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2012|2013

Seventy-Eighth Season

The Mystery of Edwin Drood

2012-2013 Season

Mainstage Production #559

October 4 - 21, 2012

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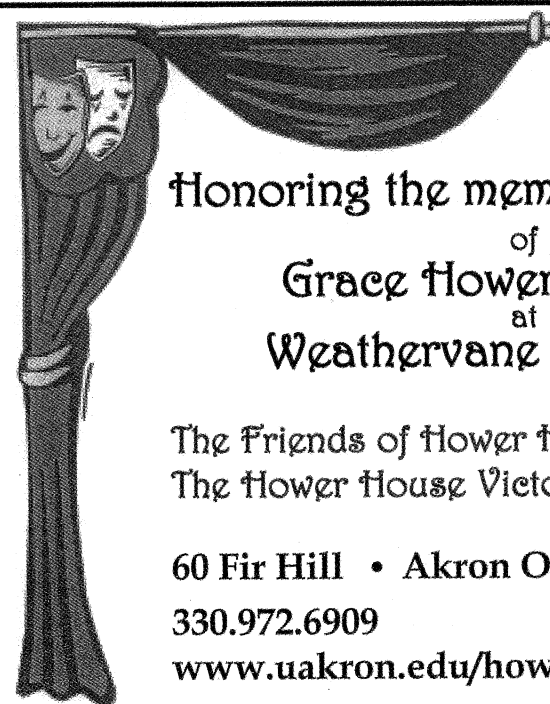


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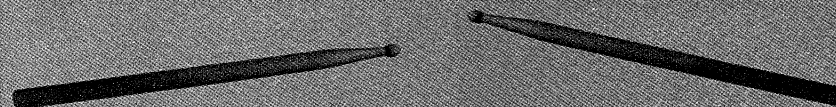


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A Brief History of Weatherovane Playhouse

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

Weatherovane 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 "Weatherovane" after the rooster on the barn's cupola. After cleaning their new home, scrounging for seats, a curtain and a coffee pot, Weatherovane 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 Weatherovane 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.

Weatherovane's Legacy Society

Your Legacy Gift to Weatherovane can be as simple as including the playhouse in your will, establishing a life insurance policy or trust, or making the theater a beneficiary of your retirement savings plan.

For more details contact John Hedges at 330-836-2626, ext. 13

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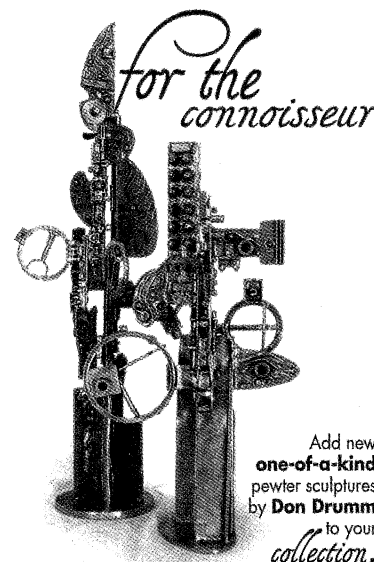
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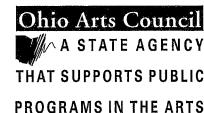
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As you probably know, earned income accounts for only 65% of our total expenses. The plain fact is, if each Weathervane patron gave just \$1 extra after each show, we would be able to meet our goal for Individual Contributions! Won't you show your appreciation of this performance with a "Thank You Dollar" after the show?

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Guide:

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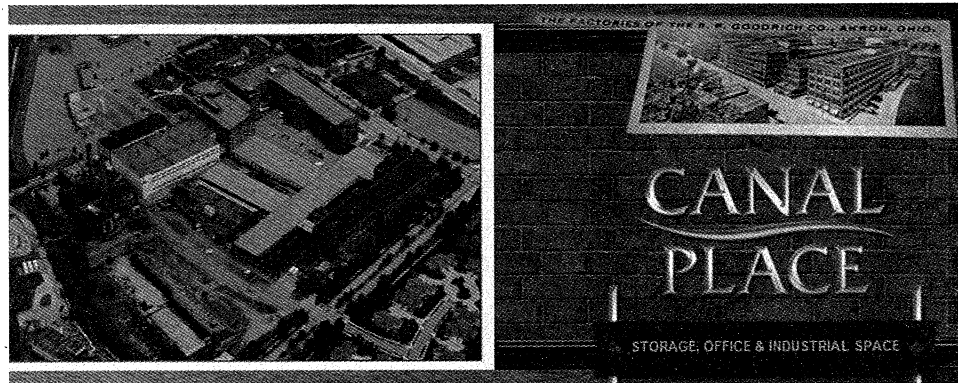


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From Our Executive Director

How Our Shows Are Selected

Coming on the heels of our production of *August: Osage County* and as prelude to the rest of our season, I thought I would give an overview of how shows are selected at Weathervane Playhouse.

There is a certain amount of objectivity to the play selection process, however admittedly most of these decisions lie in the realm of the subjective and, ultimately, I am the one who chooses the plays produced here. But, there are a number of other people actively engaged in the process.

Each year I ask a small group of knowledgeable people to help me read plays and formally serve as artistic advisors to me. The group begins reading and discussing plays in the fall of each year, we narrow our choices down over a series of meetings, and then, after some lively discussions, I make final recommendations to the Board of Trustees for their approval in January.

