

## The Wall

"At Mount Holyoke, we know that growing as a person is as much a part of your education as your academic studies. Joining this unique community offers a distinct opportunity to live among different ideas and different cultures. We encourage our students to laugh, dance, play, and see just how brightly they can shine. Mount Holyoke is a place to discover all that you are—how you want to change the world."

—MHC Website accessed at <<http://www.mtholyoke.edu/cic/stulife/>>

**Taking the official language of the MHC website as a starting point, *certain girls...* draws from a wide range of texts and phenomena exploring identity and community. The languages of anonymous web posts, personal narratives, marketing material, and more all co-exist on a shifting landscape of secrets, longings, histories, and memories. Inspired by the experimental approaches of theater, dance, and performance art, the ensemble creates a theatrical terrain where the embodied and virtual intersect.**

"Among all these sites, I am interested in certain ones that have the curious property of being in relation with all the other sites, but in such a way as to suspect, neutralize, or invent the set of relations that they happen to designate, mirror, or reflect. ... These counter-sites [are] a kind of enacted utopia in which all the other real sites are simultaneously represented, contested, and inverted. ... Thus it is that the theater brings onto the rectangle of the stage, one after the other, a whole series of places that are foreign to one another... [and] a system of opening and closing that both isolates them and makes them penetrable."

—Michel Foucault, *Of Other Spaces: Heterotopias* [1967], accessed at <<http://foucault.info/documents/heteroTopia/foucault.heteroTopia.en.html>>

## Groups (For the Department)

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Roger Babb, Professor/Director of Theatre      | Vanessa James, Professor/Chair   |
| Barbara Bunyan, Business Mgr./Sr. Admin. Asst. | Erika Rundle, Asst. Professor    |
| Joyce Devlin, Professor                        | Sophia Skiles, Visiting Lecturer |
| Lara Dubin, Lighting/Sound Technician          | Patricia Spees, Costumer         |
| Suzanne Hayden, Technical Director             |                                  |



## Status

*certain girls...* is an ensemble-based performance where the embodied and virtual intersect.

## Friends in Other Networks

- Director:** Sophia Skiles
- Collaborator:** Erika Rundle
- Set Designer:** David M. Barber
- Costume Designers:** Quinn Burgess, Jen Stone
- Lighting Designer:** Barbara Harrison
- Sound Designer:** Emily Freeman
- Technical Director:** Suzanne Hayden
- Costumer:** Patricia Spees
- Publicity:** Barbara Bunyan
- Photographer:** Fred LeBlanc
- Media Designer:** Laura Blaguszewski
- Lighting & Sound Supervisor:** Lara Dubin

## *certain girls...*

Sex: You mean gender!  
Interested In: Life  
Relationship Status: Complicated  
Looking For: Everything

## Mini-Feed

**Today**  
Talkback directly after each show with *certain girls...* cast & crew.

## Upcoming: Project Theatre

- May 4-5, 2007 @ 3pm  
*Much Ado About Nothing*  
Gettell Amphitheatre
- May 6, 2007 @ 2pm  
One-Act Festival  
Chapin Auditorium

## Mt. Holyoke Friends (The Ensemble)

Anni Amberg	Carolina Barreat	Punnee Bunma
Ari Chadwick-Saund	Rachel Chen	Meredith Collins
Sueann Leung	Aida Mbowa	Hannah Montgomery
Caitlin Morse	Diana Pho	Marissa Sicley
	Kristen Voyvodich	

## Information (Director's Notes)

In *Lectures in America*, poet, novelist, and playwright Gertrude Stein posits a new theory of dramatic form and content. In lieu of accepted principles of character and plot, she offers a structure founded on the idea of “landscape.” Of her opus *Four Saints in Three Acts*, Stein observes: “a landscape does not move nothing really moves in a landscape but things are there, and I put into the play the things that were there.”

Relying on repetition, juxtaposition, and simultaneity, *certain girls...* creates a space for “the things that were there” to co-exist. Those “things” are the ensemble’s own memories, imaginations, and fascinations—reflected, remembered, and replicated in the sounds, texts, and images of the performance. This theatrical landscape is necessarily anxious and unreconciled, as the dynamics of identity and community often are. Who are we? What is this place? Who do we become when we are in this place?

As Stein reminds us, “All these things might have been a story, but as a landscape they were just there and a play is just there.”  
—Sophia Skiles

Gertrude Stein, *Lectures in America* ([1935] Boston: Beacon Press, 1985), 129, 131.

## Groups (Special Thanks)

Ben Paul	Jen Garner
John Laprade	Lee Goffin-Bonenfant
Staff of MHC: Facilities Management	Staff of MHC’s LITS

## Mt. Holyoke Friends (Production Crew)

**Stage Manager:** Allison Carney  
**Assistant Stage Manager:** Allyse Knox  
**Dramaturg:** Kylie McCormick  
**Assistant Dramaturg:** Ariel Franklin-Hudson  
**Head of Props:** Shahla Farzan  
**House Manager:** Julia Isenberg  
**Assistant Set Designer:** Anya Usova  
**Shop Carpenter:** Barry Magnani  
**Costume Mistress:** Marina Lawson

**Lighting Preparation:** Caitlin Morse, Sarah Merhar, Kim Allen, Allison Carney, Lauren Fagone, Althea Greenstone, Theadora Hadzisavidis, Emilie Heidel, Ryder Henderson, Lila Khan, Natalie Martin, Kristen Voyvodich, Melanie Zarycky  
**Scenic Preparation:** Danielle Sanfilippo, Christina Machaby  
**Costume Preparation:** Shelly Smith, Althea Greenstone, Rebecca Sweet, Zeinab Cama, Jasmine Le, Jemila Abduiai

**Costume Running Crew:** Marina Lawson, Aggie Traye, Stephanie Jung, Elizabeth Keach  
**Media Running Crew:** Sarah Merhar, Emilie Heidel  
**Light Board Operator:** Crystal Menninga  
**Sound Board Operator:** Lila Khan  
**Scenic Running Crew:** Tho Ngo  
**Prop Running Crew:** Ruth Canter  
**Business Crew:** Hannah Duff, Staphanie Otto, Elise Evans, Chuluunstetseg Chuluunbatar

**Costume Shop Assistants:** Anna Usova, Althea Greenstone  
**Seamstress:** Lee Goffin-Bonenfant  
**Scene Shop Assistants:** Barbara Harrison, Piper O’Sullivan, Melanie Zarycky  
**Costume Shop Assistants:** Deborah Evans, Elizabeth Smolin, Shaina Roux, Joyce Schaubert, Steadroy Bradshaw