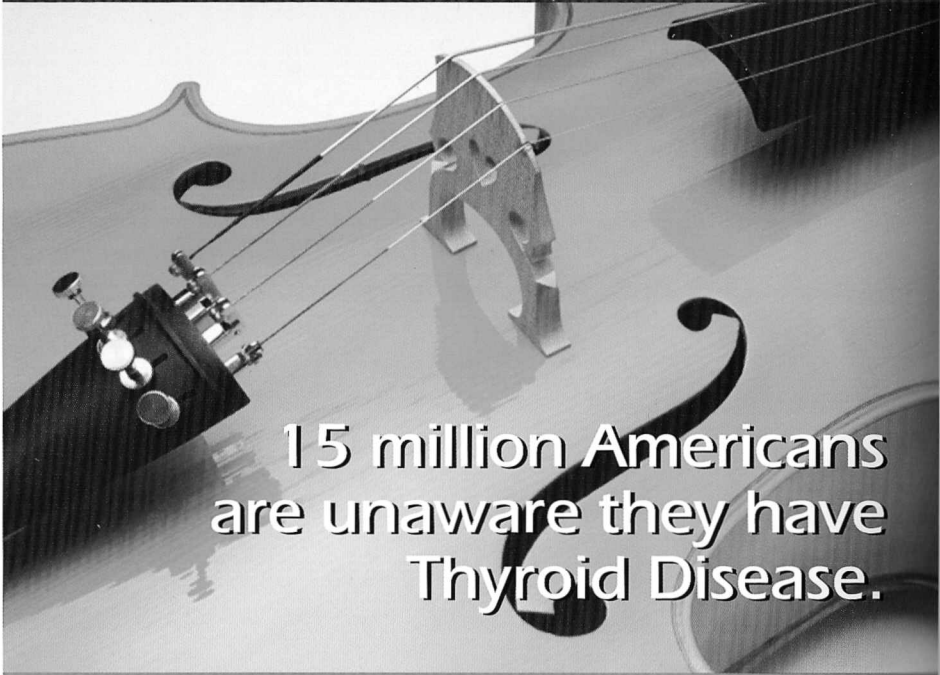


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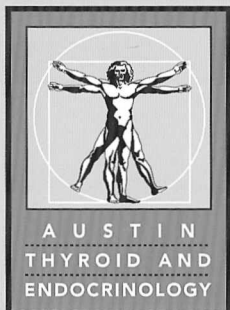
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ZACH
T H E A T R E

DAVE STEAKLEY, PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
& ELISBETH CHALLENGER, MANAGING DIRECTOR
PRESENT

The Flaming Idiots

Written, Directed by and Starring

KEVIN HUNT
JON O'CONNOR
ROB WILLIAMS

Music by

ALLEN ROBERTSON, THOMAS NUENDEL,
and **ARNIE YAÑEZ**

Composer and Musical Director **ALLEN ROBERTSON**

Set Design..... HEYD FONTENOT
Lighting Design..... JASON AMATO
Original Costume Design..... LESLIE BONNELL
Costume Coordinator..... BLAIR HURRY
Sound Design..... CRAIG BROCK
Properties Master..... CHRIS COGSWELL
Stage Manager..... LISA GOERING

January 28 - March 14, 2010 • ZACH's Kleberg Stage

There will be one 15-minute intermission.
Drinks from our bar are welcome inside the theatre!

Special Thanks is Extended to Stephanie O'Connor & Mary Hunt.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ZACH Theatre is a member of ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION, the union of professional actors and stage manager in the United States; and a Constituent Member of THEATRE COMMUNICATIONS GROUP (TCG), the prestigious association of professional theatres nationwide.

THE FLAMING IDIOTS

Program

Act 1

Fire Open
Machetes
Beans
Horse
Spanky
Sandwich
Get the Guy
Straits
Blowers

Act 2

5 Ball
Stupid
Swami
Whip
Pin

ZACH's \$20 Wednesday Night Series
for this production is sponsored by ...