What guides the decision-making process?

First, I start with a clear understanding of the purpose of Weathervane Playhouse. We are not a commercial enterprise. We're organized as a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of education in our society and the creation of works of art, not the generation of profit. Money is a means to an end at Weathervane, not the primary end objective. That, in and of itself, has a profound impact on show selection.

I am guided by the vision of our theater as one that is dedicated to the creation of high quality, diverse theater productions and by our commitment to presenting plays recognized for their artistic merit.

My definition of "high quality": plays that are deemed of a certain standard by objective, professional assessment (Pulitzer Prize, Tony Award, Reviews, professional recommendations, etc.) and productions that measure up favorably alongside best practices in the field.

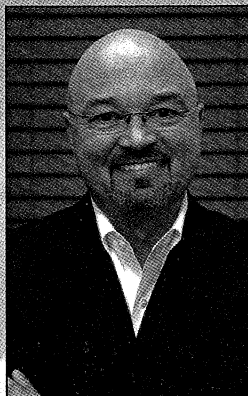
My definition of "diverse": works that encompass the breadth of theatrical writing and reflect the scope of human experience.

My definition of "artistic merit": works that illuminate and ennoble the human spirit, express an aesthetic point of view, and strive to access that which is eternal. By "eternal" I simply mean the common elements of our humanity that have existed from the beginning of time, exist today and will continue to exist -- or, stated another way, those elements that have always and will always bind us together as the human race.

I said before that I view money as a means to an end at Weathervane. I would go even further and say that I view the creation of theater as a means to an end as well. The end goal for us can be described in similar terms as the Red Cross defines its mission as "to serve the most vulnerable" (when they could say: "to gather bandages and administer food to disaster victims"), or the Salvation Army describes its mission as "making citizens of the rejected" (as opposed to "distributing clothing to those without any"). The end objective for Weathervane -- and for live theater as an art form in general -- is to be a catalyst for a more tolerant, empathetic, imaginative and enlightened society.

Sincerely,

John Hedges
Executive Director



Weathervane

— PLAYHOUSE —

78th Season -- 2012-2013 -- Production #559
October 4 - 21, 2012

The Mystery of EDWIN DROOD

Musical by Rupert Holmes

Directed by Jim Weaver



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About the Musical

The Mystery of Edwin Drood originated at the New York Shakespeare Festival, the famed not-for-profit theater company that produces the city's annual Shakespeare in the Park performances. *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* opened at Central Park's Delacorte Theatre in August of 1985 and, following its summertime success, transferred to Broadway for a commercial run that would last for a total of 608 performances. The show was nominated for 11 Tony Awards and won five -- including Best Musical. This October, the show will have its first Broadway revival when New York City's Roundabout Theatre Company opens its production of the musical at Studio 54.

About the Show's Composer and Writer

People who were alive in 1979 and 1980 would probably recognize the No. 1 pop song *Escape* (*The Piña Colada Song*), which was written by this show's creator, **Rupert Holmes**, who wrote this musical's book, music and lyrics. Prior to *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, Holmes was a pop singer-songwriter who wrote, arranged and conducted recordings for Barbra Streisand, including the album *Lazy Afternoon* and songs for the Golden Globe-winning score of *A Star is Born*. His work on *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* earned him the 1986 Tony Award for Best Musical -- which marked the first time in Broadway history that one person solely won Tony Awards as the author, lyricist and composer of a musical. His most recent work for the Broadway stage was his book for the musical *Curtains*, to which he also contributed additional lyrics (for the legendary songwriting team of John Kander and Fred Ebb). He received a Tony Award nomination for writing *Say Goodnight Gracie* and won the National Broadway Theatre Award for Best Play. Among his other plays are the comedy/thriller *Accomplice* (winner of an Edgar Award from The Mystery Writers of America) and the courtroom drama *A Time to Kill* (adapted from the novel by John Grisham). For television, he created, wrote and scored the AMC series *Remember WENN*. His first novel, *Where the Truth Lies*, was nominated for both a Nero Wolfe Award and Booklist Award for Best American Mystery Novel (and was adapted into a motion picture starring Colin Firth and Kevin Bacon).

Musical numbers

Act I

There You Are Chairman, Angela, Deirdre, Alice, Clive and Company
A Man Could Go Quite Mad Jasper
Two Kinsmen Jasper and Drood
Moonfall Rosa
Moonfall Quartet Rosa, Helena, Wendy and Beatrice
The Wages of Sin Puffer
Jasper's Vision Dream Ballet
A British Subject Neville, Helena, Rosa, Crisparkle, Drood and ensemble
Both Sides of the Coin Sapsea and Jasper with ensemble
Perfect Strangers Rosa and Drood
No Good Can Come from Bad Jasper, Rosa, Drood, Neville, Helena,
Crisparkle and Waiter (Bazzard)
Never the Luck Bax / Bazzard and Company
Off to the Races Chairman, Durdles and Company

Act II

EntréActe Orchestra
A Private Investigation Puffer, Datchery and ensemble
The Name of Love/Moonfall (Reprise) Rosa, Jasper and company
Don't Quit While You're Ahead Puffer and Company
Voting -- Don't Quit While You're Ahead (Reprise) Company
Settling Up the Score (Reprise) Chairman and Suspects
The Garden Path to Hell Puffer
Puffer's Revelation Puffer
Out on a Limerick Datchery
Jasper's Confession Jasper
Murderer's Confession
Perfect Strangers (Reprise)
The Writing on the Wall Company



