Rice Undergraduate Students: Get $10 tickets to Main Street Theater in advance or at the door with your Rice student ID!
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2005 - 2006 MainStage Season

An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Boeuf
By Michael Hollinger
Previews: September 3, 4, and 7, 2005
Performances: September 8 - October 9, 2005
On an evening in 1961, the staff of a fine Parisian restaurant awaits the arrival of their employer and sole customer, an expatriate American newspaper tycoon. When he arrives - disheveled and morose - Monsieur's wish is simple: to die of starvation at his own table. This sends the staff into a panic which only is quieted when Monsieur agrees to allow them to prepare a meal in the kitchen, while only serving him only an empty plate with a description of the food. As they serve him a "feast of adjectives and adverbs," he counters with his own story of desire and loss. A "comic tragedy in seven courses," the play celebrates the joys of cooking, sex, bullfighting and the collected works of Ernest Hemingway.

Margin For Error
A "satiric melodrama" by Clare Boothe
Previews: November 12, 13, and 16, 2005
Performances: November 17 - December 18, 2005
In 1939, a Jewish American policeman has been assigned to protect the German consulate in New York City. On the evening of a radio broadcast of a speech by Hitler, a group is assembled in the consul's office - some against their will - to hear the broadcast. When the consul is murdered by one of those guests, the fast-thinking guard, Moe Finkelstein, must force the murderer to reveal himself or risk losing more than his police career.

Pardon My English
Music by George Gershwin
Lyrics by Ira Gershwin
With a new book by David Ives
Preview: December 28, 2005
Performances December 29, 2005 - January 22, 2006
From the moment Golo, the gangster owner of a German speakeasy, is hit on the head with a champagne bottle, he morphs into an English secret agent. His German persona is in business and bed with Polish chanteuse Gita Gobel, but his 'Englishman' falls head over heels in love with Frieda Bauer, the daughter of the police commissioner intent on shutting down his illegal operation. With different women in love with each personality and a trio of dancing psychiatrists trying to make sense of the situation, hilarity ensues. RICE PASSPORT NOT VALID FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE.

Over…
Wondergirl
A World Premiere By Rutherford Cravens
Previews: January 28, 29, and February 1, 2006
Performances: February 2 - February 19, 2006
The complex medical issues facing a young couple expecting twins set in motion the events of this compelling drama by Rutherford Cravens, best known to Houston audiences for his work as actor and director. What begins as a straightforward medical drama about unbearably difficult choices evolves into a sensitive examination of that arena where medical ethics, breathtakingly rapid technological advances and the most timeless and basic human emotions struggle to find common ground.

Ouroboros
By Tom Jacobson
Previews: March 11, 12, and 15, 2006
Performances: March 16 - April 9, 2006
Two American couples, a Lutheran minister and his unstable wife and an Episcopalian novitate and her gay friend, get caught in a cosmic time loop on a trip to Italy. In five scenes in five cities, a tale of two continually intersecting spiritual quests unfolds, but since time is flowing in the opposite direction for each set of pilgrims, the play may be performed in two distinct sequences, creating either a comedy or a tragedy. More than a brilliantly cunning puzzle, the play is an eloquent examination of the different human responses to faith and love. Main Street's production will offer both sequences in a rotating schedule.

What the Butler Saw
By Joe Orton
Previews: April 29, 30, and May 3, 2006
Performances: May 4 - May 28, 2006
"A breakneck comedy of licensed insanity," WHAT THE BUTLER SAW is considered one of the finest British farces of the twentieth century. It concerns a psychoanalyst who intends to interview a prospective secretary by seducing her, his nymphomaniac wife whose sights are set on a hotel bellhop she has just brought home, and a state inspector who arrives at an inopportune moment to the private hospital where it all takes place. Fast, furious and funny, Main Street's production will introduce a new generation of theatergoers to this comic masterpiece.

Call 713-524-6706 for tickets
or visit our website
www.mainstreettheater.com

Since 1975, Main Street Theater has produced high quality professional theater for audiences of all ages through its MainStage productions and Main Street Youth Theater. The Main Street Theater Kids On Stage program offers performing arts classes and camps for children 5 years to 14 years of age. The organization produces plays at two locations, 2540 Times Boulevard in Rice Village and 4617 Montrose Boulevard at Chelsea Market.