Mr. Burns A Post Electric Play
By Anne Washburn
Directed by Carly McMinn

University of Idaho
College of Letters, Arts and Social Sciences
Department of Theatre Arts
Hartung Theatre | Moscow, Idaho | March 4-12, 2022
www.uitheatre.com
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As we enter the 24th month of living with the COVID pandemic, it’s not hard to see what our world could develop into after reading this play. In a time where we’ve had to quarantine with loved ones, friends are giving each other COVID, you can’t trust who you once did and nothing and nowhere is safe anymore. This play is a prophecy and a warning of what could happen if we let things get worse.

I think what Anne Washburn is saying with this play is that art is vital to life. Especially after devastation and loss. We cope as a community with art. There’s a reason why theater has been a dying art form for thousands of years, and yet it’s been one of the few cultural constants we’ve had in our history as a human race. These characters just want to create something again; create a world that doesn’t look like what they’re having to deal with daily and doesn’t have the everyday dangers and worries.

Our dramaturg, Carolyn Murray, has observed that this play reminds her of a triptych – a three-paneled piece of art hinged together, often displaying complex images and scenes. Carolyn explained that if you lean in there is so much going on and it’s hard to see how each panel is related. But if you lean out and see the complete piece, it’s easier to see the relationship. Lately, I feel like we’re all leaned in very close to life and it’s hard to see past the chaos and unknown. I hope this play is a reminder to take a moment and lean back; see the bigger picture, reflect on everything we’ve been through, and remember how we are all connected. To move forward, we must do so together.

I am so thankful to be back in the rehearsal room. This play is the perfect return from being confined to digital theatre; it’s an ensemble piece at its heart and a celebration of the craft so many of us have chosen to dedicate our lives to. Thank you in advance for going on this journey with us and indulging us as we return to the age-old question: “why theatre?”

Carly McMinn, MFA Candidate
Director, “Mr. Burns A Post Electric Play”

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If you lived past the existence of electricity, what TV show would you want to reconstruct from memory?

Anne Washburn has described the genesis of this play as her exploration of what happens to a TV show’s meaning when it is no longer accessible first-hand; when it exists only in the memories of those who watched it. “Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play” is a triptych of three places along this new world’s journey from telling stories around a fire, to a touring company fighting for the best memories, and finally to the place where what was once a satirical comedy has become a high art, formalized ritual that evokes their apocalyptic past with the only icons they have left, the cast of The Simpsons.

This is a play that asks deep questions about how our cultural artifacts, and specifically the stories we tell to and with each other, are our attempts to grapple with an increasingly dangerous world. The play’s leaps-through-time throw a focus to the transformations of this TV show through eight decades of a post-electric world where it can only exist as told by the survivors, and then the performances the survivors create, and finally the rituals of theatre makers far into the future clinging to what shards they have left of a world long gone.

In the last two years, many in the theatre world have had to find a way to re-imagine how to do theatre entirely mediated through a screen. We have grieved the loss of communal feeling that only a live and present audience can bring to a performance, but we have also discovered new and different ways to tell stories. This play ponders the opposite: no screens just raw theatre; Performers on a stage finding ways to make imaginary worlds more real. This play throws into relief like the gas footlights of a 19th century theatre on the faces of the performers, our deep need to have communal stories; to come together to make sense of what is happening; to push back the darkness with our collective creation of art.

“Mr. Burns A Post Electric Play,” an apocalyptic tale, at times musical, and often funny, invites you on a mysterious journey through a speculative future world that somehow has much to say to our current one.

Carolyn Murray, MFA Candidate
Dramaturg, “Mr. Burns A Post Electric Play”
Mr. Burns A Post Electric Play

CAST
Matt/Homer .......................................................... BLAKE PRESNELL
Gibson/Burns .......................................................... TY HARRINGTON
Sam/Itchy .............................................................. LUKE MCGREEVY
Jenny/Scratchy ........................................................ KYLIE MORRIS
Maria/Marge .......................................................... DAISY ERSKINE
Colleen/Lisa ............................................................ KALYSSA MONTOYA
Quincy/Bart ........................................................... GRACE MCGREEVY
Understudy ............................................................ TUCKER HOLLAND

