

Alan Ball's 'Five Women Wearing the Same Dress' opens Feb. 12 at SIUE

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EDWARDSVILLE - What happens when a group of women show up in the same place at the same time and in the same outfit? Find out when *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* by **Alan Ball** opens at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's Dunham Hall Theater.

The comic production runs from 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15-Saturday, Feb. 18. The matinee show is at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 19. Peter Cocuzza, professor of performance in SIUE's Department of Theater & Dance, is the director.

During an ostentatious wedding reception at a Knoxville, Tenn., estate, five reluctant, identically clad bridesmaids hide out in an upstairs bedroom. Each has her own reason to avoid the proceedings. The characters are Frances, a painfully sweet but sheltered fundamentalist; Mindy, a cheerful, wise-cracking lesbian sister of the groom; Georgeanne, whose heartbreak over her own failed marriage triggers outrageous behavior; Meredith, the bride's younger sister whose precocious rebelliousness masks a dark secret; and Trisha, a jaded beauty whose die-hard cynicism about men is called into question when she meets a charming bad-boy usher.

As the afternoon wears on, these different women discover a common bond in this wickedly funny, irreverent and touching celebration of women's spirit.

General admission is \$12 for adults and \$10 for seniors and others (non-SIUE students with valid school identification, SIUE retirees, alumni, faculty and staff). Discounted tickets are available for groups of 10 or more.

For tickets, contact the Theater & Dance Box Office at 650-2774 or toll free at 888-328-5168, extension 2774.

The creative team includes Scott Schoonover, scenic and costume design; Valerie Goldston, lighting design; Connor Jones, sound design; Roger Speidel, technical director; Kate Slovinski, props design; and, Adrienne Brammeier, stage manager. The cast includes SIUE students Monica Buschor, Hannah Warntjes, Taylor Kelly, Kayla Bush, Emily Schneider and Ryan Engelman.

SIUE's Department of Theater & Dance presents four plays and one dance concert during its October-April main season. All productions are open to the community at large. The Department of Theater & Dance is part of the College of Arts and Sciences.

For more information, visit siue.edu/artsandsciences/theater or email theater-tickets@siue.edu.