Vews & Cues



FEBRUARY 2018

A PUBLICATION FOR AND ABOUT THE PLAYERS GUILD OF DEARBORN

CARISSA MADLEY, EDITOR



GUILD CELEBRATES 90 YEARS.

The Annual Party took place on Saturday, February 10th at the theatre and celebrated not only another successful season, but our 90th birthday as well. Many people braved the ice and snow, enjoying themselves while listening to members share stories from past productions, hearing beautiful live music played by Paul Bruce, conversing with people they hadn't seen in some time, and dining on delicious food.



Special thanks go to our Annual Party Committee

and assistants: Tim Carney, Denise Kowaleski-Tucker, Mike Moseley, Jeff Bartos, John and Lois Sczomak, Inez Hernandez (cake), Josh and Janeen Bodary (food), and Karen Drugacz. We are already looking forward to next year's party!





JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT PRODUCTION

LOST IN YONKERS

SHOW DATES:

March 9-11, 16-18 and 23-25, 2018

Winner of the Pulitzer Prize! Bella is thirty-five years old, mentally challenged, and living at home with her mother, stern Grandma Kurnitz. Ne'er-do-well son Eddie deposits his two young sons on the old lady's doorstep. He is financially strapped and taking to the road as a salesman. The boys are left to contend with Grandma, with Bella and her secret romance, and with Louie, her brother, a small-time hoodlum in a strange new world called Yonkers.

Jacob (Jay) Kurnitz

Nate Hermen

Arthur (Arty) Kurnitz

Forrest Gabel

Bella Kurnitz

Maria McEmeel

Grandma Kurnitz

Sue DeLosier

Louie Kurnitz

Marc Rosati

Eddie Kurnitz

Mark Nathanson

Aunt Gert

Julie Ballantyne Brown

Director

Kim Donovan

Assistant Director

Diane Cliff

Producer

Tim Carney



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CAST AND CREW OF **FOOLS**ON AN INCREDIBLY FUNNY SHOW!

















LOCAL COMMUNITY THEATRE FINDS NEW HOME



Congratulations to Guild member **Kirk Haas** for taking Barefoot Productions from its location in Plymouth to its new home in Livonia! After working hard to create a beautiful, intimate theatre space, Kirk was able to open the theatre with his adaptation of *Macbeth*.

Please consider visiting Barefoot Productions in April for our very own **Brian Townsend**'s production of *Murder Comes* to *Uptight Abbey* starring Guild members old and new: **Ken Kilgore, Alex Gojkov, Kori Bielaniec, Sarah Zakaria, Megan Meade-Higgins, Jillian Drapala,** and **Nick Graham**. Visit the website: http://www.justgobarefoot.com/



AUDITION NOTICE FOR SWEET CHARITY

Charity Hope Valentine always tries to look on the bright side of life, despite working in a rundown dance hall and contending with a seemingly endless run of bad dates who take her heart and her earnings. Determined to find love, Charity falls for suave actor Vittorio Vidal, but their romance is all too brief. However, when Charity finds herself stuck in an elevator with the reserved Oscar Lindquist, it turns out that she may have finally met her match. This vibrant shows features such memorable songs as Big Spender, If My Friends Could See Me Now, and I'm a Brass Band.

Take the time to familiarize yourself with this musical prior to auditions. One can do this by watching the movie starring Shirley MacLaine or the Broadway revival starring Christina Applegate on YouTube. Both are good references to this charming musical. For audition cuts, send an email to pgd.sweet.charity@gmail.com and in the subject line type SWEET CHARITY AUDITIONS. Make sure to include ALL CHARACTERS for which you are interested in auditioning. Please come prepared! It is recommended that the music audition cuts be memorized.

Tentatively all rehearsals will be on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings and some Saturday Mornings. We will rehearse three to four days a week depending on availability of those cast, the role and the production staff. Please note that Charity is in almost every scene and will be required to attend the majority of the rehearsals.



AUDITION DATES:

Monday & Tuesday, March 12-13 Sign-In: 6:30 pm. Auditions begin at 7:30 pm. Callbacks begin at 8:30 pm on Tuesday, March 13.

SHOW DATES:

May 4-6th, 11-13th, 18-20th, and 25-27th, 2018

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS (Ages listed are of the characters, not necessarily of the actors)

CHARITY HOPE VALENTINE – 25-35 (Alto/Mezzo) 'The girl who wanted to be loved'. The show's heroine is a taxi-dancer at the Fandango Ballroom. She is as she sounds; her three names sum her up well. Charity is kind, ambitious and in-and-out of love. She is a gullible, happy go lucky, hopeless romantic who keeps meeting one bad guy after the other. Charity is the eternal optimist no matter how many times life has kicked her to the curb. She carries the show. She needs to be a strong dancer, singer and actress with physical comical traits and persona. Charity goes through many emotions in the course of the show. Looking for an actress with great stage presence and stamina.

