

SYLLABUS
The Golden Horseshoe: A Lecture on Tragedy
Don't Tell Mama
343 W. 46th Street, NYC

Tuition and fees: \$15.00 + 2 drink minimum

Teaching Assistant: Luke Rosen

LECTURE OVERVIEW

Professor Stanley, with his teaching assistant Luke Rosen in tow, will transform your life as he takes you on a true-life Odyssey through the existential tunnel of country music terror. Take notes, there'll be a quiz at the end (note that the syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion).



Professor Stanley at 16 months, January, 1969

Jeffrey Stanley's play *Tesla's Letters*, a wartime drama set in Yugoslavia, premiered at The Ensemble Studio Theatre, directed by Curt Dempster and funded by a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. It has been performed in the UK at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and throughout the US. The script has been published by Samuel French which named the play one of the ten best dramas of 1999. He was commissioned by the Mill Mountain Theatre to write the play *Medicine, Man*, a comedy about medical ethics and NASCAR, which world premiered in 2003 directed by Jere Hodgins, and which will receive its Southwest premiere at Theatre Three Dallas in 2005. He was a Copeland Fellow in Playwriting at Amherst College where he completed his play *UFOs Over Brooklyn*. His work has also been performed at LaMama E.T.C., the Chashama Arts Space, and is frequently read at Naked Angels. His screenplay *Brain On Fire*, which he will direct, has been optioned by producer Matt Myers with casting by Mabry-Super (this project was represented at the 2004 IFP Market). He has also written screenplays for Oscar-winning director Barbara Kopple and for

Andrew Lauren Productions. Screenwriting awards include the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Award, the New York Picture Company Award for Best Dramatic Screenplay, the Laurel Entertainment Award for Screenwriting Excellence, and a residency at Yaddo. In addition to teaching playwriting and screenwriting at NYU he has lectured at Amherst College, Gotham Writers' Workshop, and The Imaginary Academy film and theatre workshop in Croatia sponsored by the Soros Foundation. Stanley has also appeared as a guest writer in *The New York Times* and in *Time Out New York*. He is a member of the advisory panel for Boston University's *Center for Millennial Studies'* scholarly journal on millennialism in pop culture to debut in 2005. Stanley holds an MFA from the Dramatic Writing Program at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts where he studied under playwright David Ives. He received his BFA in Film & Television Production from Tisch with a minor in cultural anthropology. Stanley likes to canoe the Gowanus Canal, and is as comfortable in jeans as he is in a tux. Sometimes he even wears both.

Course Requirements

The attendance policy is simple: order two drinks, stay for the entire lecture, take notes and complete the quiz. Attendance at the post-lecture Q&A at the nearest bar is optional.

No textbooks are required.

Grading Attendance, 50% of your final grade Quiz, 50% of your final grade

CONT'D-->>

Luke Rosen (Teaching Assistant) is co-Artistic Director of Eastcheap Rep. Luke originated the role of Joe in Eastcheap's original hit JUMPERS and most recently Kyle in FRICTION. Other theater credits include: Andy in LOVE LETTERS at Chashama, Laertes in HAMLET at the Zipper Theater, Barker in Woyzeck at the Cherry Lane Theater, Pip in GREAT EXPECTATIONS, Kulygin in THE THREE SISTERS, Horatio in HAMLET and Johnny in Professor Stanley's original play LADY IN A BOX. Film and television: Big Hat, Hack, Third Watch and Law & Order SVU.

You are not to feel yourself bound in the slightest way, any more than I shall. There must be perfect freedom on both sides. See, here is your ring back. Give me mine.
- from Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, 1879

The Golden Horseshoe: A Lecture on Tragedy

1. The tuxedo made its American debut in 1886 in what city:
a. Tuxedo Park, NY b. Wedding Planner, MN
c. Divorce, WV d. Cufflink, AZ
2. The protagonist's ex-wife would describe him as:
a. a wonderful husband b. emotionally retarded and clinically narcissistic
c. too coddled by his mother d. too coddled by his father
3. The protagonist's biological father drank himself to death on:
a. Stoli O and cranberry b. chocotinis
c. mojitos d. Jack Daniel's Whiskey
4. The protagonist's maternal grandmother:
a. had a PhD in Spanish Literature
b. had an 8th grade education and was out picking tobacco at the age of 4
c. was thrilled to learn his mother was pregnant with him
d. lived in a spacious mansion
5. The protagonist's paternal great-grandmother:
a. was a full-blooded Swede b. was a full-blooded Cherokee
c. was a full-blooded mulatto d. was a full-blooded Italian
6. True or False: Silenus was a Greek playwright: TRUE FALSE
7. Elvis' TCB-lightning bolt logo stands for:
a. Takin' Care of Business in a Flash c. The Country's Best Lightning
b. Tall Cherokee Bastard d. Tesla Changed Business
8. The Frye boot company was founded by John Frye in:
a. 1763 c. 1863
b. 1963 d. 1656
9. The protagonist's tragic flaw is that he is:
a. obsessed with Elvis b. obsessed with his own origin
c. obsessed with women d. all of the above
10. The protagonist would make a good father. TRUE FALSE
11. EXTRA CREDIT: Ladies, would you be willing to have a child with the protagonist? *Bear in mind that this will require frequent sex and might not involve marriage. (circle one)*

a. yes b. no

If you answered "a" to question 11, please submit your photo, your medical history, pictures of your parents and grandparents, and a copy of your birth certificate to the e-mail address at top left. Appropriate candidates will be contacted for a drinks meeting.

OVER-->>

Ellie H. Hanlon (Prof. Stanley's Ex-Wife) was born in Chicago and raised in Tampa, FL by a pack of wolves. She studied acting during a summer enrichment program and played the part of Tree in the pageant staged for the parents. After high school she moved to New York City to pursue higher education. She really loves school and is on the verge of finishing her PhD in Educational Psychology at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. When she is not canoeing on the Gowanus Canal or exploring various parts of the city in search of excellent Mexican food she works at New York University on an evaluation of a school literacy intervention.

Juliana Trivers (Fiddler) recently received her Ph.D. in Music Composition and Theory from NYU. She writes music, teaches, and fiddles in the bands Hank Plank and the 2x4's, Sweet Jeebus, St. Felix Station, and the Washington Square Harp and Shamrock Orchestra.

Many thanks to Sidney Myer, technical director Bob Kneeland and the entire *Don't Tell Mama* staff.

Be good to your server.

**STANLEY AND ROSEN, TOGETHER AGAIN
NEXT WEEK AT THE CHERRY LANE WHEN EASTCHEAP REP PRESENTS...**

JUDE LAW IS NOT IN THESE PLAYS

three short plays written by John Lordan and Jeffrey Stanley

directed by John Lordan, Peter Chenot, and Jeffrey Stanley

with:

Luke Rosen - Chris Chaberski - Peter Chenot - Philip Easley

Juliet Fara - Sally Jackson - Molly Kidder*

John Lordan* - Matt Scanlon

*courtesy of Actors Equity

Margaret Bodriguian (stage manager) - Andrew Boyce (set) - Hannah Holdsworth (costumes) -
Jesse Lowenstein (lights)

**THREE NIGHTS ONLY: Thursday 2/10, Friday 2/11, Saturday 2/12
7:30pm (run-time 1 hr) - tickets \$10 (at the door only)**

**Cherry Lane Theatre
38 Commerce St @ 7th Ave South
(1/9 to Christopher St.)**

www.eastcheaprep.com