Any taping, filming, recording, or broadcast of this play (musical or otherwise) and the taking of photographs, with or without flash, or by camera phone, is strictly prohibited.

Drinks are welcome in the theatre, but no snacking please. Remember to turn off your cell phone and/or pager prior to the show.

CONNECT WITH ZACH THEATRE!
WWW.ZACHTHEATRE.ORG

Production Notes

People ask us ... "Why are you guys doing a reunion tour?" This question is asked of us from theater critics, morning television news anchors and fans who thought they'd never have to buy a ticket to one of our shows again. The road to the answer is simple, but I will take scenic detours and bathroom breaks.

Gyro, Pyro and Walter



Photo by Michelle Bates

We did the show for twenty years, from 1984 to 2004, which apparently isn't exactly twenty years because you count the first year, thus making it twenty-one years. My friend Jose pointed this out to me, and I nearly wept. But fine. Twenty-one years. The show is legal to drink. We had all lived in Austin for most of those twenty (one) years, and after retiring the show,

we each left to seek new adventures in new states with one of us in beautiful California, one in the less beautiful Louisiana and one in the god forsaken ice hole that is Minnesota. After five years of never seeing each other, we agreed a few shows would allow us to get together, laugh and enjoy the old material one more time. We thought we would only do a few shows, but you can't own a Tribble, you can't feed a Gremlin after midnight, and you can't just do a couple of Idiot shows. The final decision was to go back to the significant and fun places from our long journey. We returned to Edmonton last summer for the best street performing in the world; the holidays took us to The New Victory, our home on Broadway, and now we return to our real hometown, the place we all love more than a zombie loves your brain.

ZACH Theatre was the theater that made us a theater show. We left the Renaissance festivals and comedy clubs with only a rough idea of what would it would take to juggle in a place devoid of drunken hecklers or hobbits. ZACH is a regional theater. Regional theaters don't work with acts like ours. Let me repeat that with some caps. Regional theaters DO NOT work with acts like ours. So why did Dave Steakley bring us in from the cold? You'd have to ask him, but it made all the difference. The creative team at ZACH gave us many gifts. We toured beautiful theaters across North America for years using the costumes designed by Leslie Bonnell, the set designed by Heyd Fontenot and the music written by Allen Robertson. More than any other town in America, this is our town, and more than any other theater in America, this is our home theater, this is our theatrical family and this is our family reunion.

Our thanks to everyone on staff here, new and old, for efforts that go beyond a paycheck – and artistry that goes beyond compare. We will be hanging up the clubs again after this little tour, and we promise to only get back together again when the fate of the world hangs in the balance, and the magic goat horn is blown to summon once more, The Flaming Idiots.

– Rob Williams

DID YOU KNOW?

The earliest records of juggling date back to ancient Egypt. Several images of women juggling were discovered on the tomb of an unknown Egyptian prince!

David Critchfield and John Jones hold seven world records in bounce juggling - they are the only juggling team in history to pass sixteen objects between them! (via *Guinness World Records*)

About the Company



KEVIN HUNT (*Walter*) - After retiring as an Idiot in 2004, Kevin finds himself in Mandeville, Louisiana, just across Lake Pontchartrain from New Orleans. While in Louisiana Kevin has helped build and repair homes, reupholster furniture, perform in a burlesque show and brew beer.

Reuniting with his partners to once again spread some "Hey" is an honor that he does not take lightly as he looks looking forward to the laughter and the lights once again.



JON O'CONNOR (*Pyro*) - traveled and performed with The Flaming Idiots for 20 years and is happy to be back in the role that has brought him more joy than any other. Since the dissolving of the Idiots, he has gone on to perform in several independent film projects including *Moonlighting* and *Take the Moon*, and is a spokesman for the Independent Cinema Arts Network, an organization dedicated to the production of independent film projects. Jon also teaches for The Jugheads, a Minneapolis-based juggling organization. As head coach of The Ultimate Club, a juggling team, Jon has led the group to a gold medal at the International Juggler competition in 2009. Jon is also married to Stephanie, his beautiful wife of 13 years, who works as a private chef and chocolatier. She also makes him very, very happy, as does performing for you here tonight.



