

Stanford Summer Theater  
551 Serra Mall  
Stanford, CA 9430-5010  
650-723-0485; 814-1333 (Press)

Stanford Summer Theater Presents  
Max Frisch's Biedermann and the Firebugs

Announcing its fifth season of professional theater in the South Bay, Stanford Summer Theater presents Max Frisch's searing political comedy, Biedermann and the Firebugs.

Max Frisch, the noted Swiss playwright and architect (he once worked in Redwood City!) turns up the heat on the Biedermanns, an upper-middle-class suburban couple. A Chorus of heroic Firemen protect them from unknown arsonists who spread fear and flames throughout the town. But something keeps the Biedermanns up late at night. Is it the strange men they're sheltering in the attic? With uproarious humor, Frisch peers deep into the heart of guilt and complacency, fashioning a comic fable of surprising relevance for our post-9/11 world.

As in past SST productions, Biedermann and the Firebugs features striking visual imagery and a script of wild intelligence, inviting us to experience theater as a place of imagination, insight, and thought. Aleksandra Wolska directs, the Polish artist who staged SST productions of The Chairs, Waiting for Godot, and When the Shark Bites, the Brecht-Weill cabaret that played at the International Theatre Festival in Shanghai, China.

The cast of 12 includes Rush Rehm (Pozzo in Godot) as Gottlieb Biedermann, Kay Kostopoulos (major credits at ACT, CalShakes, and SF Shakespeare Festival) as Babette Biedermann, Annie Abrams (Ela in TheatreWorks' Charley's Aunt) as the maid Anna, and--as the two Firebugs--Jarek Truszczyński (Old Man in The Chairs, Gogo in Godot, both opposite Geoff Hoyle) and James Shelby (Vanya in Uncle Vanya). Lighting by Chad Bonaker (resident designer for West Bay Opera) and costumes by Paris designer Latifah Medjdoub.

Biedermann and the Firebugs previews Wednesday July 17 at 8:00 p.m. in Pigott Theater, a 200-seat charmer on the Stanford campus, and runs Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m., Sunday at 7:00 p.m., July 18-August 11, with a matinee Sunday August 11 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets at Stanford Ticket Office in Tresidder Student Union (650-725-ARTS), at Pigott (formerly Little) Theater box office (725-5838), or online at the SST website [www.stanfordtheater.org](http://www.stanfordtheater.org). All seats general admission, \$22 adult, \$15 seniors/students. Take 101 to Embarcadero West (becomes Galvez across El Camino) to Memorial Way. Tons of free parking.

Come join the Biedermanns for a hot time in the old town. Stanford Summer Theater cracks open the infernal gates, revealing a comic underworld much like our own, where our erstwhile neighbors fight for their share of the eternal flame.