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A Brief History of Weathervane Playhouse

From the "barn" to Copley Road to the Valley...

Weathervane Community Playhouse began its run in 1935. Four artistically talented Woman's City Club members -- Grace Hower Crawford, Muriel MacLachlan, Laurine Schwan, Helen Troesch -- and a core of charter members rented the empty carriage house belonging to Akron's Senator Charles Dick. Their goal was to present a wide spectrum of plays: classics, dramas, comedies, new works -- even opera -- with casting open to anyone who fit a part.

The women chose a carnival as their fundraiser to start paying the rent. Despite a drenching downpour, they raised \$60. They named their space "Weathervane" after the rooster on the barn's cupola. After cleaning their new home, scrounging for seats, a curtain and a coffee pot, Weathervane opened its first season. During that summer of 1935 the group presented seven fully costumed and staged plays. In 1936, Muriel MacLachlan with the other founders offered classes to children and adults, beginning a tradition that has become today's Education Department. In 1938 a Women's Board was formed to offer volunteer financial assistance. It, too, continues to this day.

The "barn" was home until it was sold. In 1951 the Playhouse purchased a cement block building at 1471 Copley Road and renovated it for a theater with seating capacity of 125. The all-volunteer organization hired its first employee, Nora Scott, as custodian/ticket manager. Actual management of the Playhouse was handled by the Operating Board, which reported to the Board of Trustees. Because directors were becoming scarce, the Board hired Bob Belfance as full-time Manager/Director. He held the position from 1961-69 and from 1974-92. During the Copley Road days, plays were presented six days a week. Because of their popularity, not everyone who wanted to see a show could be accommodated. A new home was planned. During the 1960s the membership's plans came together in June 1970 with the opening of *Dark of the Moon* here on Weathervane Lane. Longtime friend and founder Grace Hower Crawford died in 1971, remembering the Playhouse in her will. Her money enabled the Board to pare down the mortgage and set up an Endowment Fund. The last mortgage payment was made in 1974 through a contribution of the Women's Board. Three major additions followed; these included first-floor restrooms, classrooms, a costume shop, fly gallery and elevator. The former scene shop became the John L. Dietz Theater/Classroom in 2005 and the lobby project was just completed for the opening of the 75th season.

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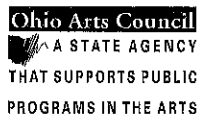
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In the Harris Family Gallery

I am delighted to have these two extraordinary women exhibit their beautiful quilts. They have different styles, which I feel complement each other. Jill Sutton Filo's work incorporates her vision, interpretation, and personal family history with traditional quilt patterns. Carole Pollard uses curved two-patch piecing as a quilting technique to explore possibilities in a non-traditional fashion.

~Marci Paolucci, Gallery Curator

Jill Sutton Filo received her BFA in Art Education from Kent State University. From the 1970's through the early 1980's she was a batik textile artist featured in art shows, galleries and museums. In 1995, she discovered quilt history and wrote a research paper that was published by the American Quilt Study Group in 1996. That was a springboard for further adventures including a series of magazine articles in *Better Homes & Gardens' American Patchwork and Quilting*, self-published books and numerous quilt patterns. Following her appearance on HGTV's *Simply Quilts*, she lectured, conducted workshops, and displayed her quilts at national and international events. Jill says, "Quilts and sewing are my heritage. Both my grandmothers created many hand- and machine-sewn quilts that were loved and used. Many of my quilts were inspired by Ruby McKim, a prolific artist and author who syndicated quilt patterns from 1916 through the 1930's. I wanted to blend those vintage designs with contemporary fabrics and techniques and share these interpretations of Ruby McKim's work to inspire future generations." In 2009-2010, Jill was asked to be the guest costume designer for Weathervane's productions of *The Goat or, Who is Sylvia* and *Italian American Reconciliation*.

