

Who is Gordon Gekko?

Gordon Gekko is a fictional antagonist in both Oliver Stone's 1989 film, *Wall Street*, and our own 2010 production, *Judgment Is Good*, an adaption of the Wakefield Master's *The Last Judgement*. In both, he is presented as the archetype of greed. In fact, his famous line, "Greed, for a lack of a better word, is good," is the origin of our play's title, *Judgment Is Good*.

A Brief History of English 312:

Gettysburg's Medieval Drama class has been performing modern productions of Medieval plays since 1999. This course involves combining classroom lecture and discussion, independent research, and the collaborative effort of scripting, staging, and producing a Medieval play. Recent productions include a 2005 *Goodfellas*-inspired version of the York "Crucifixion" play and a 2008 Brat-Pack version of "Castle of Perseverance."

A Special Thanks to:

Suzanne Flynn	Jane Freeborn	Becca Lausch
Linda Miller	Susan Russell	IKON staff

Their efforts have made this production and learning experience important.

GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

Medieval Drama Spring 2010 Presents:

JUDGMENT Is Good

**Hell is about to get
a whole lot bigger!**



April 30 and May 1

Steps of Breidenbaugh Hall

THE CAST:

Chris Brown	The Launderer
Adam Clever	Jesus
Matthew Coffey	The Warden
Erin Cushing	Lust
Emily Davis	Zombie Dancer
Anthony DeSalva	Dead Pimp
Jill Edgerton	Zombie Dancer
Chris Fee	Demon / Dancer
Aimee Griffin	Dead Banker / Dancer
Brenden Hager	Fundraiser
Tommy Harkins	Weather Man / Dancer
Jacob Henkoff	Gordon Gekko
Conor Jeffers	Piggy Bank
Becca Lausch	Zombie Dancer
Erika Lavoie	Satan
Eleanor Leaman	Pride
Robert Levesque	Philanthropist
Annela Levitov	Dead Broker / Dancer
JD Mazzocco	Dead Counterfeiter
Chase McMullen	News Anchor / Dancer
Paul McShee	Dog-Fighter / Michael Vick
Teddy Miller	Ribald / Dancer
Rachel Rakoff	Drug Dealer
Nick Rosenberger	College Professor
Laura Saporito	Bank Robber
Emily Shrum	Blackmailer
Amy Shinko	Angel
Chris Simard	Trustee
Edward Swain	Embezzler
Nik Tama	Beelzebub / Dancer
Marci Zimmerman	Filming the Production

DRAMATURGY:

In a nutshell, dramaturgy refers to how a play is made. This covers everything from the textual structure of a play to design choices made by set makers and costumers. It includes things like research on historical and thematic aspects of a play as well as research on past productions of a play. All of these things are part of how the dramatization of a story comes about.

Our main goal has been to engage in a study of dramatic text that goes beyond simply identifying the basic narrative to mining for the important questions the narrative poses and the specific ways a certain community chooses to pose them: aligning the “what” with the “why” and “how.”

Our biggest challenge in the translation process has been bringing the “why” and “how” components to the modern dramatization in a way that remains true to the Medieval text. Retelling the Biblical narrative of the last judgment was not the difficult task here -- posing the specific questions and dramatic devices that resonated with a Medieval audience has been the challenge.

The zombie component enhances the element of translation that deals with the comedy of evil. Comedy of evil proves an incredibly rich and vital hallmark of Medieval liturgical drama. Often employing anachronistic and vernacular references, comedy of evil helped make the Biblical narratives more relatable to the lives of Medieval audiences. At the same time, it reinforced an important contrast between the divinity of Christ and the worldliness of mortals corrupted by Satan’s influence. As is often the case with the zombie apocalypse and other genres of modern horror films, gratuitous exhibition of villainous evils was a common and popular device exploited in Medieval texts like the Wakefield *Last Judgment*.

-- Becca Lausch '10