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boardpresident@langhamtheatre.ca

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For newsletter address changes or deletions, send them to theatremanager@langhamtheatre.ca

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250-384-2142
boxoffice@langhamtheatre.ca

Costume Loft Rentals and Donations
250-384-2025
costumeloft@langhamtheatre.ca

General Inquires
theatremanager@langhamtheatre.ca

Membership
membership@langhamtheatre.ca

Prop Rentals and Donations
props@langhamtheatre.ca

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January 13-30, 2016

Stepping Out

Directed by Heather-Elayne Day

Stepping up to *Stepping Out!*

Submitted by Michael Romano

"Geoffrey sticks out like a sore thumb" says Mavis, the tap dance instructor in the upcoming production *Stepping Out*. I play Geoffrey, the one guy in a cast of ten, the "sore thumb."

Stepping Out is a lighthearted, smart, insightful play written by a man who cares very much what his characters say – and do not say. In Geoffrey's case, it's mostly the latter. Actually, being the only guy in a play about a tap dance class for adults is a lot like when I often was the only guy in a local tap dance class for adults which I attended for several years.

Richard Harris, the playwright, obviously did heaps of reconnaissance while developing his characters: nine gals, all charming in an off-the-cuff sort of way, and one awkward guy with a penchant for drifting toward the back of the class and avoiding anything which might be mistaken for an opinion.

If I were to write a survival guide for the "outnumbered man," it would surely include such headings as: costumes – resistance is useless; politics – keep your head down because it's all men's fault anyway; kids – you know nothing... and they're all men's fault too.

In personalities and experience, in both dance and stage, the play is well cast. Adult classes of whatever subject, are always salted with variety. The mix here gives the play an affectionate charm. It reminds me of my own tap class days when I was the awkward, outnumbered guy drifting to the back seeking camouflage. But the hours of seemingly futile class exercises and routines always produced year-end performances to be proud of.



The "tap class" has a lesson review.

Annual General Meeting

Please be advised that Langham Court Theatre's AGM will be held in the auditorium on Sunday, January 31, 2016 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Call for Nominations information can be found on [the last page of this newsletter](#).



Stepping Out Art Show

Submitted by Jeani Reynolds

The work of Frances Harber will be on display in the Theatre Lounge during the run of Stepping Out.

The pieces are available for viewing and purchase pre-show, at intermission or post-show during the show run and during box office hours.

Frances Harber

The first time I stepped into Langham Court Theatre it was to act in their productions of *Belle Soeurs*, *Flea in Her Ear* and *Death of a Salesman*. What a pleasure to return in yet another role – artist!

Now my stage is canvas. Paint turns my ideas into characters and visual plots. Like a good play, every line and colour plays an important part and balance depends on finetuning the interplay between colour, light and line.

I trained at Victoria College of Art and have had shows at studios in Chinatown, Sidney and Sooke Fine Arts Shows as well as Look Shows.

For this show I chose mainly animals as subjects because I find nature to be the ultimate master of design, leading me on an endless fascinating journey.

Enjoy the shows, both on and off stage!



March 2-19, 2016

Female Transport

Directed by Montgomery Björnson

A Journey in Chains

Submitted by Montgomery Björnson

I am delighted with the wonderful turnout we had for auditions. We are truly lucky to have so many talented actors in our community.

After an intensive callback, I am pleased to announce our cast that includes both new and familiar faces to Langham.

In December, the cast began voice coaching with Tony Cain, working on their British dialect and enunciation. Our set designer, Doug Craig, has finished the model of the set, complete with four levels of acting space.

After a brief rest over the holidays, everyone will be returning January 4 to begin rehearsals in the Rehearsal Room.

ROLE/NAME

Winnie - Demelza Randall

Madge - Deirdre Tipping

Nance - Melissa Taylor

Pitty - Isobel Scott

Charlotte - Taryn Lees

Sarah - Sarah Cashin

Tommy - Alex Judd

Sarge - Graham Roebuck

Captain - David Biltek

Surgeon - Ian Simms



Photo: David Lowes



Fran Patterson as Sister Aloysius Beauvier and Rosemary Jeffery as Mrs. Muller.

Last Impression

Submitted by Lorene Cammiade and Wendy Merk

More than one customer has called or come to the Box Office window and commented what an outstanding production we did with *Doubt: A Parable*. Today we got in the mail a very nice card with a \$100 donation from a subscriber. I'll type here what she said in the card.