In previous lives, Carole Pollard earned a Sports Car Club of America competition driver's license and a Ph.D. in American Literature. In 1995, approaching retirement from a teaching career, she discovered curved two-patch piecing as a quilting technique. In 2000, Carole began to study quilt design in earnest and began entering judged and juried shows in all media. Two of her pieces were among the 80 selected from 700 entries for the 69th Annual Area Artists show at the Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, OH. "We each have a certain amount of time here, and we call it our life. What we do with that time - with that life - matters." The quilts here at Weathervane span the 15 years of my aspiring to be an artist and my groping towards what matters. Literature is sometimes the inspiration for some of my quilts. In *BloomTime* there are two lines from Shakespeare's Sonnet CXIII stitched into the left and top left borders. *Things Fall Apart* is a response to the first few lines of W.B. Yeats' *The Second Coming*. Many of my pieces incorporate my love of art and literature."

Isabelle Post
as "Billy"

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And now, your "Thank You Dollars" go even further. For every dollar you give, the H. Peter Burg Fund of Akron Community Foundation will match it one to one, thus doubling your contribution!



From Our Executive Director

You Be The Critic

You've heard the expression that "a review is only one person's opinion." Well, we would like to see a whole lot more of those opinions about our productions than just the few that appear in our area newspapers. Here's where you come in.

Sometime after the show I invite you to take a few moments to send us your thoughts and reaction to the production you're seeing in writing. We have established a special email address specifically to receive your input. You may be as detailed or as general as you wish, commenting on any aspect of the production or anything about your experience at Weather vane that you think we should know about. Any and all feedback will be appreciated.

Here's the email address: review@weathervaneplayhouse.com
(You may also send your reviews via regular mail to: Weather vane Playhouse, 1301 Weather vane Lane, Akron, OH 44313, Attention: REVIEW)

Here's a few other ideas for your consideration:

1. If you liked the show and have written positive comments, forward them to your network of personal email addresses. Word of mouth is still our strongest source of publicity.
2. If you use social networking sites (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) as a way of staying in touch with your friends, post something on them about the show.
3. Send positive statements about the show or Weather vane Playhouse to area newspapers as Letters to the Editor.
4. Recommend Weather vane when talking with family, friends and co-workers.

We want to know what you think and how our work is affecting your lives – either in a positive or a negative way – with the intention of always improving our services and becoming more relevant to you, our valued patrons. Thank you in advance for taking the time to assist us and for your continued patronage of Weather vane Playhouse!

Sincerely,

John Hedges
Executive Director
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Weather vane

— PLAYHOUSE —

76th Season -- 2010 - 2011
Young Actor Production #88
Melanie Y.C. Pepe, Producer
March 3 - 13, 2011

Art of Deduction:
Inside the Mind of

SHERLOCK HOLMES

by Derek Davidson

Directed by John C. Davis

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Art of Deduction: Inside the Mind of Sherlock Holmes
was written by Derek Davidson and commissioned by Weather vane Playhouse.

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About the Play and Playwright



Notes Toward an Adaptation of Sherlock Holmes for the Stage

I remember when Melanie Pepe, Producer of the Young Actor Series at Weathervane, and I first talked about adapting some of Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes mysteries for the stage. Melanie is great: no-nonsense, really wicked-smart, and extraordinarily knowledgeable regarding what audiences like.

The conversation went something like this:

Melanie: "Sooo...I've contacted you because we need to write a play for lots of young people."

Me: Okay, usually, uh, Sherlock Holmes' stories have very few people in them."

Melanie: "And we need parts for young women."

Me: "Yeah, about that. See, Sherlock Holmes' stories feature almost all men."

Melanie: "And we need... lots of action."

Me: "Right, because. So like the stories are pretty talky..."

Melanie: "And you should, maybe, combine two or three stories so we can have more characters."

Me: "..."

So I began to read the stories – 60 or so – to find a handful of tight little mysteries with lots of people and parts for young women and some exciting action. Melanie and I talked; she told me animatedly about the director they had been lucky enough to find – John Davis, a fight choreographer – and how she hoped I had some really great fight scenes, too.

