Sponsored by English, Women's Studies and the UAH Humanities Center
UAH Theatre presents the world premiere production of

Four Spirits

A PLAY BASED ON THE NOVEL BY SENA JETER NASLUND

February 7, 8, 9 at 7:30pm
February 9 and 10 at 2:30pm

CHAN AUDITORIUM

THEATRICAL ADAPTATION BY
Sena Jeter Naslund and Elaine Hughes

DIRECTED BY
Shannon Graham

Students $5.00  Adults $10.00
For ticket information and group rates call 824-6210
www.uah.edu/theatre

UAH
The University of Alabama in Huntsville

TICKETS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT
Department of English
222 Morton Hall, UAH
256-824-6320

Information Desk
University Center, UAH
256-824-6009

stearns coffee
2113 Whitesburg Drive, Huntsville
256-534-0513 (located behind Steak-Out)
Sena Jeter Naslund (Author) - Sena Jeter Naslund first gained national prominence in 1999 with her bestselling novel, *Ahab’s Wife*, which was a Book of the Month Club main selection and named by *Time Magazine* as one of the top five novels of the year. Her most recent book, *Abundance: A Novel of Marie Antoinette* (2006), also made The New York Times Extended Bestseller List. The theatrical adaptation of her novel *Four Spirits* (2003) was originally commissioned and developed by the Alabama Shakespeare Festival, under Kent Thompson, Producing Artistic Director. Naslund is a native of Birmingham and earned her B.A. in English at Birmingham-Southern College. She earned her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Iowa’s prestigious Iowa Writers’ Workshop, and she is Professor of English and Writer in Residence at the University of Louisville. She also directs the short-residency M.F.A program at Spalding University. She is the recipient of numerous honors and awards for her writing, including grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Harper Lee Fiction Award, the Southeastern Library Association Award in Fiction, and the Lawrence Prize in Fiction.

Elaine W. Hughes (Author) - Elaine Hughes is a professor of English at the University of Montevallo, where she teaches courses in contemporary literature and composition. She earned her B.A., with highest honors, from Alabama College (now University of Montevallo) in 1969 and her Ph.D. in English in 1979 from the University of Alabama, where she was a National Defense Education Act Fellow. She is co-author, with Sena Jeter Naslund, of *Four Spirits*, a play adapted from Naslund’s best-selling novel. Hughes was named the Carnegie Foundation CASE Professor of the Year for Alabama in 1998-99. She is Immediate Past Chair of Alabama Humanities Foundation Board of Directors and of Alabama Historic Ironworks Commission; she is author of 40 funded grant projects, totaling more than $200,000. She is a founding member of the Advisory Board of the Children's Literacy Council of Alabama. Hughes is the 2007 recipient of the Eugene Current-Garcia Award for Distinction in Literary Scholarship, presented annually by the Association of College English Teachers of Alabama (ACETA). She and her husband, Robert, a general contractor, live in Brierfield; they have three married children and eight grandchildren.

Robin Arnold (Old Charlotte) - At the age of 46, Robin Arnold is a single mother of four awesome children: Angela Buckner, 24, Julian Buckner, 23, Alexandria Buckner, 19 and Tiffany Buckner, 17. Robin has performed professionally as well as in community theatre for over 30 years. In 2006 she received a Wings Award from the Huntsville theatre community for her role as Quilly McGrath in *The Old Settler*. Robin feels honored and blessed to participate in the world premiere of *Four Spirits*. 
Sherika Nicole Gaines (Gloria Callahan) - Sherika is a local musician and actor. She has performed in The Hobbit and The Love for 3 Oranges with Fantasy Playhouse and The Serpent and Once on This Island, a Lee High School production. She was on the news with Channels 19 and 31 and has musically performed around town on piano and guitar.

Rebecca Purcell (Cat Cartright) - Rebecca Purcell has been involved in professional and community theatre (both on and off stage) since she was very young. She is also a professional singer with the Turner Family Band, a full-time student, and part-time student worker. With her schedule so full, she greatly enjoys what time she can spend with her loving and very supportive husband, Patrick. She is thrilled to be involved with this production, and sincerely thanks Patrick, her family, and friends for all of their support during this very busy semester!

Kaye Lewis-Jones (Christine Powers) - Kaye Lewis-Jones is a Huntsville native. Music being her first love, she was a fixture in her school choruses from age five through college. She is a 1980 graduate of Johnson High School and attended the University of Montevallo, where she majored in music. She graduated magna cum laude with an Associate degree from J. F. Drake State in 2005, and has served in administrative support with the Alabama Medicaid Agency since 2004.