World Builders
BRENNEN COULSON, AVALYNN CREASER,
MALACHI DODSON, ERIN HESTER,
EVAN LINDEMOOD, KARI WILSEY

ARTISTIC TEAM
Director ........................................................................ CARLY MCMINN*
Music Director .......................................................... DAN POPPEN+
Scenic Designer/Scenic Charge................................. BRINDLE BRUNDAGE*
Costume Designer ..................................................... EMMA VON TILL
Lighting Designer ........................................................ GREG THORN*
Sound Designer .......................................................... KT TURNER*
Foley Artists ............................................................. DAVE HARLAN** & KT TURNER*
Choreographer .......................................................... KEVIN BUTT*
Puppet Design .......................................................... TELFORD TAYLOR & MICHAEL BRANDT**
Prop Master ............................................................... TAYLOR TELFORD
Stage Manager ............................................................ EMMA LINDEMOOD+
Dramaturg ................................................................ CAROLYN MURRAY*
Assistant Director ...................................................... RACHAEL FORNARATTO*
Assistant Music Director ........................................... KALYSSA MONTOYA
Assistant Scenic Charge ............................................ VICTORIA ZENNER+
Assistant Costume Designer ..................................... JANTZEN BATES*

*Work on “Mr. Burns A Post Electric Play” helps fulfill degree requirements
for MFA candidates.
**University of Idaho Faculty
+Alumni
ARTISTIC TEAM, CONTINUED

Assistant Sound Designer.................................ALYSSA LOFTIS
Assistant Stage Manager…….KATHARINE PRY & MCKINLEY KIRK
Assistant Choreographer................................. KYLIE MORRIS
Fight Choreographer...........................................LUKE HOLT*
Assistant Scenic Designer......ANDY ZIEGLER & LAUREN WELCH
Sound Advisor..............................................DAVE HARLAN**
Assistant Props Designer..............................KEVIN BAKER
Assistant Dramaturg..........................TY HARRINGTON
Technical Director..........................MICHAEL BRANDT**
Costume Shop Director..................GINGER SORENSEN**
Faculty Advisor............................................JESSE DREIKOSEN
Faculty Advisor...........................................DAVID LEE-PAINTER
Faculty Advisor...........................................JEANNIE GALIOTO
Faculty Advisor.............................................SARAH ALICE CAMPBELL

CONSTRUCTION
Harry Blackstone, Taylor Telford, Jordan Adkins, Brey Weygandt,
Jack Mayer, Andy Ziegler, AnnaMarie Gonzalez,
Carson Robison, Katy Mottern, Anthony Kirby

MASTER CARPENTER
Megan Hilton*

STITCHERS
Nikoe Bechard, Jay Anderson, Kaylee Flodin, Teresa Daily,
Angel Kalasz, Kylie Morris and Theatre 104 class

WARDROBE/DRESSERS
Harry Blackstone, Paige O’Callaghan,
Tucker Holland, Jose Aguryo, Daisy Erskine, Erin Hester

RUN CREW
Katy Mottern, Jack Mayer

LIGHTBOARD OPERATOR
Nakell Higbee

SOUNDBOARD OPERATOR
Breyden Weygandt

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**University of Idaho Faculty
+Alumni
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This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,500 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.
Into the Woods

Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
and Book by James Lapine

Directed by David Lee-Painter

HARTUNG THEATER
625 Stadium Drive, Moscow, ID
7:30 PM on April 29, 30, May 7
2:00 PM on April 30, May 1, 8

Tickets $10-$22 for public. Free for U of I Students.
For tickets and more information, visit uitheatre.com or call 208-885-6465.
JANTZEN BATES (Assistant Costume Designer and Cutter Draper) is a first year Master of Fine Arts candidate in costume technology. Originally from Springfield, Missouri, she received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Missouri State University in stage management. She has worked at several regional theatres including The Westport Country Playhouse, Tent Theatre, and Stages St. Louis. She has also worked as an entertainment costumer for Disney’s Animal Kingdom. “Mr. Burns” marks Jantzen’s first design credit at University of Idaho.