I kept reading. And thinking about fights and parts for women and lots of action.

And writing some things and discarding them and writing some more things and getting a snack. And that's sorta how it goes.

Then: Presto!

The Art of Deduction, an adaptation by me. I decided to adapt, as it happens, two of the more famous short stories, *A Scandal in Bohemia* and *The Red-Headed League*. I threw in a few of my favorite passages from other stories, too, for instance, from *The Adventure of the Naval Treaty*; and added some choice tidbits such as the fact that Holmes and Watson were young and cool, that Watson was actually the ladies' man of the duo, and that Holmes never in the stories actually smoked a calabash pipe.

But as we all know, the true magic is with the character himself. Sherlock Holmes remains the most reproduced fictional character in our culture: TV series, dozens of films, plays. As a matter of fact, it is through the theatre (notably the dramatizations of William Gillette – yes, of the razorblade family – who also popularized the calabash pipe) that Holmes achieved the popularity he enjoys today.

Sherlock Holmes, a more fascinating, brilliant, charismatic, theatrical personality – literature, stage and film have not seen. It was my great honor (and good fun) to continue the tradition of adapting him once more for the stage.

With fights,

Derek Davidson



About the Playwright

Derek Davidson directed Weathervane's 2009 production of *The Goat or, Who is Sylvia?* He is a playwright, director and filmmaker who has taught at Marietta College, Carnegie Mellon University, Appalachian State University (in Boone, North Carolina), and was an Associate Artistic Director at the Barter Theatre in Abingdon, Virginia, where he also coordinated the Appalachian Festival of Plays and Playwrights. He has directed his own adaptations of *Mother Courage and Her Children* and *As You Like It*. He wrote the award-winning play *The Road Where It Curves Away*. His film, *This is Not the South*, has played at numerous festivals and won Best Feature at the SkyFest in Asheville, North Carolina.



The Art of Deduction:

Inside the Mind of Sherlock Holmes -- Cast

Sherlock Holmes	Jason Davis
Dr. Watson.....	Jonathan Merechant
Dr. Watson No.1/John Clay	Ryan Hinman
Mrs. Turner	Nina DiSalvo
Billy, a Baker Street Irregular	Isabelle Post
Wiggins, a Baker Street Irregular.....	Theresa Byron
Baker Street Irregular	Shannon Klainer
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INTERMISSION – 15 minutes
between the Acts

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John Hedges

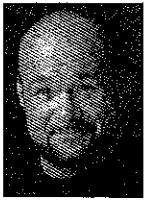
jhedges@weathervaneplayhouse.com

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- ♦ We request that you remain seated until the house lights have come up at intermission and after the curtain call.
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- ♦ As a courtesy to fellow audience members, please make sure that cell phones and pagers are turned off during the performance.
- ♦ Please do not bring refreshments into the auditorium. However, if you have candy, please remove wrappers before the performance begins.
- ♦ NOTE: In case of an emergency in which the performance cannot continue, Calamity Vouchers will be issued for a future performance. Thank you.



About Our Director



JOHN C. DAVIS – A professional actor, director and fight choreographer for the past 26 years, John is best known for his comedy sword-fighting show, *Hack and Slash*, which has been seen in 16 countries with over 4,000 performances (including more than 100 performances for the allied forces in both Iraq and Afghanistan). John has received certification from five major stage-combat organizations worldwide and is a recognized instructor with the International Order of the Sword and Pen. John is also a professor in the Theater Department at Oberlin College. He has directed shows in Baltimore, Miami, Nashville, Annapolis, Montgomery and – most recently – *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* for the Cleveland Shakespeare Festival.

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Cast Biographies



JASON DAVIS (Sherlock Holmes) is a junior at Kent State University whose previous Weathervane roles include Mr. Darcy in *Pride and Prejudice*, Algernon in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet* and Philip in *The Lion in Winter*. He also won a Chanticleer Award for his performance as Jim in *The Rainmaker*. "Thank you, Weathervane," Jason says, "for being such a wonderful experience time and time again!"