"Thanks to Langham Court Theatre for a truly great show. Doubt was one of the best theatre experiences I've enjoyed. I have seen plays in Stratford, Niagara, Ashland, New York, Stratford-upon-Avon, and London and Doubt was better than many. The cast and crew should be very proud of this production. Congratulations!"



Escape From Happiness

By George F. Walker

Directed by Wendy Merk

Performance Dates: April 20-May 7

Audition Dates: February 1 and 2, 7 p.m. in the Rehearsal Room, located downstairs at Langham Court Theatre.

Callbacks: February 4, 7 p.m. in the Rehearsal Room.

Escape From Happiness is a very funny dark comedy set in working-class Toronto in the late 1990s. It tells the story of Nora,

the matriarch of an eccentric, wacky family. Her daughter Mary Ann is a crazy runaway mother, her son-in-law Junior is a beat-up car thief, and her daughter Elizabeth is a hot-tempered bisexual. Nora maintains a cock-eyed optimism with a cup of tea and a firm grasp on fantasy, as the family deals with cops, drug dealers, and thugs in the basement.

CHARACTERS:

None of the characters can be described in a few words, they're like real people and are full of inconsistencies. Read the play to find out more.

Nora (50s): Motherly, sweet-natured, scattered, tends to ramble on and on and on.

Elizabeth (30s): Strong-willed, determined, swears a lot, not afraid of physical combat.

Tom: (50s) A former cop, violent streak lurks underneath, a loner who loves his family.

Mike (40s/50s): A cop, tough, kind of what you'd expect a cop to be.

Auditions

Gail (20s): Youngest of three daughters, has to fight to be heard, a new mom.

Junior (20s): Gail's partner, a bit stupid, but sweet and well-meaning.

Rolly (50s/60s): Self-declared pornography king, Steve's dad, just trying to make a living.

Steve (20s): Rolly's son, soft-hearted, guileless, tries hard to please Dad.

Mary Ann (20s): The middle daughter, terrified of her father, a bit obsessive.

Dian (30s/50s): A cop, charming, sly, dishonest.

Audition bookings are not required. Please bring a resume of your previous acting experience and training (if any).

Please come having read the script. You can get a copy of *Escape From Happiness* at this link: www.langhamtheatre.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Escape-From-Happiness.pdf. We will do cold readings from the script.

A prepared audition piece is not necessary, but if you would like to do a short prepared monologue, we will make time for that.



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS

COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948!



Announcing these upcoming auditions:

CLIFFHANGER

Written by James Yaffe
Directed by Penelope Harwood

Sun., Jan. 10 • 1:30pm
Mon., Jan. 11 • 7:00pm

Callbacks: Tuesday, Jan. 12 • 7:00pm

No appointments are necessary,
just show up promptly at the start time.

Play runs March 9 – 20, 2016

Rehearsals are on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
from 7:00pm until 10:00pm • Commencing January 18th

For scripts or questions please contact
psharwood@telus.net

Scripts are also available at
Oak Bay Flower Shop • 250-595-2421

Bull in a China Shop

Written by C.B. Gilford • Directed by Michael King

Fri., Jan. 22 • 7:00pm
Sat., Jan. 23 • 1-5pm

Callbacks: Monday, Jan. 25 • 7:00pm

No appointments are necessary,
just show up promptly at the start time.

Play runs May 18 – 28, 2016

Rehearsals are on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays
from 7:00pm until 10:00pm

For scripts or questions please contact St. Luke's Players

All auditions are held at St Luke's Hall, 3821 Cedar Hill X Rd • Like us on Facebook
Website: www.stlukesplayers.org • Phone: 250-884-5484 • Email: stlukesplayers@yahoo.ca

READERS' THEATRE AUDITIONS

Bream Gives Me Hiccups by Jesse Eisenberg, a series of comic short stories about dating.

Directed by Diane Keating.

Audition Date: February 3, 7 - 9 p.m. in the rehearsal room at Langham Court Theatre.

Performance date: February 13, 8 p.m., at Langham Court Theatre in the lounge.

Roles available for two men and two women, any age.