KEVIN BUTT (Choreographer) (he/him/his) comes to the University of Idaho from Fairfield, CA where he currently is working and living as an educator in K-12 schools. This is Kevin’s first year in the MFA program with an emphasis in pedagogy starting this spring 2022. Kevin has his Bachelor of Arts degree in theatre & dance from the University of California, Davis where he specialized in the dance and choreography side. Kevin also earned two other bachelors in political science and African American and African Studies as well as a minor in education and a Masters of Arts in education. Kevin’s most recent theatre experience includes choreographing Solano College’s musical “You’re A Good Man Charlie Brown.” Thank you to Carly, Emma and Sarah Campbell for this opportunity, being so welcoming and open and to the cast for going on this distance zoom journey to learn all of the dances. You are all dancers and movers!

VEE CREASER (World Builder) is a freshman majoring in pre-veterinary sciences, from Nampa. Though some productions she highly enjoyed in high school include “You Can’t Take it With You” as Alice Sycamore and Rheba and a “Sunday Sunday” piece as Mildred for competition. She is excited to take part in such a creative and out of the box play and thankful to be apart of such a wonderful cast in the “Mr. Burns” production for her first year in college. She would like to thank her friends and family for always supporting her dreams and aspirations.

DAISY ERSKINE (Maria/Marge) is a second-year theatre design major. This is Daisy’s first year at the University of Idaho, after transferring from Boise State, and they have fallen in love with its theatre department and all the lovely souls that make it such a welcoming space. They have found so much joy in this community that they take every opportunity they can to be involved. They have had the wonderful opportunities of acting in “Macbeth” and “Mr. Burns,” helping build the sets for all the productions this season, assisting in costumes for “Mr. Burns,” as well as getting to be assistant scenic designer for “A Christmas Carol” and the upcoming production of “Into The Woods.” Daisy has loved getting to be a part of this wacky and wild show that is “Mr. Burns” and hopes that you enjoy it as much as they do!

TY HARRINGTON (Gibson/Burns) is a junior performance Bachelor of Fine Arts candidate and transfer student from North Idaho College, originally from Idaho Falls. Ty is ecstatic to make his return to the Hartung Stage and work with this incredible cast and creative team. Career highlights include Lloyd in “Noises Off,” Mr. Reed in “These Shining Lives,” and Mr. Fezziwig in “A Christmas Carol.”

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ERIN HESTER (World Builder) is beyond excited to be in her first production acting on-stage as a freshman at U of I. Double majoring in business and theater, Erin has previously worked for productions in Seattle, Portland, and now, Idaho! Enjoy the show!

ANTHONY KIRBY (Puppet Build) is a fourth-year Bachelor of Fine Arts performance candidate at the University of Idaho. He transferred from North Idaho College, where he studied under Joe Jacoby, performing in shows like “Noises Off” and becoming comfortable with tech. He’s grateful to help bring these awesome puppets to the stage, and you can see him onstage later this semester in “Into the Woods.”

EMMA LINDEMOOD (Stage Manager, they/them) is an alum of the University of Idaho’s Theatre Arts BFA program, originally from Salt Lake City, UT. Some of their previous credits include: Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey’s “Comedy of Errors” and “Snug” and Montana Shakespeare in the Parks “The Merry Wives of Windsor.” They extend their thanks and appreciation to the “Mr. Burns” team and cast for their creativity and comradery throughout this process.

ALYSSA LOFTIS (Assistant Sound Designer) is a psychology and English major with an emphasis in creative writing.

EVAN LINDEMOOD (World Builder) is a second-year student from Rupert, Idaho studying history with a minor in music at the University of Idaho. Evan has played roles such as Tevye in “Fiddler on the Roof” and Felix in “The Odd Couple” during high school, and he is thankful to be performing once again.

LUKE MCGREEVY (Sam/Itchy) is in his second year studying theatre at U of I in his hometown of Moscow. Over the past few semesters, Luke has been Young Scrooge in U of I’s “Christmas Carol,” Somebody in “Everybody,” Malcolm in “Macbeth” and this time he gets to play Sam in “Mr. Burns.” Luke hopes you keep it loosey goosy and enjoy the show!

