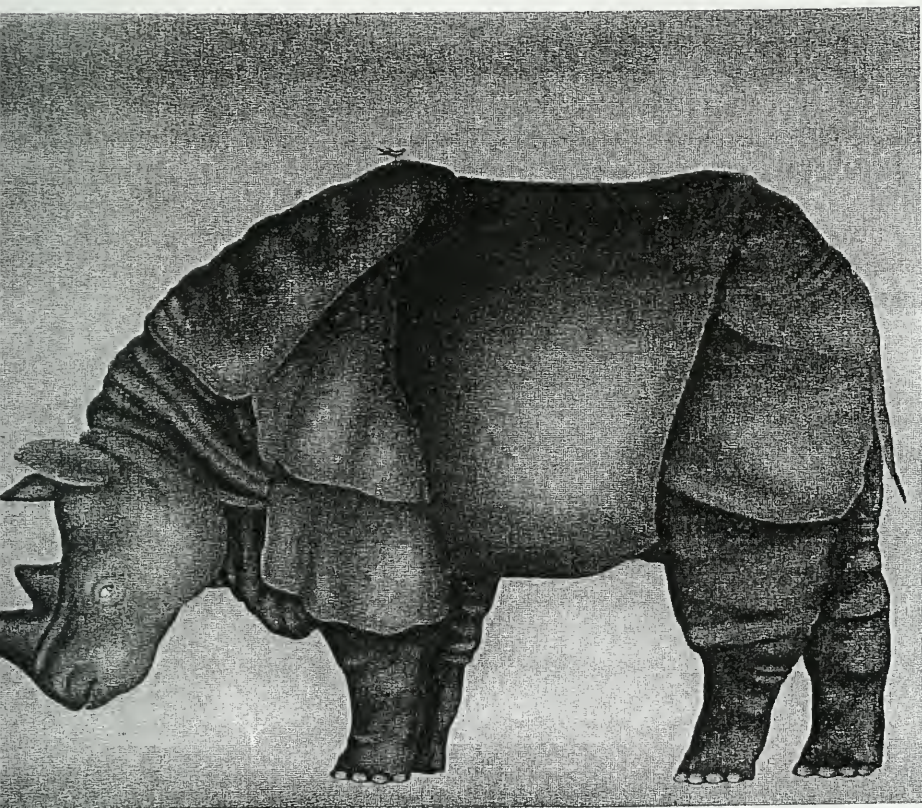


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Selwyn House School

The Veritas Players Present



By Eugene Ionesco

May 1st – 3rd 2003

**7:30 pm
Lucas Theatre
Selwyn House School**

Is an average person unable to resist the compulsion to conform and be like everyone else? That is the central question posed by Eugene Ionesco in his 1959 play *Rhinoceros*. Ionesco was a major exponent of the Theatre of the Absurd, which grew out of Antonin Artaud's Theatre of Cruelty, a reaction to a world engulfed by war. This was a time when existentialism dominated intellectual circles, particularly in France where Ionesco lived. Many of his plays, notably *The Chairs* and *The Bald Soprano*, are touchstones of the Absurdist movement. The movement expressed its disaffection with humanity by deeming life an illogical predicament caused by social forces.

When *Rhinoceros* was first produced in Paris in 1960, Jean Louis Barrault directed the play and took the role of Berenger. Several months later a London production directed by Orson Welles starred Laurence Olivier as Berenger. The following year the play was produced on Broadway starring Eli Wallach as Berenger and Zero Mostel as Jean.

Act 1

Scene 1 A square in a small French town.

Scene 2 The office of a firm of law publications. The Next Day
There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.

Act 2 Jean's room, that afternoon

Act 3 Berenger's room, a few days later



Direction: Alex Ivanovici
Set, Props, and Costume Design: Robert Leader
Lighting Desing: James Richardson
Lighting Board Operator: Mohsin Aziz
**Painters and
Lighting Support Staff:** National Theatre
School of Canada

Berenger: Matt Litvack
Jean: Adam Cieply
Daisy: Jessica Davis *
Dudard: Ben Wilner

The Waitress: Emese Tokes *
The Grocers Wife: Stephanie Malouf*
The Housewife: Lisa Worsley *
The Grocer: Nick Tsoukas
The Old Gentleman: Arun Khana
The Logician: Charles Vennat
The Café Proprietor: Miguel Burnier

Mr. Botard: Charles Ayas
Mr. Papillon: Dylan Jones
Mrs. Boeuf: Emese Tokes*
Fireman: Miguel Burnier

*appearing thanks to The Study school for Girls



Thank You Very Much!

Wendy Clubb, Annabel Soutar, National Theatre School of Canada, Projet Porte Parole, ALL THE PARENTS, Carol Manning, Rob Wearing, April Wong, Chris Churchill, Sara Bradeen, Danny Brochu, The Phys. Ed. Department, Fernando Kucher and all the After-school Staff, Jamie McMillan, Richard Wills, Mathilde Codina, Debbie Dragoon, The Cleaning Staff, The Security Staff, Théâtre du Grand Jour, the Library Staff, Mohsin Aziz, The Prefects and most importantly, all the students involved in this production, without whom I surely could not resist conformity.