Detailed information about Langham Court Theatre auditions is on our website: www.langhamtheatre.ca/support/auditions/. If you have any inquiries, please contact the Langham Court Theatre Box Office 250-384-2142 • email: boxoffice@langhamtheatre.ca

Guild News

Langham Court Theatre has three available positions for Guild Leaders. Our Guilds support and encourage the ongoing development of theatre through workshops and the sharing of ideas, improving the technical aspects of community theatre.

Costume Guild

To promote the research, artistry and technical expertise in the field of costume design and creation.

Tech Guild

For the introduction and training of volunteers interested in the technical aspects of a show, and the sharing of ideas and experience.

Stage Management Guild

Offering guidance and workshops to help SMs and ASMs in their very important roles in a production.

Please contact the **President of the Board** (boardpresident@langhamtheatre.ca) if you're interested in taking on one of these exciting and challenging opportunities.

Guild Contacts

Costume Guild: TBA costumeguild@langhamtheatre.ca

Producers' Guild: Michael Gosselin
producersguild@langhamtheatre.ca

Stage Management Guild: TBA
smguild@langhamtheatre.ca

Tech Guild: TBA
lightsoundguild@langhamtheatre.ca

Directors' Guild:
Keith Digby and Cynthia Pronick
directorsguild@langhamtheatre.ca

Actors' Guild: Perry Burton
actorsguild@langhamtheatre.ca

Set Design Guild: Don Keith
setdesignguild@langhamtheatre.ca

Event Planning Guild:
Vinnie Chadwick
eventplanningguild@langhamtheatre.ca

Box Office Guild: Dick Newson
boxoffice@langhamtheatre.ca

Front of House Volunteer Enquires:
volunteers@langhamtheatre.ca

Costume Loft News

Submitted by Lisa Leighton

Thank you! For recent donations to the Costume Loft and Costume Workshop, thanks to: Anne Giles and Alice Whiting; Wendy Cornock; Drew Waveryn; Valerie Sullivan; Lorraine Conn; Carl Harman; Judy Treloar; Aaren Madden; Vinnie Chadwick on behalf of the estate of Sylvia Rhodes (for the Costume Workshop); Heather Wheeler, The Avenue Gallery; Debbie Laverty; Meirion Sage; Madeleine Mills; Jannice Foreman; Elvi Wilke; Laurence Smith; Holly Brooke; and Shirley Patterson via Barb Foster.

Welcome new volunteers: Marilyn Eisenbraun and Sara Ezzat, who started in December and are already in the swing. And HUGE thanks to current and past volunteers for their great contributions in 2015: Senga Simpson, Jacqueline O'Regan, Jean de Cartier, Ned Lemley, Daphne Massey, Ursula Kalynchuk, Lisa Simpson, Kate Wells, Alison MacKinley, Di Madill, Chris Stusek, Erica Enwright, Ruby Chan-Thomas, Eileen Bennett, Koichiro Ito, Ariel

Glidden, Keri Garland, Linda MacNaughton, Alton Cole and Zsuzsa Harsman. (Please forgive me if I have left anyone out.) Your hard work, good ideas and unending humour always make the Costume Loft a wonderful place to be.

We are looking for a volunteer to help repair jewellery and accessories. If you are handy with small tools and a glue gun and have a knack for fixing things, please consider it!

Costume Inventory Project (from Erica Thomas): Thanks to Gloria Snider and Jane Smith for their ongoing help with the CIP, and to Dick Newson for repairing the light stand.

Costume Workshop

Thank you to Erica Thomas and Gloria Snider for reorganizing the sewing patterns in the Costume Workshop in early December. Patterns are filed by company, and now by number, for easy access.



Elizabeth Brimacombe practices her smoking in *Stepping Out*.

Where There's Smoke...

Submitted by Drew Waveryn

I bought two actual, honest-to-goodness, real-deal prop cigarettes! They're designed for stage and screen so they don't have a blue or green glow like the lesser-effective e-cigarettes I can't return because they're "tobacco products".

The two cigarettes I've ordered work the same way an e-cig works, but there's no nicotine or other toxins in the vapour. They come with a realistic looking cigarette package that doubles as the charger and houses the spare cartridges. As long as the cartridges are available, we can use them over and over again.

No more powder puffers... no more herbal cigarettes... no more nicotine e-cigarettes... no more trouble with patrons... no more problems for actors.

This is the website where I bought the e-cigarettes: www.newrulefx.com/collections/actor-cigarette. There's a video on how they work: actorcigarette.squarespace.com/. With shipping, the two cigarettes and a package of 10 extra cartridges is a little over US\$100, but considering how many productions can use them in the future, I think it's a good deal.