JONATHAN MERECHANT (Dr. Watson) most recently this season played the roles of Potiphar and Reuben in Weathervane's *Joseph ... Technicolor Dreamcoat*. He is a senior at Akron's Firestone High School, where he has sung with the men's chorus and symphonic choir and has enjoyed appearing with the choirs in Ohio Music Education Association-sponsored competitions (in which he has received superior ratings in solo and ensemble work). Jonathan's also appeared on our stage in *Seussical* and *The Great White Hope*. He is also no stranger to *Joseph ... Dreamcoat* at Weathervane: He played Reuben in the 2009 production and the title role in the 2008 production of this musical. He says he hopes to attend Savannah College of Art and Design next year.



RYAN HINMAN (Dr. Watson No. 1/John Clay) played Lt. Wickham in Weathervane's *Pride and Prejudice* last year and Tom Snout in 2009's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He also spent the summer of 2009 performing with Ohio Shakespeare Festival in *As You Like It* on the grounds of Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens in Akron. Now a sophomore at Kent State University, he is a member of the university's Honors College and his academic achievements have earned him a spot on both the president's and dean's lists. Outside of the classroom, he is an active member of KSU's improv-comedy group, The Portage County Players.



NINA DISALVO (Mrs. Turner) most recently on our stage played Reuben's Wife in this season's *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Last year, she served as the assistant stage manager for our production of *Pride and Prejudice*. A junior at Tallmadge High School, she stage-managed her school's *Little Shop of Horrors* and *The Poe Play* and appeared in *Krazy*

Kamp and Fiddler on the Roof. In 2009, she received an award for Best TV Commercial in her category at the Applause Rising Talent Showcase competition in Chicago.



ISABELLE POST (Billy, a Baker Street Irregular) is an eighth grader at Copley-Fairlawn Middle School and is in her 11th career theater production; this is her fourth theater production at Weathervane. This past winter, she played Mrs. Potiphar and Dan's Wife in Weathervane's *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. She has been seen in a national TV commercial for Smart Balance Butter Sticks, an extra in the movie *The Squad*, and performed at Severance Hall with Jon Anderson (lead singer of the rock group Yes) as a member of the Contemporary Youth Orchestra and Chorus. She is a consistent Honor Roll student and excels in track and softball.



THERESA BYRON (Wiggins, a Baker Street Irregular) was a member of the Weathervane ensemble in last year's production of *The Great White Hope* and played a Moth in 2009's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Elsewhere, she played Martha Cratchit last year in *A Christmas Carol* at ANTIC, Inc. (Actors-N-Theatre) in Cuyahoga Falls. A senior at Ellet High School in Akron, she also currently attends The University of Akron, where she studies theater through the Seniors to Sophomores program (which allows qualifying high school seniors to study on a state-school campus during their final year while at the same time earning an entire tuition-free year's worth of college credits).



SHANNON KLAINER (Baker Street Irregular), a senior at Stow-Munroe Falls High School, has appeared in her school's productions of *Great Expectations* (as Miss Havisham) and *Auntie Mame* (as Vera Charles) and she was an ensemble member in *Aida*, *Anything Goes* and *Bye Bye Birdie*. Also at her school, she directed *14 Ways to Screw Up Your College Interview* and served as the captain of Stow Improv Night. Beyond theater, she is a four-year member of her school's speech-and-debate team and has achieved membership in Honor Roll and the National Honor Society. Looking beyond high school, Shannon aspires to attend either the University of North Carolina at Asheville or Ithaca College to major in media art with a concentration in pre-med studies.



Cast Biographies - continued



AMELIA MCNUTT (Baker Street Irregular) most recently played Catherine in *Robin Hood: The Next Generation* at Kimpton Middle School in Stow, where she is in the seventh grade. Her academic achievements include an award for drama and a spot on the Honor Roll. Beyond the classroom, Amelia studied dance for five years through the city of Akron's Recreation Bureau and played the violin for four years.



