United States Premiere

*A Little Play About Betrayal, For One Actress*

By Oleksandr Irvanets
Translated by Taras Koznarsky and Marta Baziuk

June 6-8, 2013
7pm
Walnut Street Theatre Studio 5

Philadelphia, PA--This play is being produced as part of a master’s thesis in Central and Eastern European Studies at La Salle University. It will promote a greater understanding of modern Ukrainian history and culture, and will spark an interest in Ukrainian literature, which is still relatively unknown in America.

*A Little Play About Betrayal, For One Actress* is about ONA, a young woman who now lives in a small apartment in a wheelchair. We learn she was once a student protester. The world of the play is not specific to constraints of time and place, but through ONA's words we learn more about the fight for Ukrainian Independence from the Soviet Union in 1991 and the effects of that independence, including a weak economy, a government run by former Communist leaders.

The playwright--Oleksandr Irvanets is well known in Ukraine for being part of a literary group in the late 80's and early 90's called Bu-Ba-Bu (buffoonery--burlesque—farce). This group wrote and performed poetry in a carnival fashion, incorporating all the arts in their performances. They had a great impact on the youth of Ukraine before and after Independence in 1991. Before Independence, Ukrainian writers and intellectuals were often imprisoned or executed if they wrote in their own language and did not subscribe to the tenets of the Soviet cultural system. *A Little Play About Betrayal, For One Actress* was written in 1992 and has been produced in Ukraine, Poland, and Germany. This is the first time that any of Irvanets’ plays will be seen in America.

Website: jenniferhoffmaster.wordpress.com
About the Producer--Jennifer L. Hoffmaster is producing this play as part of her master’s thesis project at La Salle University, under the advisement of Dr. Leonid Rudnytsky. Jennifer will graduate May 17 with a MA in Central and Eastern European Studies. She obtained her BA in Theatre from Temple University in May 2000. After completing an apprenticeship at the Walnut Street Theatre in 2001, Jennifer freelanced with companies such as B. Someday Productions, Philadelphia Children’s Theatre Company, Independence Seaport Museum, and Bistro Romano Dinner Theatre. Jennifer worked as Box Office Manager at People’s Light and Theatre Company before becoming Program Director of Once Upon A Nation at Historic Philadelphia, Inc. from 2008-2013. From 2010-2011 Jennifer volunteered as Managing Director of Simpatico Theatre Project. Currently, Jennifer is the Assistant Director of Marketing and Communications at the Boyer College of Music and Dance at Temple University, and is adjunct faculty at LeBow School of Business at Drexel University.

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A Little Play About Betrayal, For One Actress
By Oleksandr Ivranets
Translated by Taras Koznarsky and Marta Baziuk
Starring Sarah Schol as ONA

June 6 at 7pm, followed by talkback
June 7 at 7pm, followed by talkback
June 8 at 7 pm, followed by panel discussion--Dr. Rudnytsky and Dr. Andryczyk
Walnut Street Theatre Studio 5
825 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106
Free admission—RSVP to Jennifer.hoffmaster@yahoo.com

Directed by Lorna Howley
Set Design by Lance Kniskern (recent design includes It’s My Party for 1812 Productions)
Lighting Design by Amanda Jensen
Stage Managed by Christine Bater

Choreographer/ House Manager--Julee Mahon
Asst. Lighting/ Asst. Stage manager--Emma MacDonald
Musician/ Composer--Julian Mykytiuch
Voice of Newscaster 1--John Lopes
Co-Producer/ Webmaster/ Sound Designer--Benjamin Carlson
Producer/ Dramaturg/ Voice of Newscaster 2--Jennifer L. Hoffmaster
June 8 after-show discussion features panel of Ukrainian literature scholars:

**Dr. Leonid Rudnytsky**-- a linguist, professor of German, Slavic and Ukrainian Studies, co-editor of numerous American and Ukrainian encyclopedias, and scholar of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. Rudnytsky is the acting director of the Central/Eastern European studies program at LaSalle University and is a professor of Ukrainian studies at the University of Pennsylvania. He has taught at the University of Munich, Germany, the University of Vienna, Austria, and served as President of the Ukrainian Free University of Munich from 1998 – 2004.

**Dr. Mark Andryczyk**-- administrator of the Ukrainian Studies Program and lecturer in Ukrainian literature at the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Columbia University. He has a PhD in Ukrainian Literature from the University of Toronto (2005). At Columbia, he has taught several courses on Ukrainian literature and culture. His monograph *The Intellectual as Hero in 1990s Ukrainian Fiction* was published by the University of Toronto Press in March 2012.

Since 2007 he has organized the Contemporary Ukrainian Literature Series (cosponsored by the Harriman and Kennan Institutes) which has brought leading Ukrainian literary figures (including Taras Prokhasko, Yuri Andrukhovych, Serhiy Zhadan, Mariana Savka, Andriy Bondar, Taras Chubai, Ivan Malkovych, Viktor Nevorak and Vasyl Gabor) to audiences in North America. He is an active translator of contemporary Ukrainian literature into English and a musician who, under the name Yeezhak, has recorded three studio albums in Ukraine (1996, 1998, 2006) and has performed a series of concerts in support of these recordings.

For more information, please contact [Jennifer.Hoffmaster@yahoo.com](mailto:Jennifer.Hoffmaster@yahoo.com), 267.254.7936. Also please check out the website [jenniferhoffmaster.wordpress.com](http://jenniferhoffmaster.wordpress.com) and the fundraising campaign at [http://igg.me/at/hoff/x/3005005](http://igg.me/at/hoff/x/3005005).

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