ROB WILLIAMS (*Gyro*) - toured with Kevin Hunt and Jon O' Connor as part of The Flaming Idiots for twenty years. Idiot highlights include appearances on *The Tonight Show* with Jay Leno, at ZACH Theatre and three previous runs Off-Broadway at The New Victory. Following the Idiots' retirement in 2004, Rob was cast as the elf in *The Santaland Diaries* as Bill Clinton and Ken Burns in Anna Deavere Smith's *House Arrest* (at ZACH Theatre). After moving to Los Angeles, he worked as a writer and cast member on *The Queer Edge* with Jack E. Jett and Sandra Bernhard, as the warm up comic on the first season of *America's Got Talent* (where he got to introduce both Regis and Hasselhoff every night!), wrote and directed the play *Classless*

About the Company

Reunion, and wrote for the television show *Battle of the Bands*. He has studied long form improv with The Upright Citizens Brigade in Los Angeles, as well as sketch writing with Second City Los Angeles, and stand up comedy with Judy Carter and Greg Dean. This year he has performed in New Zealand, Ireland, and Harveysburg, Ohio. You can see more of what Rob is up to at www.robsho.com.

THE BAND



ALLEN ROBERTSON (*Composer, Musical Director and Keyboards*) Allen is an Emmy Award®-winning cocreator of the PBS children's show *The Biscuit Brothers*, as well as a co-producer, performer, writer and composer for the show. Allen is an award-winning musical director, playwright, actor, director, sound designer and musician, and has worked on hundreds of productions from Chicago to Japan and just about everywhere in between. Additionally, he is a composer with credits including the documentary film *Beyond Black Rock*, the musical *Jouet* and the ballet *Secret Garden*.



THOMAS NUENDEL (*Violin*) - was born and raised in Schenectady, N.Y., where he began studying the violin at the age of eight with Ms. Jean Peck. After studying classically through high school, his interest in improvisational music took him around the country with various types of bands, including acoustic blues, New Orleans jazz, Sephardic music, and forays into Irish and bluegrass. Thomas has been working with The Flaming Idiots since they discovered him moping around the Texas Renaissance Faire acting bored and petulant. The Idiots brought him on the trio's first theater run in New York City, where he continued to act bored and petulant. Thomas can often be found in Austin, Texas, and New Orleans, trying to hustle up a gig. This seems to keep him out of trouble and relatively happy.

About the Company



ARNIE YAÑEZ (*Percussion*) – is from Alice, Texas, and has lived in Austin for 25 years. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from the University of Texas and has been teaching band in the Austin Independent School District for 20 years. He serves as Percussion Specialist for the Austin Youth Orchestra. He has performed in over 100 musical productions in the Austin area. As a percussionist for The Flaming Idiots, he has performed at New Victory Theater in 2000 and 2010. In addition to theater work, he has worked as a studio drummer and percussionist for radio, television and film recordings as well as various jazz, rock and Latin bands in the Austin area. As a member of the Biscuit Brothers' "Itty Bitty Biscuit Band" aka "Gravy," he appears on the Biscuit Brothers Television Show. When not working, Mr. Yañez devotes all his time to his beautiful wife Penny and their two children Zach (16) and Maddie (10).

DID YOU KNOW?

There is no Japanese word for juggling. Instead they use the words "tejina" meaning magic, "kyokugei" meaning unusual performance, and "otedama" meaning hand plus ball.

In 2008, Erik Kloeker set the World Record for Upside-Down Juggling, juggling three balls for 4 minutes and 5 seconds! (via *Guinness World Records*)

The current world record for juggling in a group is 2 men, 16 balls and 74 catches!