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DESIRE UNDER THE ELMS

BY EUGENE O'NEILL
PART OF O'NEILLFEST 2006
January 19 to 22 / 26 to 29
Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall, University of Winnipeg

Under two dark, ancient elms
Under the roof of a decaying house
Under the domination of two parents, one living, one dead
Desire will awaken

WINNIPEG, JANUARY 6, 2006 – In the cold of winter, **University of Winnipeg Theatre Students' Association** is heating up the stage with Eugene O'Neill's **DESIRE UNDER THE ELMS**, its contribution to **Manitoba Theatre Centre's O'NEILLFEST 2006**.

DESIRE UNDER THE ELMS is the fiery story of the Cabots, a farming family whose patriarch has already buried two wives. While his three sons plot to gain control of their inheritance, Ephraim returns with a new wife, Abbie. Strong, passionate and seductive, Abbie longs for what we all crave – a deep, consuming love. And she's finally found her match. Her new husband's youngest son, Eben.

Drawing from O'Neill's own dark life, as well as ancient Greek tragedy, **DESIRE UNDER THE ELMS** drives furiously towards the heart of the question: what does the human heart truly desire?

DESIRE UNDER THE ELMS stars **Toby Hughes** (Eben Cabot) and **Mel Marginet** (Abbie Putnam), along with **Michael Higgins** (Ephraim Cabot), **James Firby** (Simeon Cabot) and **Brett Donahue** (Peter Cabot) under the leadership of first-time director **Matthew TenBruggencate** (recently seen at MTC in *A Christmas Carol*) and featuring the creative work of **Kristy Fredrick** (Set Designer), **Abigail Myers** (Costume Designer), **Ryan Morton** (Sound Designer), **Liette Kelsch** (Prop Designer), **Lara Strain** (Lighting Designer) and **Amanda Wowryk** (Stage Manager).

Running at **The University of Winnipeg** in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall, **January 19 to 22 and 26 to 29**, at approximately **90 minutes**, admission is regular \$10 and \$8 for students, seniors and the matinee shows. **For showtimes and phone reservations, phone the box office 786.9152.** Information may also be found in the **O'NEILLFEST** playbill, at www.oneillfest.com/uw.html.



Photos

All photos are available for high-resolution download at
<http://www.oneillfest.com/press.html>



Eben Cabot and Abbie Putnam in O'Neill's dark tragedy *Desire Under the Elms*



The University of Winnipeg Theatre Students Association's Production of *Desire Under the Elms*