

LLC Theatre Conversations Fall 2015
10 AM, Thursday 9/17/15 through 12/3/15

Co-coordinators, Mike and Kathy Webster

Welcome to LLC Theatre Conversations! We are pleased to have you join us. Together we will delve into local theatre, reading and discussing challenging plays, sharing our thoughts and having the opportunity to talk with some of our local theatrical luminaries. In order to get the most from this course, you will need to read all the plays, attend them and participate in our lively and thoughtful discussions. This syllabus is a working tool and may be modified as we progress.

This semester we will include two performances at Trinity Rep, and two at the Gamm Theatre, along with attending a world premiere of a new play at the Wilbury.

At Trinity, we will see the classic Shakespeare drama, *Julius Caesar*, and Wendy Wasserstein's Pulitzer Prize winning, masterful work, *The Heidi Chronicles*. At the Gamm, we begin with another Pulitzer Prize winner, Tennessee Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire* and concludes with Andrew Case's dramatic socio-political play, *The Rant*. Finally, The Wilbury Group will be presenting a new work, *Cain and Abel*, by Ben Jolivet, resident playwright.

Costs: There will be costs associated with this course. See below chart for info regarding obtaining scripts. You can use other options such as the library or e-books for obtaining the scripts, purchase is not required. Gamm tickets are \$18.00 per play and the Wilbury cost is unknown at this time, but usually quite reasonable. Trinity tickets are free. These ticket prices are by special arrangement with each theatre and because of this, are not open to any non-class members. Please speak to the coordinators should you have any questions about this. Also, if you are a season ticket holder at Trinity, or the Gamm, you can use your season tickets to see the plays instead.

Class presentations:

Class presentations can be done in many different ways. Some suggestions are to do a presentation on a topic related to the play, or about the author, or a discussion of the themes of the play. One effective idea is to develop some relevant questions for the class to discuss. Group play readings or a viewing of a video clip with discussion is another option. We are open to anything! We do not want you to lecture to the class for an hour and neither do they, so be ready to allow for lots of discussion! (Less work for you and more work for the class!) Use your creativity! We will ask you to decide on a topic during the first weeks of the session, so please review the syllabus with your presentation in mind. We have about 14 hour-long sessions that you can lead. If you would like, you can pair up with another classmate.

Recommended script	Order from:	Price
<i>Julius Caesar</i> by William Shakespeare (Folger Shakespeare Library edition)	Amazon used	\$.01
<i>The Heidi Chronicles</i> by Wendy Wasserstein	Amazon used	\$2.50
<i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> by Tennessee Williams (New Directions Paperbook)	Amazon used	\$.61
<i>The Rant</i> by Andrew Case (Acting Edition)	Amazon	\$8.10

Date	Time	Location	Preparation	Content	Production	Speakers
9/9/15	7:30 PM	Trinity Rep	Read <i>Julius Caesar</i>		<i>Attend Julius Caesar</i>	
9/10/15	12 N	Temple Beth El		Convocation		
9/17/15	10AM	Temple Beth El		Hour one- Introduction Hour two- Discuss performance aspects <i>Julius Caesar</i>		Hour one- Kathy and Mike Hour two- Nondas Hurst Voll
9/18/15	10AM	The Gamm	Read <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i>		<i>Attend Streetcar Named Desire</i>	
9/24/15	10AM	Temple Beth El		Hour one- Discuss performance aspects of <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> .		Hour one- Nancy Brown Hour two- Tony

				Hour two- visitor A <i>Streetcar Named Desire</i>		Estrella director of <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> , guest speaker
10/1/15	10AM	Temple Beth El		Hour one- Discuss <i>Julius Caesar</i> content Hour two- <i>Julius Caesar</i> visitor		Hour one- Hour two- Tyler Dobrowsky, director of <i>Julius Caesar</i>
10/8/15	10AM	Temple Beth El		Hours one and two - Discuss <i>Julius Caesar</i> content		Hour one- Hour two-
10/15/15	10AM	Temple Beth El		Hours one and two- Discuss <i>Streetcar Named Desire</i> content		Hour one- Hour two-
10/22 through 10/25		The Wilbury Group			<i>Attend Cain and Abel</i>	
10/22/15	10AM	Temple Beth El	Read <i>The Heidi Chronicles</i>	Hours one and two- Discuss <i>The Heidi Chronicles</i> content		Hour one- Hour two-
10/29/15	10AM	Temple Beth El		Hour one- Discuss <i>The Heidi Chronicles</i> content. Hour two- <i>The Heidi Chronicles</i> visitor		Hour one- Hour two-speaker from <i>The Heidi Chronicles</i>
11/5/15	10AM	Temple Beth El		Hour one-Discuss <i>Cain and Abel</i> . Hour two- visitor from <i>Cain and Abel</i>		Hour one- Hour two-Ben Jolivet, author of <i>Cain and Abel</i> , guest speaker
11/12/15	10AM	Temple Beth El	Read <i>The Rant</i>	Hours one and two-		Hour one-

				Discuss <i>The Rant</i> content		Hour two-
11/13/15	10 AM	The Gamm			<i>Attend The Rant</i>	
11/19/15	10 AM	Temple Beth El		Hour one- Discuss <i>The Rant</i> performance aspects. Hour two- <i>The Rant</i> visitor, party to follow (start 9:30? or see 12/3)		Hour one- Hour two- speaker from <i>The Rant</i>
12/2/15	7:30 PM	Trinity Rep			<i>Attend The Heidi Chronicles</i>	
12/3/15	10 AM	??????		Hour one- Discuss performance aspects of <i>The Heidi Chronicles</i> . Hour two- party		Hour one- Will discuss the options for this meeting at our first session.

Additional optional reading
http://www.theguardian.com/stage/2009/jul/27/tennessee-williams

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