Cast

Chairman, William Cartwright, Mayor Sapsea Patrick Michael Dukeman
James Throttle, Stage Manager, Barkeep Troy Kowatch
John Jasper, Clive Pagett Jason Leupold
Edwin Drood, Alice Nutting Amanda Davis
Rosa Bud, Dierdre Peregrine Alexandra Jaeb
Wendy, Isabel Yearsley Crystal E. Carlson
Beatrice, Florence Gill Abbey Kane
Helena Landless, Janet Conover Melanie Hauer
Neville Landless, Victor Grinstead Cody Hernandez
Rev. Crisparkle, Cedric Moncrieffe Adam Vigneault
Princess Puffer, Angela Prysock Meg Hopp
Durdles, Nick Cricker Tim Welsh
Deputy, Master Nick Cricker Daniel Rylander
Bazzard, Waiter, Phillip Bax Dylan Ratell
Harry Sarle, Shade of Drood, Ensemble Christopher Tuck
Montaque Pruitt, u/s Bazzard/Crisparkle, Ensemble Michael Crowley
Horace, Nicholas Michael, Ensemble John Liptak
Julian, Alan Elliot, Ensemble Jake Rosko
Violet Balfour, Maid, Ensemble Allison Good
Gwendolyn Pynn, Maid, Ensemble Julia Zook
Sarah Cook, Ensemble Kaitlyn Glover
Gertie Thompson, Ensemble Shannon Hubman
Alice's Lap Dog Wendy

Time: 1892

Place: Music Hall Royale, East End London

There will be one 15-minute intermission between the Acts.

Orchestra

Jennifer Korecki -- Conductor, Keyboard
Frank McGill -- Bass
Bill Sallak -- Percussion
Tabytha Walls -- Trumpet (Saturdays and Sundays)
John English -- Trumpet (Thursdays and Fridays)
Wanda Sobieska -- Violin

PLEASE...

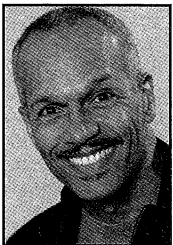
- ♦ Turn OFF your cell phone/BlackBerry because even silenced calls and text messages interfere with the sound system backstage, on stage and throughout the theater.
- ♦ Be sure your cell phone/BlackBerry is turned off again after intermission when appropriate.
- ♦ If you are using an Assistive Listening headset, please turn off your hearing aids to avoid feedback.
- ♦ NO PHOTOS inside the theater.
- ♦ Unwrap cough drops or mints before the performance begins.

For Your Safety...

- ♦ We request that you remain seated until the house lights have come up at intermission and after the curtain call.
- ♦ 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 Creative Team



Jim Weaver (Director/Choreographer) has mounted shows that range from the musical comedy styling of Gilbert and Sullivan to the drama of August Wilson. Included in his body of work are productions of Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Mikado* and *The All Night Strut* at The American Stage Festival; *A Raisin in the Sun* and *The Hi-De-Ho Man*, *Cab Calloway* for the Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe in Sarasota, Florida; *Five Guys Named Moe*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Floyd Collins* and *Once On This Island* at the Weston Playhouse; *Fences* and *A Soldier's Play* at The Historic Asolo Theatre in Florida; *Ragtime* for Kent State University; *Junkanoo Drums* at Lincoln Center (New York); *Guys and Dolls* for the Fine Arts Association of Willoughby and *Ain't Misbehavin* at Maine State Music Theatre, American Stage Company, Bay Street Theatre, and Weston Playhouse.

Internationally he has directed works seen in The Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, France and Austria. He is a member of the Society of Directors and Choreographers.

Director's Notes

The Mystery of Edwin Drood -- I have great memories of seeing the original production on Broadway many years ago. It starred Cleo Lane, Betty Buckley and George Rose. What excitement it created in me. The voices and humor coupled with such a novel way of presenting a musical lifted and inspired me for quite some time. I went out and purchased the cast recording the very next day. It lingers with me still, all these many years later. I never, in my wildest dreams, thought I would be presented with the opportunity to direct a production of the show myself one day. How fortunate I am that John Hedges and Weathervane did just that. This show-within-a-show, where everyone in the cast and audience plays an integral part, is a jewel. No such thing as a fourth wall exists here. That disappears once you step into the theatre and become part of the moment. My hope for this production is that we can suspend time for a while -- that we have captured the humor, mystery, drama and joy of this piece and presented it in a way that will linger with you long after you have left the theatre. I know this new chapter in my experience with *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* will joyfully linger with me. Thank you to the cast and crew for your hard work and dedication to theatre and to everyone at Weathervane for making this possible. I hope you enjoy our little skit and will tell your friends to come and share too.



Jennifer Korecki (Musical Director) is happy to be back at Weathervane Playhouse. Her last appearance was as Co-Musical Director for *Quilters*. She has played piano/keyboard for many WPC productions and was the Assistant Music Director for *Children of Eden*. Jennifer has been the high school vocal music and musical theatre director at Highland High School, Barberton High School and most recently at Cuyahoga Falls High School. She accompanies for classes and productions at Kent State University and Porthouse Theatre and, this summer, was the lead instructor for the Porthouse Academy High School Division. Jennifer received her BA and MFA degrees from Kent State University in Music Education and also holds a K-12 Gifted Endorsement.