Jeremy Saxton (Edmund Powers) - Jeremy Saxton is nine-years old and is a student in the fourth grade at Blossomwood Elementary School. He likes reading, math, and social studies.

Xavier Frye (Charles Powers) - Xavier Frye is nineteen years old and has been acting since he was ten. He has played various roles with Fantasy Playhouse and Renaissance Theatre. He will be attending UAH during the summer and fall semesters of 2008 pursuing a career in performance.
Byron D. Houston (Rev. Lionel Parrish) - Byron Houston is originally a native of Cherokee, Alabama, and has been a Huntsville resident since 1996. He studied psychology at the University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa) and is currently enrolled at Alabama A&M University to complete his Bachelor’s degree. While he credits most of his acting experience to church plays, he has also studied performing arts under the direction of Jean Hammons and Bruce Bouchet of Onstage Performing Arts here in Madison County. Byron is also a Methodist minister and plans to attend the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, Georgia, next year.

Joe C. Owen (Jonathan Green) - Joe Owen is a junior nursing major and a married father of two. *Four Spirits* is his second play and his first dramatic role. Joe would like to thank his wife Anna for her patience with the hectic rehearsal schedule.

Sherri Smith Headrick (Agnes LaFayt) - Sherri Smith Headrick is proud to originate the role of Agnes LaFayt. Her last performance on the Chan Auditorium stage was in *The Vagina Monologues* where she met the man of her dreams, Byron Headrick. Sherri received a Wings Award for her role as Jenny Lynn in *The Last Rose of Summer*. She thanks her immediate and extended family for their encouragement and for their thoughtful support of her theatre interests.

Jonathan Curtis (TJ LaFayt) - Jonathan is a full-time student at UAH who is a Communication Arts major and a Business minor. He also has an appreciation for arts, history, and worry-free people. It brings him joy to see people happy, so he enjoys investing time in the theatre program to do just that.

Sangreal Smith (Stella Silver) - Sangreal Smith is appearing on stage for the first time since her one-line debut in the third grade! She is a local business owner and recently realized that work consumed all her time and energy. She thought that acting would be an opportunity for her to challenge herself while escaping the realities of her daily routine. She would like to thank her friend, Judy, for shouldering the bulk of her workload, thereby making it possible for her to participate in this play. Mostly, she would like to thank her husband, Eric, for his continued love, patience, and encouragement.
Adam Michael Howard (Mike Powers/Mr. Bones) - Adam Michael Howard is very excited to do his first play with UAH Theatre. And this is such an exciting play to do. Adam has been in numerous plays in his 20 years of life, including performing with Theatre Huntsville. Adam would like to thank his family and friends for support. Also he would like to thank Shannon Graham for this opportunity. And such a great cast deserves a great pat on the back!

Shannon Graham (Director) - Shannon Graham grew up in Huntsville and graduated from Butler High. She has studied theatre at Montevallo, UAB, and is now a graduate student at UAH in the English Department. After receiving her instrumentation certification she spent several years working as a contractor and has now returned home to be with family.

Sarah Jean McCrea (1st Assistant Director/Stage Manager) - Sarah Jean McCrea is currently a junior at UAH majoring in English literature. She has traveled extensively in the U.S. with her family, as her father is a government worker. She has been involved in music and theatre in Colorado Springs, performing in the debut of Bobby Womack, and sang in a Christmas performance with The Denver Brass. She performed at Epcot during their 2001 Christmas gala. She is also an accomplished classical pianist.

Satin Scott (2nd Assistant Director/Stage Manager) - Satin Scott is a Senior student at the University of Alabama in Huntsville majoring in English with a minor in Communication Arts. When she is not going to class or studying, she works as a part-time tutor and enjoys spending time with her husband, Shawn. She is new to theatre, but is very honored and excited to be assisting with this truly amazing production.

Elizabeth Baxley (Props) - Elizabeth Baxley is a junior English major at UAH with a double minor in Spanish and theatre. She has performed in various ballets, including Community Ballet Association’s The Nutcracker and Alabama Youth Ballet’s Paquita. She has performed in both Mother Courage and All in the Timing with UAH Theatre.

Nia Hunter (Costumes) - Nia Hunter is a Studio Art major at UAH. She has worked with UAH Theatre for multiple previous productions including Vanities and Suburbia. She loves working in the theatre and plans to pursue costume design on a graduate level. Nia would like to thank David Harwell, Shannon Graham, and the entire UAH Theatre department for the opportunities and experience they have provided.