



By Eugène Ionesco
Translated by Donald M. Allen

Directed by Mackenzie Davenport

PRODUCTION TEAM

Stage Manager.....	Maggie Carolus
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Jack Coghill
Costume Designer.....	Emma Evenson
Hair and Makeup Designer.....	Emma Jorgenson
Scenic/Sound Designer.....	Mackenzie Davenport
Lighting Designer.....	Lilyanna Fedde
Technical Director.....	Brendan Greene-Walsh
Production Coordinator.....	Rebecca Armstrong
Faculty Mentor.....	Dr. Jay Scott Chipman
Wardrobe Crew.....	Lily Craig, Sydney Nethercot

“The Bald Soprano (Allen)” is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
www.concordtheatricals.com

presents ...

CAST

MRS. SMITH.....	Karina Hinkley
MR. SMITH.....	William Phillips
MRS. MARTIN.....	Tylie Tinglehoff
	*Hannah Tewes performing Thursday, March 18 and Friday, March 19
MR. MARTIN.....	Ian Zabel
MARY, THE MAID.....	Emma Bucknam
THE FIRE CHIEF.....	Austin Nichols

TIME

An English Evening

PLACE

The Suburbs of London

SOUND WARNING

In addition to an arrangement of comfortably loud clock chimes, there is one strikingly loud clock chime.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The Bald Soprano has been called an absurdist comedy, a dramatic satire and a tragedy of language. Its author, Eugène Ionesco, gave it a far simpler classification, anti-play. This subtitle indicates Ionesco's intentional subversion of theatrical convention in the work.

Titled *La Cantatrice chauve* in the original French, the play text was inspired by language-learning curriculum, including sample sentences from an English primer. These detached, language-oriented sentences characterize the dialogue in *The Bald Soprano*, creating a tension between the text and the other elements on stage.

Eugène Ionesco was born in Romania, spending most of his childhood in his mother's homeland, France. He began his theatrical career at the age of 40 with *The Bald Soprano*, performed in 1950. Written in post-war Europe against a backdrop of reconstruction, consumerism, and cultural upheaval, *La Cantatrice chauve* was called avant-garde at the time, though Ionesco asserts that the work is entirely classical.

To Ionesco this is not an avant-garde play, and though it is absurdly funny, it is also not a comedy. *The Bald Soprano* is simply an anti-play, and has been staged as such in this production.

- Mackenzie Davenport ('21)

SPECIAL THANKS

A very special thank you to Bobby Bonaventura, Karin Worthley, Joan Korte, Rachel Pokora

UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

Merrily We Roll Along

McDonald Theatre

NWU ONLY Performances: April 15, 22 at 7:30 p.m.
PUBLIC Performances: April 16, 17, 23 and 24 at 7:30 p.m.
April 18 and 25 at 2 p.m.

Macbeth

NWU Amphitheatre

PUBLIC Performances: May 13-16, 20-23 at 7 p.m.

Directing IV: Advanced Directing Projects

THE 39 STEPS: March 20 at 3 p.m., March 21 at 4 p.m.,
March 27 at 2 p.m., March 28 at 7:30 p.m.

STUPID F*CKING BIRD: April 8-11 at 7:30 p.m.

AND THEN THERE WERE NONE: April 29-May 1 at 7:30 p.m.
May 2 at 2 p.m.

For ticketing and further information, contact the Box Office.

**Limited seating for ALL performances due to campus and city-wide mandated Covid-19 safety precautions. For any questions or concerns, please email: theatre@nebrwesleyan.edu*

THEATRE FACULTY AND STAFF

Department Chair Jay Scott Chipman, Ph.D., S.D.C.
Manager of Theatre Operations Julie Wilshusen, M.A.

Faculty

Ryan Kathman, M.F.A., AEA
Joan Korte, M.F.A.
Anne McAlexander, M.F.A., AEA

Adjunct Faculty

Talea C.M.S. Bloch, D.M.A.
Sasha Dobson, M.F.A.
Courtney Ring, B.P.A.
Carson Cerney, M.F.A.
Scott Shomaker, M.F.A.
Petra Wahlqvist, P.G.D.
Becky Boesen

Staff

Costume Shop Manager Rebecca Armstrong, B.F.A.
Light and Sound Technician Joshua Brauer, B.F.A.
Administrative Assistant Kate Demoret, B.F.A.
Technical Director Brendan Greene-Walsh, M.F.A.
Master Carpenter Lauren Elizabeth Spilinek, B.F.A.

Emeriti Professors

Alice J. Jaswal, Ph.D.
Michael Reese, M.F.A.

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