GRACE MCGREEVY (Quincy/Bart) is a Moscow native in her senior year studying arts administration and performance. She has most recently been on the U of I stage as Macduff in “Macbeth” as well as “The Revolutionists,” “The Moors” and “This Random World.” She would like to dedicate this performance to her mother, Barbara, who knew the power of tales told around a fireplace.

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CARLY MCMINN (Director, she/her/hers) is a third year Master of Fine Arts candidate in directing. Originally from Atlanta, Carly received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre at Columbus State University. During her time at U of I, she has directed “Drowning Ophelia” and “The Revolutionists” – both of which received awards for design and directing. She is so grateful to be back in person, directing live theatre again! Carly would like to thank the entire team and department for making her last production at U of I so incredibly special.

KALYSSA MONTOYA (Colleen/Lisa) is a third-year performance Bachelor of Fine Arts student. This is her ninth show at U of I; most recently playing The Ghost of Christmas Past in “A Christmas Carol.” She is so grateful to be working with such an amazing cast and crew. Everyone is so kind, and this process has been a dream. She would like to thank everyone involved in the process of “Mr. Burns.” “You guys are incredible, and I cannot stress it enough.”

KYLIE MORRIS (Jenny/Scratchy) is delighted to be a part of “Mr. Burns.” Her favorite credits include Columbia in “The Rocky Horror Show,” Margot Frank in “Yours, Anne,” and Mitch in U of I’s production of “The Haven.” She was last seen as Nemain in U of I’s production of “Macbeth.” She is currently working towards a Bachelor of Fine Arts at the University of Idaho. She would like to thank her family and friends for all their support this year. She hopes you enjoy the show!

CAROLYN MURRAY (Dramaturg) is a Master of Fine Arts candidate with an emphasis in playwriting.

BLAKE PRESNELL (Matt/Homer) is a third year Bachelor of Fine Arts performance candidate from Hayden. In his time at U of I he’s worked as the male understudy for “Drowning Ophelia,” the Ghost of Christmas Future in the Zoom production of “A Christmas Carol,” a few different roles in “Gross Indecency” and most recently as Angus in “Macbeth.” He is so honored to be a part of such a wonderful show and team. He would like to thank his parents for always supporting and believing in him.

TAYLOR TELFORD (Prop Master) is a third year Bachelor of Fine Arts student, with an emphasis in performance and props design. She is originally from Hailey, Idaho, and has designed the properties in the University of Idaho’s productions of Christmas Carol, Gross Indecency, Macbeth, and now Mr. Burns! She is thankful to work with this wonderful team.

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**GREG THORN** (Lighting Designer) is a graduate student in the University of Idaho’s distanced program and the technical director for the McCrary Theatre at Elon University in North Carolina. His past lighting design credits include “The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee,” “The Unofficial Bridgerton Musical,” “The Mystery of Edwin Drood,” “Mama Mia!,” “Cabaret,” “You Can’t Take It with You,” “Cabaret,” “The Glass Menagerie,” and “A Christmas Carol.” In addition, his set design credits include “My Side of the Story” and “The Thing With Feathers.” He is thrilled to be on campus working with this amazing production team and faculty! Break legs, everyone!!!

**KT TURNER** (Sound Designer, Foley Artist) is a third-year Master of Fine Arts candidate at the University of Idaho with emphases in directing and pedagogy. A native of Hammond, LA, KT’s recent credits include: “Macbeth: Alba gu Brath” (Co-adapter & Director, Fall 2021), “&Juliet” by Robert Caisley (Annie Rice, Spring 2021) “Everybody” by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins (Director, Spring 2021), “The Revolutionists” (Marianne Angelle, Fall 2020), and the world premiere of “Deep Calls” by Kendra Phillips (Director, Spring 2020).

**KARI WILSEY** (World Builder) Kari feels electrified to be building the world of ‘Mr. Burns’ for you! They are a sophomore studying to get their Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in theatre performance here at the U of I. She has most recently been a part of Lewis Clark State College’s production of ‘Glassheart’ as Only, where she was nominated for the Irene-Ryan scholarship for KCACFT. This is their first main-stage production here at the U of I, so they could not be more excited that you are here to witness the chaos! So, sit back, relax, crack open a stream cooled beer, and enjoy the show.

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

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