She works for Summit County in the screening and identification of gifted students in the arts. Jennifer is also the assistant director of the Hudson Community Choir. Her primary and most rewarding job now is as mom to her five-year-old daughter, Anna. She thanks her husband, Charles, for his constant love and support.



In the Harris Family Gallery - Historical Panels

Our history panels, in honor of Weathervane's 75th year of continuous operation, were created during the 2009-2010 season by Scott Ferrall, Weathervane's Scenic Designer/Technical Director. We acknowledge the following individuals for their help on this project:

Warren Skidmore
Margaret J. Dietz
Drew Ferrall
Marci Paolucci
Linda K. Bussey
Craig Holbert
Mark Bloom

Sue Hagloch Beard
Alex Brown
Scott Brown
Jane Fraleigh
Robert Belfance
Keith Campbell
Helen Fleming

Leslie Lund
Lisa Mansfield
Ruth Richardson
Andrew Laird Maclachlan
Amorah Maclachlan
Mrs. Steven Troesch
Barbara Kaufman

*Bring your
group to
Weathervane*

*Group Leaders:
Call
Lisa Mansfield
330-836-2626*

lmansfield@weathervaneplayhouse.com

Thanks to Our Hard-Working Volunteers

The following are the dedicated volunteers who have assisted us recently.

Phyllis Bernel
Jeff Bixby
June Bretzin
Loretta & Denny Brinton
Courtney Burton
Mary Campbell
Gail & Leonard Cheslock
Susanne Clapper
Wendy Cooley
Brenda Costarella

Steve Davis
Shirley Edwards
William Fortunato
John Grafton
Marilyn Heagerty
Carol Krueger
Bunny Lacey
Pam Lightner
Joanna Mack
Jo McGarvey

Sheila Motter
Pat Nichols
John O'Neill
Ian Oppenheim
Marci Paolucci
Lucy Randles
Ruth Richardson
Nancy Schafer
Carol Seiberling
Pearl Sentelik

Debbie Shama-Davis
Debra Sharp
Karen Smith
Sally Smith
Sue Smith
Barbie Trotter
Verna VanderKooi
Helen Vari
Connie Velotta
Marta Williger

Chanticleer Awards, August 2013

Keep track of your favorites! If you see all six mainstage shows, OR the Dietz and Holiday shows OR all three Young Actor productions, you will be able to cast your vote at the end of the season in the following categories:

Sound Design, Lighting Design, Properties Design, Lead Actor -- play & musical,
Supporting Actor -- play & musical, Lead Actress -- play & musical,
Supporting Actress -- play & musical, Best Production, Youth production
Technical Element, Dietz and Holiday production Technical element,
Actor & Actress performances in Dietz & Holiday production.



Cast Biographies



PATRICK MICHAEL DUKEMAN (Chairman, William Cartwright, Mayor Sapsea) is pleased to return to Weathervane after having played the role of his lifetime this past season as Man in Chair in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. He recently relocated back to Akron from San Francisco, where he has been working professionally for 20 years. Since then, he has played Roger in *The Producers*, Ugly in *Honk and Lawrence in Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. He received critical acclaim for his portrayal of Jerry Springer in the Bay Area Premiere production of *Jerry Springer The Opera*, for which he received a Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Best Actor nomination. He has performed with the Equity theatre TheatreWorks in productions of *Passion*, *Side Show*, *She Loves Me* and *Kiss of the Spiderwoman*. Other roles include Archie in *Some Men*, Mason in *Take Me Out*, Schuyler Hawk in the world premiere of Terrence McNally's *Crucifixion*, Lady Enid in *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, Prior in *Angels in America* and his favorite roles, The Stepmother in Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella* and Fagin in *Oliver!*



TROY KOWATCH (James Throttle, Stage Manager, Barkeep) is excited to be in his first show at Weathervane Playhouse! He is a sophomore at Kent State University as a Musical Theatre major. Some of Troy's favorite roles include God in *Children of Eden*, Sweeney in *Sweeney Todd* and Daddy Warbucks in *Annie*. Troy thanks Jim Weaver for giving him this opportunity and his friends and family for all their support!



JASON LEUPOLD (John Jasper, Clive Pagett) is thrilled to be returning to Weathervane's stage! He has a Bachelor's degree in Musical Theatre from Kent State University (class of 2011) and has performed in multiple regional theatres as well as theatres in NYC. Most recently, he was seen as Warner Huntington III in *Legally Blonde: The Musical* at the Beck Center. He thanks his family and fiancé for their continued love and support and looks forward to many more shows to come!



AMANDA DAVIS (Edwin Drood, Alice Nutting) was last seen singing the title role in last season's *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Best Actress in a Musical Chanticleer Award). She also played one of the Narrators in *Joseph* and Olivia Darnell in last fall's *Shakespeare in*

Hollywood. Some prior Weathervane credits include Janice in *Italian American Reconciliation*, *Putting It Together*, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Eve/Mama Noah in *Children of Eden* (Best Actress in a Musical Chanticleer Award; Best Actress in a Musical NE Ohio Marquis award), *Ragtime*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Lion in Winter*, *Lend Me a Tenor* and *Much Ado About Nothing*. At Coach House she was seen in *Not Now, Darling* and *Hay Fever* and in the Ohio Shakespeare Festival's production of *Love's Labour's Lost*. Mandy is currently a student in the Master's program at Kent State University with the goal of becoming a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner. She thanks her family, friends and Adam for their support!



