When I was a high school student, I remember being told that on any given day in America some theatre somewhere was doing Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*. The status of this play as chestnut of all chestnuts was well-established by then. After winning the Pulitzer Prize in 1938, *Our Town* became beloved around the nation and by the 1960s was well-established as the quintessential high school play. We did it in high school. Many of you may have as well.

But *Our Town* deserves a better fate than amateur theatrics. Wilder's masterpiece is one of the great plays of the twentieth century. It is richly poetic and deeply modern. Wilder commented once that *Our Town* is written from the point of view of an archeologist. “An archeologist’s eyes” he said, “combine the view of the telescope with the view of the microscope. He reconstructs the very distant with the help of the very small.” For this reason, the playwright offers us here on the stage reminders of big ideas like geology, history, and theology, alongside small and often tender scenes of simple people in the midst of life. He invites us to reflect upon the significance of a single human life span considered against the ages of the planet or the life cycle of a star. It is hard—even dizzying—to examine our short lives as we live them, the play asserts, and yet it is imperative that we try.

If you have ever been a daughter or son, a school friend, a spouse, a parent—if you have ever fallen in love, or lost a loved one—if you have ever asked hard questions about the meaning of your life—then—*Our Town* is talking to you. The play speaks to all of us. Not just through sentimentality, a claim often leveled against *Our Town*, but through a very modern sense of heightened theatricality and intellectual curiosity. So to all of you who have pews with this old chestnut of an American drama, I say, “Welcome back to *Our Town*.” May you see it today with new eyes.

— DeAnna Toten Beard, PhD

*Scene Design by Amber Pollex*  
*Costume Design by Sally Lynn Askins*

*Light Design by Robert Bradley*  
*Sound Design by Cody Redding*

Technical Director Michael Schmalz  
Assistant Technical Director Adam Redmer

*Makeup Design by Sarah Baloch*  
Assistant Director Whitney Smith

*Student design in partial fulfillment of the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Design*

CAST

Stage Manager.......................... Kelsey Scott  
Dr. Gibbs ................................. Austin Terrell
Joe Crowell/Si Crowell .................. Jeff Wisnoski
Howie Newsome ........................... Andrew Worley
Mrs. Gibbs ............................... Sarah Lynn Pais
Mrs. Webb ............................... Sarahlynn Svoboda
George Gibbs ............................ Lincoln Thompson
Rebecca Gibbs ............................ Caitlin Tray
Wally Webb .............................. Jonny Andrews
Emily Webb .............................. Laura Youngkin
Professor Willard ....................... Stephanie Browning
Mr. Webb .................................. Jared Eaton
Simon Stimmson ........................ Brad Harris
Mrs. Soames .............................. Natalie Whatley
Constable Warren ....................... Noel Collins
Sam Craig/Ensemble .................... Trey Henry
Joe Stoddard/Ensemble ................ Kevin Lee
Ms. Corcoran/Ensemble ............... Heather Hampton
Ensemble ................................. Michael Summers
Ensemble ................................. Cassie Bann

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.
PRODUCTION CREW

Stage Manager Allie Hahn
Assistant Stage Manager Carl Booker
Assistant Costume Designer Marissa Marchioni
Assistant Sound Designer Amanda Sasser
Master Carpenter Ernest Petru
Master Electrician Carrie Phalen
Paint Charge Amber Pollex
Props Master Chad Girndt
Light Board Operator Amanda Wray
Sound Board Operator Amanda Sasser
Deck Crew Cristina Madero
Publicity/House Heather Hampton

CREWS

Scenery
Matthew James, Austin Terrell

Electrics
Robert Bradley, Allie Hahn, Cody Redding, Lindsey Christian,
Matthew Clark, Christopher Eastland, Trey Henry, Trey Jackson,
Tyler Johnson, Ryan Joyner, Mary Laws, Nicholas McMinn,
John Murdock, Meredith Owens, Lisa Stucker, Michael Summers,
Lincoln Thompson, Cynthia White, Amanda Wray

Costume
Stephanie Browning, Brandon Daughtry, Sarah Pais,
Natalie Whatley, Blair Womble, Deborah Benesh, Dustin Chaffin,
Noel Collins, Liz Conly, Jared Eaton, Clayton Ellis, Kenitha Ellison,
Erica Ferguson, Paige Herrick, Samuel Hough, Brittany Howard,
Michelle James, Jesse Kowalski, Justin Locklear, Patrick Matzig,
Jean McCarthy, Louise McCartney, Matt McGuire, Kat McMullen,
Amy Polk, Jackie Rez, Shelley Rodriguez, Meg Sandvick,
Joshua Sellers, Joseph Shovack, Marley Singletary, Jeff Wisnoski

Makeup
Caitlin Tray, Lacy Lynch, Mimi McBride, Shelly Rodriguez,
Marley Singletary, Blair Womble

Publicity and House
Kemper Beard, Christina Cigala, Lauren Kelly, Mary Laws,
Madeline Alison, Sky Bennett, Marylee Carney, Lindsay Ehrhardt,
Kendall Foote, Stephanie Formas, Mollie Gallipeau, Zach Krohn,
Joey Melcher, Rob Shelton
Next on Baylor mainstage...

Baylor University Theatre and
The American Actors Company
presents
Heathen Valley
October 14-16, 18-22
and
Marin Mazzie in concert
One Night Only!
October 21

for ticket information call
Baylor Theatre Box Office 254-710-1861

BAYLOR THEATRE LECTURE SERIES
presents
DeAnna Toten Beard, Ph.D.
OUR TOWN and Modernism
Friday, September 23, 2005
Jones Theatre
3:00-4:00 p.m.

Waco Performing Arts Alliance

September 30, 2005 (Friday)
10am & 1pm

Mame- October 14, 2005 (Friday)
7:30pm

Bebo Norman in Concert- October 16, 2005
(Monday)

Box Office 254-752-9797

The Art Gallery and Museum will be open 30 minutes before
the Baylor Theatre 2005-2006 Season productions.
The Mission of Baylor University is to educate men and women for worldwide leadership and service by integrating academic excellence and Christian commitment within a caring community.

The Mission of the Department of Theatre Arts is to prepare students for theatre arts related fields by integrating excellence in traditional scholarship and artistic creativity with a Christian worldview. The mission of the Baylor Theatre is to act as a cultural laboratory which engages the university, the larger community of artist scholars, and the world.

FACULTY AND STAFF

Stan Denman, Ph.D., Chair, Directing
Sally Lynn Askins, M.F.A., Costume Design
Marion Castleberry, Ph.D., Graduate Director; Directing
Bill G. Cook, M.F.A., Professor, Theatre Generalist
Lisa Denman, M.F.A., Acting
Joshua Gilliam, B.F.A., Adjunct Faculty
Melissa Johnson, M.A., Musical Theatre
Steven Founders, M.F.A., Acting
Carolyn D. Roark, Ph.D., Theory & Criticism
Michael Schmalz, M.F.A., Technical Director
Michael Schraeder, M.F.A., Acting
William T. Sherry, M.F.A., Scene Design
Meredith Sutton, B.F.A., Dance & Choreography
DeAnna Toten Beard, Ph.D., Theatre History & Dramaturgy
Renee Cluke, Administrative Assistant
Sherra Cornett, M.F.A., Festival Director
Dawn Kane, Stitcher
Sue Koehler, Office Coordinator
Ernest Petru, Scene Shop Foreman
Carrie Phalen, B.F.A., Master Electrician
Elizabeth Huston, Box Office Coordinator
Adam Redmer, M.F.A., Assistant Technical Director