Audition Song: Charity's Soliloquy measures 125-158 and If My Friends Could See Me Now measures 17-49 Call Back Song: Where Am I Going measures 35-47

OSCAR LINDQUIST – 30-40s (Baritone) An educated, well-spoken American young man, shy, repressed and gawky. semi-socially awkward but has an innocent charm about him. He is an excitable claustrophobic. He works as an actuary (the most boring job in the world). He meets Charity, falls in love with her but then struggles to come to terms with Charity's past as a taxi dancer. Must have good comedic skills both in timing and physical. *Goal is to double this role with Vittorio Vidal and Charlie.

Audition Song: Sweet Charity measures 33-46

NICKIE – 30-40s (Alto/ Mezzo) Brassy New York dancer at the Fandango Ballroom, and Charity's best friend. Nickie assumes the maternal role over the girls. She has seen it all and has been around the block more than once. She is quick to offer advice to Charity and the other girls whether they want it or not. She is a true New Yorker; loud, opinionated and crass, but she also has a heart of gold. Like Charity, she has aspirations to get out. Needs to be a belter, funny and a strong dancer.

Audition Song: Something Better Than This measures 12-48 | Call Back Song: Baby Dream Your Dream measures 101-115



AUDITION NOTICE FOR SWEET CHARITY CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS (Continued)



HELENE – Late 20s to 40s (Alto/Mezzo) Sultry and sassy dancer at the Fandango Ballroom and one of Charity's best friends. She is feisty and confident. Like Nickie she has taken a spin around the block more times than she'd have hoped, she would love to quit the taxi dancer business once and for all. Mezzo with a ballsy sound and a strong dancer.

Audition Song: Something Better Than This measures 12-48 | Call Back Song: Baby Dream Your Dream measures 101-115

VITTORIO VIDAL – Male 30-40 (Tenor) A famous Italian movie star, smooth, modest, gentle soul. He is also passionate, seductive and sexy, he has way with the ladies and knocks Charity right off her feet, quite literally in fact. Requires an Italian accent. Baritone with an operatic sound. *Goal is to double this role with Oscar and Charlie. Audition Song: Too Many Tomorrows measures 24-39

DADDY BRUBECK – (20s-50s): A groovy, swanky and hip cat who starts the Rhythm of Life revival church. A cross between Morris Day from the Time, Lenny Kravitz and Sammy Davis Jr; if they were a flower child and loved acid. Baritone with serious soul, ability to scat, and a good mover. Strong comedic timing. Will double in other ensemble numbers and might double as Herman.

Audition Song: The Rhythm of Life measures 9-24

HERMAN – (40s-50s) The grizzled, greasy and sleazy owner of the Fandango Ballroom. He has no tact or manners, but his bark is much worse than his bite and deep down has a heart of gold. Must be a strong tenor. Might double as Daddy Brubeck.

Audition Song: I Love To Cry At Weddings measures beginning -29

URSULA MARCH – (20s-40s) Hot headed and jealous girlfriend of Italian movie star, Vittorio Vidal. Has quite a flair for the dramatic. Will double as several roles and musical numbers in the show as well. Must be a strong and versatile comedic actress and a good mover. As Ursula she needs an Italian accent. Audition Song: Big Spender measures 18-35

FANDANGO GIRLS: CARMEN, BETSY, FRENCHY, SUZANNE, ELAINE, TRIXIE & ALICE (20s-50s): The featured dance hall hostesses at the Fandango Ballroom. All must be strong dancers and character actors who can belt. A grizzled and tired bunch, working at a dead-end job in Times Square. Lots and lots and lots of attitude, they all must possess their own style of sass and brass. They will double in all ensemble musical numbers. Audition Song: Big Spender measures 18-35

ROSIE (18+): The innocent new girl at the Fandango Ballroom. Fresh off the bus but whip smart and easily corrupted. Must be a good dancer and will double in all the ensemble musical numbers.

MALE ENSEMBLE (Looking to cast 4 to 6 men: 20s-50s): Good comedic character actors who can play multiple featured roles with ease (MANFRED, POLICE OFFICERS, FANDANGO REGULARS, DADDY BRUBECK'S ASSISTANTS, etc.) Must also be excellent singers and movers who can dance with attitude in a Fosse style. Will play multiple featured characters as well as dance in Rich Man's Frug, Rhythm of Life, and I'm a Brass Band. Audition Song: Brass Band measures 145-160

All roles require dancing, and everyone will be expected to participate in a dance audition. Looking for an ethnically diverse cast of approximately 18-24.

Looking to cast a very versatile character actor to portray all the men Charity falls in love with; Oscar, Vittorio Vidal, Charlie, and (during the opening song) her former boyfriends. This actor needs to be able to portray all these characters in voice, body language and movement. This is to represent that all the men Charity falls for has the same characteristics and shows the audience that Charity picks the same type of guy over and over. We however, will consider casting them all as separate actors too.



WELCOME BACK!

When you come to see our production of *Lost In Yonkers* this month, you will be excited to see two returning members: **Marc Rosati** and **Maria** (**Kovac**) **McEmeel.** Producer **Tim Carney** was able to take them aside at a recent rehearsal, and ask them a few questions...

What was the first and last show you were in at the Guild?

