

full messiness of life, but the acting company can offer only rigidly codified shadows. Published by Luigi Pirandello (1867-1936) in 1921, thirteen years before receiving the Nobel Prize for Literature, Six Characters in Search of an Author had immediate worldwide success, soon recognized as one of the masterpieces of contemporary drama.

The play is a perfect example of what the Italian playwright himself calls a "transcendental farce". This term, which pulls together the tragic and even supernatural aspects of life with the comical and ironical ones, is a metaphor describing the human being as a puppet figure manipulated by socially acceptable rules of behavior. To further this concept, Pirandello uses realistic characters, dialogue, and physical detail, but only as tools and not materials. With these tools he shapes a new dramatic world in which realism becomes the play's mask, just as appearance is life's mask.

This production of Six Characters does not eliminate the illusory fourth wall of realistic theatre, but multiplies it, changing continually the perspective of the audience and transforming the central stage into a sort of "torture chamber" where the characters, crossing the borders of literary fiction, become a reality facing the cruel game of life, just as when looking in a mirror we suddenly face the mysterious reality of our own lives.

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#### ❖❖Acknowledgements❖❖

University Laboratory School for use of rehearsal space.

#### ❖❖Coming Events❖❖

##### ISLANDS

December 1-10

Kennedy Theatre Mainstage

A World Premiere directed by Gary L. Balfantz, Professor of Speech, examining the experiences of Chinese immigrants and Chinese-Americans. Featuring work from Chinese-American writers Eric Chock, Genny Lim, Darrell Lum, Cathy Song, and Wing Tek Lum, and oral histories and personal narratives of Chinese immigrants.

# SIX CHARACTERS IN SEARCH OF AN AUTHOR

KENNEDY

LAB

THEATRE

1989-1990

SEASON



November 2, 3, 4 at 8 p.m.  
November 5 at 2 p.m.

The UHM Department of Theatre and Dance presents....

# SIX CHARACTERS IN SEARCH OF AN AUTHOR

Written by  
**Luigi Pirandello**

Translated by  
**Felicity Firth**

Directed by  
**Giangiaco Colli\***

Set Design by  
**Karen Hoffman & Giangiacomo Colli**

Costume Design by  
**Hugh Hanson**

Lighting Design by  
**Jian Hong Kuo**

### ❖❖The Cast❖❖

### THE COMPANY

The Director..... Lawrence D. Lessard  
 The Leading Actress..... Cathee Mang  
 The Leading Actor..... Warren Fabro  
 The Second Actress..... Gabbi Mendelsohn  
 The Second Actor..... Roger Matias, Jr.  
 The Young Actress..... Alissa Lerner  
 The Young Actor..... David McDowell  
 The Prompter..... Hermen J.R. Tesoro  
 The Director's Secretary..... Kim Palma  
 The Stage Manager..... Tamara Andersen  
 The Stage Assistant..... Meredith Hill  
 The Prop Person..... Kimberly Richard  
 The Light Operator..... Shawn Forsythe

### THE CHARACTERS

The Father..... Roman Galvan  
 The Mother..... Gay Sibley  
 The Stepdaughter..... Sherryl Ray  
 The Son..... Harry Wong  
 The Boy.....Brendan Jackson  
 The Little Girl..... Beth Grote  
 Madame Pace..... Tammy Martin

There will be one 15 minute intermission between Acts I and II.

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.  
 No smoking, photographs, or recordings during the performance, please.  
 \*Master of Fine Arts Thesis Production in Directing.

### ❖❖Production Staff❖❖

Assistant Director..... Julie Iezzi  
 Stage Crew.....The Cast  
 Set Construction..... Karen Hoffman & The Cast  
 Lighting Crew..... Beth Casper, Shawn Forsythe,  
 Tony Rizzi, Sherwood Hu Xuehua  
 House Manager..... Heather Carter  
 Head Usher..... Kristin Lieb  
 Publicity Director..... Matt Daly  
 Publicity Assistant..... David McDowell  
 Box Office Staff..... Geri Amparo, Dan Cahill,  
 Michelle Kono, Kevin Doyle,  
 Kimo Pokini, Jay Tamarabuchi  
 Photographer..... James Giles  
 Graphics..... Kevin Wilson  
 Music..... LIBERTANGO by Astor Piazzolla

### ❖❖Director's Notes❖❖

A theatre company is rehearsing a Pirandello play, The Rules of the Game, but the rehearsal is interrupted by " six characters" pleading to have their own tale of infidelity, incest, and suicide performed instead. They want their story told with the  
 (Continued)