ALEXANDRA JAEB (Rosa Bud, Dierdre Peregrine) is a sophomore musical theatre student at Kent State University and is thrilled to be playing Rosa Bud in her first-ever Weathervane Playhouse production! Last year at Kent State she was in the cast of 4.48 *Psychosis* and in Kent State Opera's production of *Gallantry* (Announcer). This summer she was seen on The Ohio Light Opera stage in *A Connecticut Yankee* and in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Utopia Limited*. She is so thankful for this opportunity and looks forward to doing a great show with an even better cast!



CRYSTAL E. CARLSON (Wendy, Isabel Yearsley) hails from Caldwell, Idaho, and is a graduate of Capital University (Columbus, Ohio) and the Cleveland Institute of Music, earning a Bachelor of Music degree and a Professional Studies Certificate in Vocal Performance. Her most memorable performances were Adele (*Man of No Importance*), Maggie (*Jake's Women*), First Spirit (*Die Zauberflöte*), and Sister Genovieffa (*Suor Angelica*). Last year, she sang in the chorus of the Cleveland Orchestra's production of *Don Giovanni*. Currently, she is the Administrative Assistant at the Cleveland International Piano Competition, teaches voice lessons in the Cleveland area, and is also the featured soloist at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Mayfield Heights.



ABBEY KANE (Beatrice, Florence Gill) is absolutely ecstatic to be making her Weathervane debut amongst such a talented cast! She is currently a freshman Musical Theatre major at Kent State University and adores being



Cast Biographies ~ continued

able to learn and practice her passion 24/7. No stranger to the stage, Abbey has appeared in numerous productions including *42nd Street* (Peggy Sawyer), *West Side Story* (Anita), *Oliver!* (Bet) just to name a few. She also partook in her first professional production this past summer in Porthouse Theatre's *Sound of Music*. So many thanks to Jim and the entire team for this outstanding opportunity, her new MT family for being so welcoming and, most importantly, her ever supportive family who constantly inspires her. (Off to the Races!)



MELANIE HAUER (Helena Landless, Janet Conover) is excited to appear for the first time on the Weathervane stage. Favorite stage credits include *Nunsense* at Strongsville

Community Theatre, *Jerry Springer: The Opera* and *The Fix* at Beck Center, *Godspell* at Cassidy Theatre and *Missionaries* at Fine Arts Association. Film/television credits include KILFs, *Super to the Heroes*, *Julio* and spots for 717 Credit Union, ZeroDebt, Value City and Kroger. Visit hotlatherproductions.com to see her in action on screen. Hugs and kisses to Dave and Rown for their love, support and general tolerance of her kookiness.



CODY HERNANDEZ (Neville Landless, Victor Grinstead) This is Cody's second show at Weathervane Playhouse. He was previously seen as Lewis in *Pippin*. He is a current junior musical theatre major at Kent State University where he has been seen as a swing in *A Chorus Line* and as the loving Templar in the world premiere musical *Nathan the Wise*. He thanks his friends and family and Mom, Dad, and Ileana...always.



ADAM VIGNEAULT (Rev. Crisparkle, Cedric Moncrieffe) was recently seen in the ensemble in our production of *The Drowsy Chaperone*. He made his Weathervane debut as one of our narrators for *Joseph* and *The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* last season. Elsewhere, his prior stage credits include roles in *Godspell* (Jesus), *Children of Eden* (Adam) and *Oklahoma!* (Will). He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Tiffin University, where he was active in a number of student organizations including the a cappella singing group, Up in the Air. By day, he is a sales representative for Ameri-Cal Corporation in Medina. He thanks his family, the Davis family, and especially Mandy for their love and support!



MEG HOPP (Princess Puffer, Angela Prysock) is so very pleased to return to the Weathervane stage after a 10-year hiatus. You last saw her in *My Way*, the musical tribute to Frank Sinatra, as well as in *Arsenic and Old Lace* as Martha Brewster, and in the *The Odd Couple*/female version. Favorite roles throughout the years include Miss Hannigan in *Annie*, Agnes in *I Do! I Do!*, Miss Gultch/Wicked Witch in *The Wizard of Oz*, and Carrie Pipperidge in *Carousel*. Meg has performed many times on the Brecksville Theatre on the Square stage, most recently in *It's a Grand Night for Singing*. Meg hails from the great state of Wisconsin (Go Pack!), has three grown children and lives in Akron with her husband, Steve.



TIM WELSH (Durdles, Nick Cricker) is delighted to make his Weathervane debut with such a wonderful cast and crew. A junior musical theatre major at Kent State, Tim has recently appeared in *Ragtime* and *The Crucible*. Tim's regional credits include Porthouse Theatre's *The Sunshine Boys* and *Bye Bye Birdie*. Tim thanks the staff, cast and crew at Weathervane and, as always, his supportive friends and family.



