

**WINTHROP UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE**  
**2006-07 SEASON**

1-5 November  
**Winthrop Dance Theatre**  
Johnson Theatre  
Directed by Sandra Neels and Mary Beth Young

17-19 November  
**Fall One-Act Play Festival**  
Johnson Studio Theatre

1-3 December  
**Senior Dance Showcase**  
Johnson Theatre

7-11 February  
*The Effects of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds*  
by Paul Zindel  
Johnson Studio Theatre  
Directed by Dannielle M. Reid

21-25 February  
Rodgers & Hammerstein's  
*Oklahoma!*  
Johnson Theatre  
Directed by Andrew Vorder Bruegge

28 March-1 April  
*Messiah on the Frigidaire*  
by John Culbertson  
Johnson Studio Theatre  
Directed by Meagan Douglas

11-15 April  
*To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday*  
by Michael Brady  
Johnson Theatre  
Directed by Stephen Gundersheim

16-19 April  
**Spring One-Act Festival**  
Johnson Studio Theatre

20-22 April  
**Student Choreography Showcase**  
Johnson Theatre

# Johnson Studio Theatre

## RASHOMON

by Fay Kanin &  
Michael Kanin

*October 25-28, 2006, 8 p.m.*  
*October 29, 2006, 2 p.m.*

**RESERVATIONS:**

Call 803-323-4014 or  
email [boxoffice@winthrop.edu](mailto:boxoffice@winthrop.edu)

PRESENTED BY:

**WINTHROP UNIVERSITY**  
**COLLEGE OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND DANCE**

[WWW.WINTHROP.EDU/VPA/THEATRE\\_&\\_DANCE/DEFAULT.HTM](http://WWW.WINTHROP.EDU/VPA/THEATRE_&_DANCE/DEFAULT.HTM)



**TICKETS:**  
Wednesday & Thursday  
\$10 General Public/ \$5 Winthrop ID  
Friday - Sunday  
\$15 General Public/ \$8 Winthrop ID  
LIMITED SEATING



# ***Rashōmon*** (羅生門)

by Fay Kanin and Michael Kanin

Based on stories by Ryunosuke Akutagawa

Annie-Laurie Wheat  
Director

Bethany Wade  
Scenic Design

Annie-Laurie Wheat  
Costume Design

Mary Reading  
Stage Manager

Christine Jacky  
Lighting Design

Jillian Wiggins  
Sound Design

Michelle Crissinger  
Choreographer

## CAST

WOODCUTTER (木樵り *Kikori*)

PRIEST (旅法師 *Tabi Hōshi*)

WIGMAKER

BANDIT Tajōmaru (多襄丸)

HUSBAND (金沢の武弘)

WIFE (真砂)

MOTHER

DEPUTY

MEDIUM (巫女 *miko*)

Kuroko (黒衣)

Kuroko (黒衣)

Kuroko (黒衣)

Understudy for MOTHER & MEDIUM:

Drew Keim

A.M. Roberts

RaChelle Cheeks

Ryan Roberts

Torrell Martin

Towanda Gregg

Carmen Redfearn

Taj McCullough

Ariel Libet

Jillian Wiggins

Patrick Lutz

Jacqueline Hogg

Jacqueline Hogg

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

The action takes place in Kyoto, Japan, about a thousand years ago---at an edge of the Rashomon Gate, at a police court, and in a nearby forest.

There will be one 15 Minute Intermission

## CREW

Assistant Stage Manager I  
Assistant Stage Manager II  
Japanese Consultant  
Set Construction

Scenic Artist  
Costume Assistant  
Costume Crew

Wardrobe  
Props  
Lighting Board Operator  
Sound Board Operator  
House Manager  
Box Office Manager  
Poster Design  
Display Poster

Special thanks to Taylor Thornburg, Sarah Horton, Rob Marenick and Russell Luke

Nat Kinney  
Amanda Roberts  
Nozomi Takano  
Bethany Wade, Jerry Wade, Jeremy Grossglass, Jeff Johnson  
Patrick Lutz  
Whitney Vaughan  
Nat Kinney, Lauren Powdrill, Whitney Vaughan, Annie-Laurie Wheat  
Lauren Powdrill, Vicki Jeffcoat  
Ashley Wheeler, Shannon Plowden  
Andrew Zerfass  
Jason Williams  
Russell Luke  
Mimi Egbert  
Bara Bolton  
Patrick Lutz

## Program Note:

In 1950 Akira Kurosawa created the Japanese film masterpiece *Rashomon*. He combined two short stories by Ryunosuke Akutagawa (“Rashomon” provides the setting and “In the Grove” provides the characters and the plot) to tell the story of a rape and a violent death told from the perspectives of the participants and a passerby. Each version of the crime differs depending on who is telling the story. Pauline Kael (*New Yorker* movie critic) called *Rashomon* “the classic film statement of the relativism, the unknowability of truth.” It went on to win the grand prize at the Venice Film Festival in 1951 and the Academy Award for Best Foreign Film in 1952.

In 1959 Fay and Michael Kanin created a play based on the film. It recounts the same story and leaves the choice of innocence or guilt to the audience to decipher. In our production we have taken the liberty of using a Kabuki Theatre tradition of Kuroko or stagehands, who are dressed in black to move props and scenery on stage and create sound effects. Kuroko wear all black to imply that they are invisible and not part of the onstage action.

As you leave the theatre we ask you to decide the question of guilt. Who is telling the truth? There are four choices-the bandit Tajomaru- the murdered husband Takehiko-his wife Kinume-or the Woodcutter. Told in flashback the play unfolds the same story four times, but each time the story is contradictory. Donald Richie (writer and film critic) states, “Truth as it appears to others. This is one of the themes... No one lied. They all told the story the way they saw it, the way they believed it, and they all told the truth. Kurosawa therefore does not question truth. He questions reality.” So let’s reframe the question. What is real and what do you think is real?