Marc's first show was Damn Yankees in 2002 and his last show was *See How They Run* in 2010. Two of his favorites while he was at the Guild were *Funny Money* in 2004 and *Caught in the Net* in 2008. Maria's first show was *1940's Radio Hour* in 1997 and her last show was *The Rainmaker* in 2009.

What shows have you done since you last performed at the Guild?

Marc has done many shows while he was away including *Nuts, Guys and Dolls, I Hate Hamlet,* and *Anything Goes*. Maria was in *Barefoot in the Park* at Spotlight Players in Canton in 2010. Since she last graced our boards, she has gotten married and had two children (now 4 and 5 years old).

What are some things (either similar or different) that you notice since you have been back?

Marc says that many of the friends he had made from 2002-2010 are still here, and that there are a lot of new, young, talented faces as well. Maria says that she still feels there is a 'welcoming atmosphere' and that while there are the same friendly people she remembers, we have many new faces amongst our ranks.

What made you come back to the Guild?

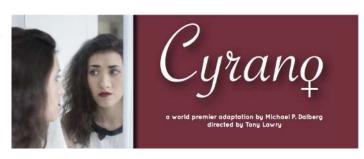
Marc says that even though he has been away for eight years, he has come to see many shows at the Guild and wanted to come back for Yonkers because it is both a reputable show and **Kim Donovan** was directing it (he has done a few shows under Kim's direction in the past). Maria came back because she could 'get a break from the kids'.

We are so glad to have you back, Marc and Maria!

FORMER GUILD MEMBER OPENS CHICAGO THEATRE

Former Guild member **Tony Lawry** reached out regarding his own theatre, **Theatre Above the Law**, and their upcoming production of *Cyrano*.

An original retelling, by Chicago playwright Michael P. Dalberg, of the French Classic by Edmond Rostand, this romantic comedy follows Cyrano, a female soldier, in a tale of unrequited love. As she vies for the beautiful Roxanne, Cyrano wrestles with self-doubt, body-shaming, and toxic masculinity in a



world of "all's fair in love and war," armed with sword-like quips, fair friends, and more than a fair amount of pastries. *Cyrano* is a part of Chicago Theatre Week. This is a new take on the classic tale, written by a local playwright, and Tony would love to hear from/see some Guild friends at the show. If you are unable to see this production, check out his website: http://theatreatl.org or Facebook page: http://facebook.com/theatreatl for upcoming productions.

Performances are 8pm Fridays & Saturdays, 3pm Sundays February 9-March 4. Young Performer Company performances Saturdays at 3pm.

1439 W. Jarvis | Tickets \$20 available online at theatreatl.org or by calling 773-655-7197. Student, Senior or group rates available by emailing tony@theatreatl.org. Up next onstage: *Ladies in Waiting* by Michele Palermo May 4-26, 2018.



CURTAIN CALL: ON OTHER STAGES

Steel Magnolias by Robert Harling

Stagecrafters in Royal Oak- March 9-11, 15-18, 22-25, 2018
Strong as steel, fragile as magnolias. The six Southern women of Chinquapin, Louisiana, show more steel than delicacy as they face life's ups and downs together. Truvy's home beauty parlor is their gathering place, where they gossip, needle, and jab each other with good-humored zingers. But when push comes to shove, these friends are there for one another, especially in the darkest of times. Shelby is played by **Kori Bielaniec**.

Clybourne Park by Bruce Norris

St. Dunstan's Theatre in Bloomfield Hills, now through March 11th Winner of both the Pulitzer Prize and the Tony Award for Best Play, Clybourne Park is a razor-sharp satire about the politics of race. Act One takes place in 1959, as white community leaders anxiously try to stop the sale of a home to a black family. Act Two is set in the same house in the present day, as the now predominantly African-American neighborhood battles to hold its ground in the face of gentrification. This production is being directed by **Alan Elias** and assisted by **Ross Grossman**. Albert / Kevin is played by **Ken Davis**. Karl / Steve is being played by **Ken Overwater**.

Tony n' Tina's Wedding | Downriver Actor's Guild

Performed at Prestige Banquet Hall in Allen Park April 21st and 28th The event begins with a side-splitting ceremony where anything can happen (and usually does!). Then it's time for the most hilarious wedding reception you could ever attend! Raise a champagne toast, eat the wedding cake, and dance the night away at the party people will be laughing about for years to come. The show stars "Tina", the headstrong 20-something party girl bride with an attitude, and "Tony", the rowdy, handsome yet charming groom-to-be. As the evening unfolds, the only guarantee is that there will be plenty of drama around! Marina will be played by **Camille Smith**. Luigi will be played by **Chuck Bollman**. Sister Albert Maria will be played by **Shauna Rae Hazime.** Donny Dulce will be played by **Donald Corbin**.

Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike by Christopher Durang | Open Book Theatre in Trenton, now through March 18th Vanya and his adopted sister Sonia live a quiet life in the Pennsylvania farmhouse where they grew up, but their peace is disturbed when their movie star sister Masha returns unannounced with her twentysomething boy toy, Spike. A weekend of rivalry, regret, and raucousness begins! Vanya is played by Lindel Salow.

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