DANIEL RYLANDER (Deputy, Master Nick Cricker) After having appeared in Ohio Shakespeare Festival's productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Cobweb) and *Salerio in The Merchant of Venice*, he is thrilled to be a part of this delightful musical production. Other shows include *Move Over, Mrs. Markham* (Coach House Theatre, 2012), *Youngstown Playhouse's Romeo & Juliet* (2011) and *Shipwrecked!* (Coach House Theatre, 2011). At Weathervane, he was seen in *Pride and Prejudice*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. In 2006, his performance in the role of Georgie in *Over the Tavern*, won him the Chanticleer Award for Best Supporting Actor. He thanks his fellow cast members for making this experience so enjoyable and his family for their support.



DYLAN RATELL (Bazzard, Waiter, Phillip Bax), a recent transfer into the musical theatre program of Kent University, is so glad to be a part of this delightful cast. Most recently Dylan has been seen in Porthouse's ensemble of *Hello, Dolly!* and as Mary Sunshine in *Chicago* at Porthouse (2011). "As always this performance goes out to my family for being supportive and getting me through the toughest of times."



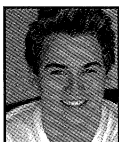
Cast Biographies ~ continued



CHRISTOPHER TUCK (Harry Sarle, Shade of Dood, Ensemble) is extremely excited to be involved in his first performance at Weathervane Playhouse! He is a sophomore musical theatre major at Kent State University. This past summer, he worked as an actor at *Trumpet in the Land* historical drama. At Kent State, Chris has been seen in the productions of *A Chorus Line* and *Nathan the Wise*. He thanks his friends and family for their love and support!



MICHAEL CROWLEY (Montaque Pruitt, u/s Bazzard/Crisparkle, Ensemble) is thrilled to make his Weathervane Playhouse debut. Michael is a sophomore Musical Theatre major at Kent State University, where he has been featured as The Lecturer in *Reefer Madness*, in the cast of *4.48 Psychosis* and as Jason in *Rabbit Hole*. This summer, he worked at the Huron Playhouse where he was cast as Maude in *Bye Bye Birdie*, Feldzieg in *The Drowsy Chaperone* and as the Carnival Boy in *Carousel*. Other credits include Bobby Strong in *Urinetown*, Max in *Lend Me a Tenor*, Arpad Laszlo in *She Loves Me*, Will Parker in *Oklahoma!*, Gremio/Flynt in *Kiss Me, Kate* and Grantaire in *Les Miserables* (SE).



JOHN LIPTAK (Horace, Nicholas Michael, Ensemble) is ecstatic to be in *The Mystery Of Edwin Drood*! John is a junior BFA musical theatre major at Kent State University. He was last seen as a company member in the Summer 2012 season at *Trumpet In The Land*. Prior to *Trumpet*, John played Guggenheim in the Akron Symphony's production of *Titanic: The Musical*. John thanks Jim for this great opportunity! He also thanks his family and friends for helping him follow his dream and believing in him all the way.



JAKE ROSKO (Julian, Alan Elliot, Ensemble) is making his Weathervane Playhouse debut. A freshman BFA musical theatre major at Kent State University, Jake has been acting for more than ten years back in his home town, *Chicago*. Other favorite shows include *Rent*, *Les Miserables*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Aladdin*, *42nd Street* and *Seussical*.



ALLISON GOOD (Violet Balfour, Maid, Ensemble) is delighted to return to Weathervane for *Drood*! She was last seen this summer in Weathervane's Ten-Minute Play Festival in *The Rules of Comedy*. Past credits include *Pippin*, *Art of Deduction: Inside the Mind of Sherlock Holmes* and *Pride &*

Prejudice. She has also performed at The University of Akron, Coach House Theatre and Youngstown Playhouse. Allison recently graduated from The University of Akron, Summa Cum Laude, with her Bachelor's degree in English and a minor in Theatre Arts. She sends her love to Mom, Dad, and Chris.



JULIA ZOOK (Gwendolyn Pynn, Maid, Ensemble) is thrilled to make her Weathervane Playhouse debut in this ensemble. She is currently studying as a senior Speech Pathology major at Kent State University, with a minor in Theatre. Hailing from Toledo, Ohio, she has performed in many productions in the local area. Some of her recent credits include North Canton Playhouse's *Chicago* (Velma Kelly), Fine Arts Association's *Hairspray* (Tammy), St. Francis De Sales' *Anything Goes* (Reno Sweeney) and St. Ursula Academy's *Les Miserables* (Fantine).



KAITLYN GLOVER (Sarah Cook, Ensemble) This is Kat's first performance since returning from a New England tour with Children's Stage Adventures. She is thrilled to be home and even more excited to be making her debut at Weathervane! Kat is a professional teaching artist and will be working with the Akron After School Program through Weathervane during the 2012-2013 school year, as well as house managing at The Players Guild in Canton and contributing to the up-and-coming 3truthsandadare YouTube channel. Some of her favorite roles include the Fairy Godmother in *Cinderella* and the English Teacher from an interactive theater piece called *Zombie Day*. As always, a huge thanks to Ryan and Mom.



SHANNON HUBMAN (Gertie Thompson, Ensemble) is thrilled to be returning to the Weathervane stage after previously performing in *Pippin* two summers ago. This spring Shannon will graduate from Kent State University with her BFA degree in musical theatre. Some previous productions you may have seen her in include *All Shook Up* at *Trumpet in the Land*, *Reefer Madness* at Kent State University and a staged reading of *Rabbit Hole* at Kent State University. Shannon thanks her family for their undying love and support.