CLAIRE TWIGG (Baker Street Irregular) says, "Some day, I want to make it to Broadway." Right now, however, she is enjoying her Weathervane debut in this production. This seventh grader at Copley-Fairlawn High School also served for five years as a member of The Copley-Fairlawn Youth Cheerleaders.



JAMES D.W. WOODS (Baker Street Irregular) was in the 2010 *Joseph ... Dreamcoat* and *Seussical*. He is a sophomore at Kenmore High School. James holds the cross country record for freshman at Ellet High School. Previously, he performed in *God's Trombones* and *An Evening of African America Folkllore* at Buchtel.



AIDAN KRANZ (Baker Street Irregular) is a ninth-grader at Medina High School where he is in the marching band. He is making his Weathervane debut but has been in *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Midsummer's Night Dream*, *The Hobbit* and *Of Mice and Men*. Aidan also enjoys playing baseball.



STEVEN NUNLEY (Baker Street Irregular) was a member of the Weathervane ensemble in last year's production of *The Great White Hope* and played Peter Quince in 2009's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. A senior at Springfield High School, he has also studied computer technology/networking at Portage Lakes Career Center (which should prepare him for what he says is his eventual goal to become a computer-game designer).



CAIT MCNEAL (Irene Adler) most recently sang the role of Levi's wife on our stage in this season's *Joseph ... Dreamcoat*. A freshman in the Visual and Performing Arts Program at Akron's Firestone High School, she played Mayzie LaBird in Weathervane's *Seussical* this

past summer. Previously on our stage, she played Mary Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*, Issachar's Wife in 2009's *Joseph ... Dreamcoat*, Gypsy Mama in *Madeline and the Gypsies*, Egeus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Madame in *Disney's The Aristocats KIDS*.



BEAU REINKER (Duke of Bohemia) is a student at Kent State University. For Ohio Shakespeare Festival, he has appeared in *King Lear*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *As You Like It*. He has appeared in *Into the Woods*, *Twelfth Night*, *Three Sisters*, *Picasso at the Lapine Agile*, *Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *Guys and Dolls*, *South Pacific*, and *The Two Halves of Andrew's Brain*.



ZACK MANTHEY (Godfrey Norton/Peter Jones) is a sophomore at Stow-Munroe Falls High School, on whose stage he has appeared in *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Murder Mystery*, *Murder Mystery*, *To Date or Not to Date* and *14 Ways to Screw Up Your College Interview*. He also competes with the speech-and-debate team and is part of an improv group. He was a member of the WCP Summer Stock, which presented *It's All in the Timing*.



RICHARD CRAFTON (Jabez Wilson) played Mr. Bingley on our stage last year in *Pride and Prejudice*. His prior Weathervane credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Nick Bottom), *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Lane), *Children of Eden* (ensemble), *Romeo and Juliet* (Lord Montague) and three separate productions of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (2008, 2007 and 2006!). He also spent the summer of 2009 with Ohio Shakespeare Festival (performing with the ensemble on the grounds of Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens in Akron). Beyond acting and singing, Richard also enjoys playing his guitar and performed at the 2008 Kent State Folk Festival.



ALLISON GOOD (Secretary for Duncan Ross and Female Groom) played the roles of Charlotte Lucas and the Housekeeper on our stage last year in *Pride and Prejudice*. She attends The University of Akron, where she is an English major/theater minor and has earned a spot on the Dean's List for three semesters running. "I hope to go to grad school for theater," Allison says. She sends her heart-felt thanks to "my loving parents, the crew and cast, and Daniel."

