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DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS

ANNE SHAPLAND TO PLAY LEAD IN TENNESSEE WILLIAMS' "SUMMER AND SMOKE,"
COMING TO E.I.U. THEATRE

Anne Shapland will be seen in the leading role of a suppressed minister's daughter, Alma Winemiller, in the EIU Theatre's presentation of Tennessee Williams' dramatic hit, "Summer and Smoke," at the Fine Arts Center Theatre, opening November 14 at 8:00 pm.

As the ne'er-do-well doctor's son whom the frustrated Alma loves with a life's devotion but is destined never to marry, Randy Arney will be playing the other leading role in "Summer and Smoke," which was written by the author of such other widely-hailed plays of our time as "A Streetcar Named Desire" and "The Glass Menagerie."

Set in a sleepy small town in Mississippi, "Summer and Smoke" is the story of a highly sensitive young spinster who has adored the roistering young doctor next door since they were classmates as children. But the prim Alma is repulsed by John's debauched ways, and he by her puritanism.

On almost all points they seem to be in conflict. He twits her for her affectations and intellectual diletantism. She is appalled that such a brilliant young man would waste himself in profligate living. She stresses the spiritual quality of love, while he finds no spot for the soul on his anatomy chart.

By the time they come to accept each other's ideas, he learning to believe in the soul, and she in the flesh, it is too late. Alma has won her argument, but she has lost John to one of her music pupils.

In the University Theatre's presentation of "Summer and Smoke" Jim Kleckner will be seen in the role of Alma's severe father, Karen Eubanks as Alma's childish mother, the burden of whose care has contributed to the girl's neurotic condition, while Teri McClure will portray the uninhibited girl who wins the doctor.

John Hightower will be seen as a mother-dominated young man who is fond of Alma, Linda Rosenthal will have a flamboyant part as a Mexican temptress who has an interlude with the doctor, and Katie Sullivan will be seen as a malicious small-town gossip.

Other roles have been assigned to Scott Stanley, Joan Allen, Frank Calo, Gerry Scog, and Barry Johnson. The production is being directed by Gerald Sullivan. The unusual set, which encompasses a park, the doctor's office and a room in the rectory, is being designed by C.P. Blanchette. The authentic period costumes are designed by Cindy Russell.

Other performances are scheduled for November 15, 21, and 22 at 8:00 pm and November 23 at 2:00 pm in the Fine Arts Theatre.