They also have many other great props. Check them out.

Christmas Party Photos



Mark Your Calendars

January 10 & 11

St. Luke's Players auditions for *Cliffhanger*. Callbacks on January 12 (www.stlukesplayers.org/auditions.html)

January 13-30

Langham's production of *Stepping out*.

January 17

Admission-free Art Reception in the Langham Lounge for the work of Frances Harber (1-3 p.m.)

January 22 & 23

St. Luke's Players auditions for *Bull in a China Shop*. Callbacks on January 25 (www.stlukesplayers.org/auditions.html)

January 31

Langham's AGM, 7 p.m.

February 3

Readers' Theatre auditions, 7-9 p.m.

February 13

Readers' Theatre special Valentine's Day performance, 8 p.m.

Peninsula Players Auditions

January 10, 11, 17 & 18
thepeninsulaplays.ca

FAULTY TOWERS

The Jack Droy Stairway

Submitted by Tom McCarthy

Langham Court Theatre is fortunate to have many, many friends. The volunteers who make our shows a reality, our volunteer Board, our enthusiastic and loyal audience, our neighbours – all have become part of the family.

Our new stairway is here today because of one of our dear friends. Jack Droy had a career in the early days of Canadian film and was awarded the Canadian Picture Pioneers award in 1952 which was inscribed, "You helped to rock the cradle of our industry."

After coming to Victoria, he actively contributed his time and talent to the theatre scene. He loved Victoria and he loved the theatre community. And now, through his estate, he has contributed mightily to the Langham Court Theatre story.

Thank you, Jack.



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

for Board positions to be elected at the AGM on Sunday, January 31, 2016 at 7 p.m.

The Victoria Theatre Guild and Dramatic School's Annual General Meeting will be held on January 31, 2016. There are four positions on the Board of Directors that are up for election:

Secretary (two-year term)

Responsibilities include conducting correspondence on behalf of the Board, preparation and custody of the minutes of all general meetings and Board meetings, being a signing officer.

Treasurer (two-year term)

Responsibilities include administration of the financial affairs of the Society including banking, payments, collection of funds or delegation thereof; maintenance of proper accounting / financial records; preparation of financial statements; membership on the Finance Committee; being a signing officer.

Member at Large (two-year term)

Responsibilities include involvement in one or more committees and other duties as assigned by the Board.

Member at Large (two-year term)

Responsibilities as above.

You must be a member in good standing (i.e. have your membership fees fully paid up by the AGM) both to run for a position and to nominate or second a person for a position. If you are not certain of your membership status, please check with the box office. You can also renew your membership on or before the date of the AGM through the box office.

Karrie Ayotte has been appointed Nominations Chair. To put forward your name for one of the four available positions, or to nominate another individual for one of the positions, please contact Karrie. Advanced nominations will be accepted up until 6 p.m. on Friday, January 29, 2016. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor during the meeting. For each nomination, please provide the following:

- full name of the person being nominated;
- position for which the person is being nominated as a candidate;
- full names of the nominator and seconder; and
- confirmation that the candidate, nominator and seconder are all members in good standing.

Each candidate must have both a nominator and a seconder. At the

AGM, nominators will be given a brief opportunity to speak to their nominations; candidates will also be given a brief opportunity to speak to their nomination. Voting will be by secret ballot and no proxy voting is permitted (in other words, you must be present at the AGM to vote).

The current Secretary (Andrea Pite) and current Treasurer (Andrew Lee) have both indicated their willingness to stand for re-election to those positions.

Questions regarding the elections can be directed to Karrie (via email or phone as mentioned earlier). Questions regarding the AGM generally should be directed to the Board.

Karrie Ayotte Contact Information

Phone: 250-589-9653

Cell: 250-217-2934

Email: karrie.wolfe@gmail.com



Langham Court Theatre Sponsorship Program Launched

Submitted by Tom McCarthy

It is now possible for business to invest in Langham Court Theatre. The return on your sponsorship investment is a more vibrant, creative Victoria, a more engaged community, a heightened awareness of your business through a variety of valuable recognition and activation opportunities, and a tangible demonstration of your commitment to building an even greater Victoria.

Want to know more? Please email me, Tom McCarthy, General Manager at tom@langhamtheatre.ca.



Photo: David Lowes