WENDY (Alice's Lap Dog) is pleased to be performing with her "Daddy" Patrick. She performed for five years in San Francisco in productions of *Wizard of Oz*, *Camelot* and *Gypsy*.



Creative Team Biographies



DANIELLE TERLONGE (Stage Manager) returned to Weathervane after several years' absence to stage manage last season's *Yellowman* in our Dietz Theater. She has been a part of stage management, sound, lighting, and properties teams at the theatre in the past. Danielle is a teacher for Cuyahoga Falls City Schools. She thanks her husband, who puts up with the two of them perpetually being ships passing in the night.



MARY PAT DOORLEY (Properties Co-Designer) is the Interpretive Operations Supervisor at Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) in Brecksville, Ohio. She began her career with the National Park Service in 1993 as a volunteer and became a permanent park ranger in 1995. She is the assistant chief for the division of Interpretation, Education & Visitor Services, in addition to the Public Affairs Officer for the park. Ms. Doorley is active volunteering with the Alzheimer Association's Memory Walk in Lima, St. Sebastian Parish and School and the Akron Rugby Club. She was recently the co-props designer for *Dancing at Lughnasa*. Ms. Doorley received a B.A. degree in Rhetoric and Communications from Kent State University in 1995. She resides in Highland Square with her son, Zed, and their German Shepherd, Chewbacca.



BRIANNA MACHUGA (Properties Co-Designer) began her volunteerism last season as props crew for *Dancing at Lughnasa*. She is a junior at Saint Vincent Saint Mary's (STVM) High School where she is active in the International Thespian Society. At STVM Brianna worked stage crew for *Blithe Spirit* her freshman year. Since then she has been in the cast of *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *Singing in the Rain* and played Elaine Harper in *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Brianna is currently in rehearsal for STVM's production of *As You Like It*.



JORDAN PRIDDY (Properties Co-Designer) began her volunteerism last season as props crew for *Dancing at Lughnasa*. Jordan, however, is not new to the stage. She performed as a member of the Cuyahoga Valley Youth Ballet for five years. Notable performances include Lead Russian in *Nutcracker*, *Fancy Nancy* at Symphony Space in New York City and *Madeline Goes to the Circus*. Jordan is a senior

at Saint Vincent-Saint Mary High School, where she is a member of the International Thespian Society.



GARY L. ROBINSON (Sound Designer) became involved with Weathervane this past summer when he filled in as part of the sound crew for the production of *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Gary has been working with sound design and production since the early 1980s, specializing in live performance at houses of worship. This is Gary's first venue as Sound Designer here at Weathervane. He is a graduate of Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy and The University of Akron.



MIKE SFERRO (Lighting Co-Designer) has been working in theatre for 17 years. In that time he has designed or stage-managed over 200 productions in high school, community, college and professional venues. His work at Weathervane began back in the summer of 1995, when he worked as an assistant lighting designer for *Loot*. Currently, Michael is the Production Manager for the Medina Performing Arts Center and is privileged to work with the students there, teaching them design theory and stage management. In addition to his work at Medina, Michael designs lighting for The Chapel in Akron. As an arts advocate, Michael is chairman of Cameo, producer of the large scale summer musicals in Medina, and has been instrumental in bringing the Akron Symphony to Medina county audiences. Michael is an Assistant Vice President for Citizens Bank.



ROB ANDERSON (Lighting Co-Designer) is a senior at Cuyahoga Falls High School, where he is active in Stage Crew. At school he designed the lights for *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Rehearsal for Murder* and others. He recently ran the light board for *August: Osage County* here at Weathervane. Rob hopes to take over the world. Pinky and the Brain are his inspiration. "Mr. Korecki keeps me out of trouble."



JASEN J. SMITH (Costume Designer) joined the Weathervane professional staff in August 2008 as its Resident Costume Designer and Costume Shop Manager. Since then, he has designed costumes for the Playhouse's productions of *Children of Eden*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Bloody Murder*, *Intimate Apparel* and *Pride and Prejudice* among others. continued...



Creative Team Biographies ~ continued

His co-costuming credits include *Putting It Together* (with Adam Thatcher) and *Man of La Mancha* (with Hedy Jones), the latter of which earned him and his collaborator the Chanticleer Award for best costume design. Jasen also won the 2009 Marquee Award for Best Costume Design from the Youngstown Area Community Theatre Association for his work on *Children of Eden*. His other regional costume-design credits include *Porthouse Theatre*, *Case Western Reserve University* and the *Ohio Light Opera* (*Pirates of Penzance*, *The Mikado*, *Robin Hood* and *The Merry Widow*).



ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Scenic Designer) began at Weathervane as a backstage volunteer under the tutelage of the late John R. Thomas. This is Scott's 16th season as a Weathervane staff member. Other design work includes Cuyahoga Falls High School, The Players Guild of Canton, Cleveland Signstage Theatre and Western Reserve Public Media (PBS-TV Channels 45/49). At Weathervane, Scott has earned seven Chanticleer Awards -- one as the stage manager for *Fences*; one each for his lighting designs for *The Laramie Project*, *A Lesson Before Dying* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*; and one each for his co-lighting designs for *A Man for All Seasons*, *The Full Monty* and *Man of La Mancha*. In his spare time, Scott has written three one-act children's play that tour local schools: *Two Swords*, *a Bag of Marbles* and *a PB & J*, *The Mystery of the Missing Robot* and *How the Bee Learned to Spell: A Fable*. He also takes great pleasure in writing the end-of-the-season revue for the Not-Ready-for-Mainstage Players, who appear at Weathervane's annual Chanticleer Awards banquet. He was the recipient of the 2012 Trustees Award.



Production Team

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

SET CONSTRUCTION

Ruth Richardson
Roger Dieringer
John Tynan
Erin Katz Ford
Kevin Ford
Joe Hunter
Dan Leván

SOUND

Gary L. Robinson
Russ Craven
Audrey Fleigel
Jason Bryan Maurer

COSTUMES

Jasen J. Smith
Loretta Brinton
Ann Lyman
Carol Smith
Diantha Seibert
John S. Catlos
Darlene Salupo
Cindy Ha

LIGHTS

Mike Sferro
Rob Anderson
Anthony Anderson
Jesse Parker
Anthony Kenney
Jason Bryan Maurer
Erin Katz Ford
Jennifer Maxson Draher
Sue Stout Davis
Michele McNeal
Nina DiSalvo

PROPERTIES

Mary Pat Doorley
Brianna Machuga
Jordan Priddy
John Tynan
Anthony Kenney
Jeff Bixby
Liz Tomei
Karen Burridge

Acknowledgements

Canal Place - space to paint the drops for our set
Rentwear Inc. -- North Canton, OH

JOHN HEDGES, Executive Director

Mr. Hedges is currently in his sixth season as Executive Director of Weathervane Playhouse. He has enjoyed an award-winning career as both a producer and an actor. In the spring of 2012, John received critical acclaim for his portrayal of Michael in the Cleveland premiere of *God of Carnage* at Dobama Theatre. Prior to coming to Weathervane, He spent ten years in the Resident Acting Company at the historic Barter Theatre in Virginia where he performed in over sixty shows. Other acting credits include performances at Broadway's Town Hall, the Pantages Theatre in Los Angeles, the Indiana Repertory Theatre, the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, Actors Theatre of Louisville and the American Stage Festival in New Hampshire where he appeared opposite Academy Award-winner Olympia Dukakis in *The Cherry Orchard*. Film work: *Freedom* (Best Supporting Actor, SA International Film Festival). 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 Pearl Theatre Company. Mr. Hedges is a member of Actors' Equity Association, served on the Board of Directors of Boston's StageSource, been a Conference Panelist for the American Alliance for Theatre & Education, and written for American Theatre magazine. He studied at Indiana State University, the Professional Theatre Training Program at the University of Delaware, is a graduate of the National Shakespeare Conservatory and holds an honorary MFA in theatre from Stafford University. He is a graduate of Leadership Akron (Class XXV).

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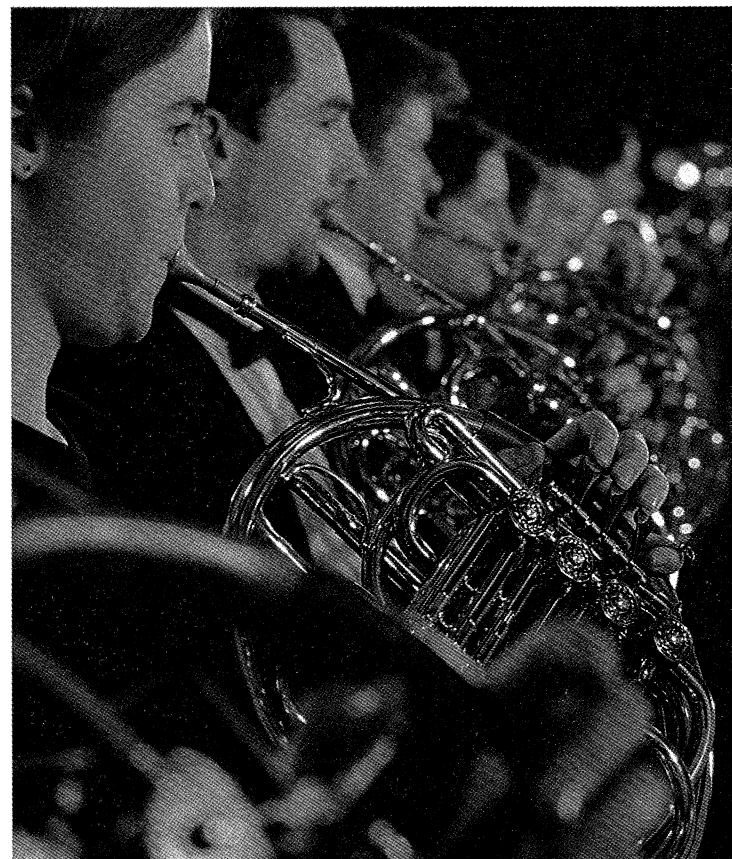


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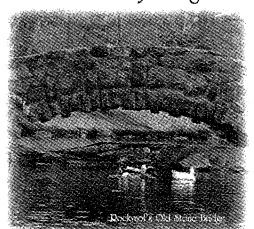
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