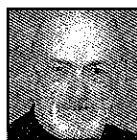


Cast Biographies - continued



RYAN KIRKPATRICK (Mr. Merriweather) is a sophomore at Kent State University, where he is studying theater and is active in KSU's improv-comedy group, The Portage County

Creative Team Biographies



JEFF BIXBY (Stage Manager) most recently served Weathervane Playhouse as the assistant stage manager of *A Tuna Christmas*. After growing up in Medina and then graduating from Kent State University, he taught elementary school for 30 years in Cincinnati before retiring and moving back to the Akron area. He won a Marquee Award (from the Youngstown Area Community Theatre Awards) for his 2009 Weathervane performance as the Barber in *Man of La Mancha* and he was seen on our stage as Clarence the Angel in last season's *Mrs. Bob Cratchit's Wild Christmas Binge*. Off stage, Jeff has also helped with Weathervane's stage properties and lighting, and was assistant stage manager for *The Wedding Singer* in 2010. Outside of Weathervane, Jeff serves as a member of the boards of CANAPI and The Illusion Factory.



GERRY BOWMAN (Costume Designer) served as one of Weathervane's quick-change artists (also known as "dressers") who executed the super-fast costume transformations during this past December's performances of *A Tuna Christmas*. A Northeast Ohio native, Gerry returned home in October from Potter County, Pennsylvania, where he owned and operated a small hotel. His inn-keeping duties there also allowed him to wear the hat of a theatrical producer, and he helped to stage dinner-theater productions of such plays as *I Ought to Be in Pictures* and *Same Time, Next Year*. During his stay in north-central Pennsylvania, he also served as an activity therapist for the Potter County schools. Also in Pennsylvania, he wrote and produced plays for five other dinner-theater operations and costumed a production of *The Emperor's New Clothes* for Potter County's Coudersport High School. Gerry, a veteran of the United States Armed Forces, served a tour of duty in Vietnam, after which he received schooling from Kent State University and the College of Wooster.

Players. He is a graduate of Cuyahoga Falls High School, where he played the title role in *Macbeth* and John Proctor in *The Crucible*. He is also a fan of professional wrestling and declares that he "hopes to be wearing a championship belt or holding an Oscar within the next 10 years."



AL COSTA (Properties Co-Designer) Prior to this first endeavor at Weathervane, Al and his wife, Pam, were heavily involved in assisting in the creation of programs for the Stow-Munroe Falls High School theater. He enjoys building, carpentry and remodeling projects. Al is a proud father of two and grandfather of three.



JULIA "J.J." MCADAMS (Properties Co-Designer/Assistant Stage Manager) was assistant stage manager and properties designer for our 2009 and 2010 productions of *Joseph ... Dreamcoat*. She was also stage manager for the Young Actor productions of *Seussical* and *Pride and Prejudice*. "JJ" served as assistant stage manager for *Madeline and the Gypsies* and designed properties for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She is a graduate of Stow-Munroe Falls High School where she studied in the pre-engineering academy. She is currently a theater major at Kent State University.



JONATHON HUNTER (Lighting Designer) previously served as Weathervane's stage manager for the Founders Theater Series season-opening production of *They're Playing Our Song* this past September. He is completing his final semester at The University of Akron in pursuit of his theatre-arts degree. Last summer, he served as the lighting designer for Mercury Summer Stock in Cleveland.



MEGAN MANDEL (Sound Designer) is a graduate of Cuyahoga Falls High School where she worked on the stage crews for productions of *Flowers for Algernon*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Carousel* and *Macbeth*. She was involved with Girl Scouts for 11 years, in which she earned a Silver Award, the second highest award of the Girl Scouts. Megan was our sound co-designer for *Madeline and the Gypsies*. She is a student at Kent State University.



Creative Team Biographies - cont.



PAMELA PARKS COSTA (Properties Co-Designer) designed the stage properties for *Quilters*, *Seussical: The Musical* in 2010, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Perfect Wedding* in 2009, *Ragtime* in 2008 and the 2007 production of *The Frog Prince*. Before bringing her talents to Weathervane, she and her husband, Al, spent about seven years in assisting in the creation of programs for the Stow-Munroe Falls High School musicals. She is the mother of two grown daughters and three lively grandchildren, all of whom she is quite proud.



ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Scenic Designer) began with Weathervane as a backstage volunteer under the tutelage of the late John R. Thomas. This is Scott's 14th season as a Weathervane staff member. Previously, he worked at Cuyahoga Falls High School and has designed sets for the Players Guild of Canton, Cleveland Signstage Theatre and Western Reserve Public Media (PBS-TV Channels 45/49). Scott has earned six Chanticleer Awards – one as stage manager for *Fences*; lighting designs for *The Laramie Project* and *A Lesson Before Dying*; and co-lighting designs for *A Man for All Seasons*, *The Full Monty* and *Man of La Mancha*.

Production Team

Alan Scott Ferrall -- Technical Director
Kathy Kohl -- Assistant Technical Director

SET CONSTRUCTION

Ruth Richardson
Kevin Ford
Erin Katz Ford
Roger Dieringer
Todd Dieringer
Tom Nunley
Kevin Nunley

COSTUMES

Jasen J. Smith
Susanne Abernathy
Diantha Seibert
Kim Shores
Erica Shores
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Acknowledgements

Thank you to friends and family of our cast.

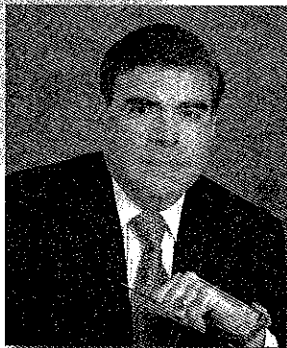


JOHN HEDGES, Executive Director

Mr. Hedges has an extensive background in theatre as both an actor and a producer. Prior to coming to Weathervane, John spent ten years in the acting company at the Barter Theatre in Virginia, where he performed in over 60 shows. Other acting credits include performances at Town Hall in New York and the Pantages Theatre in Los Angeles. Regionally he has worked at the Indiana Repertory Theatre, the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, Actors Theatre of Louisville and the American Stage Festival, where he appeared opposite Academy Award-winner Olympia Dukakis in *The Cherry Orchard*. John has been Managing Director of First Stage Milwaukee, Associate Producer of North Shore Music Theatre, Business Director of Gloucester Stage Company and General Manager of New York's award-winning Pearl Theatre Company. Mr. Hedges is a member of Actors' Equity Association, served on the Board of Directors of Boston's StageSource and chaired its Strategic Planning Committee, been a Conference Panelist for the American Alliance for Theatre & Education and written for *American Theatre* magazine. He studied at Indiana State University and the Professional Theatre Training Program at the University of Delaware, is a graduate of the National Shakespeare Conservatory and holds an honorary MFA degree in theatre from Stafford University. A 2009 graduate of Leadership Akron (Class XXV), John lives in Akron.

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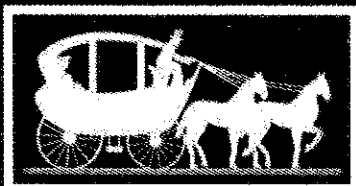
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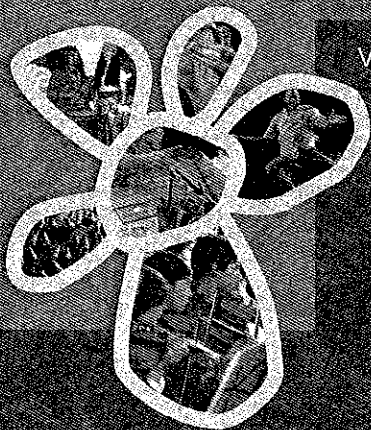
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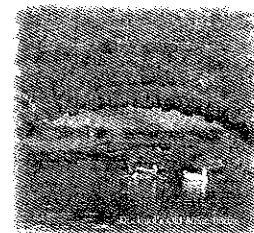
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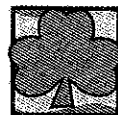
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