

# NEWSLETTER

May 2015

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boardpresident@langhamtheatre.ca

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Rosemary Jeffrey and Bill Huzar

Langham Court News is published 11 times a year. **Deadline for submissions is the 20th day of the month preceding the month of publication.** Send submissions to Kathy Macovichuk at <a href="newseditor@langhamtheatre.ca">newseditor@langhamtheatre.ca</a>

For newsletter address changes or deletions, contact Denise Brown at theatremanager@langhamtheatre.ca

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**Costume Loft Rentals and Donations** 250-384-2025

**General Inquires** 

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Membership

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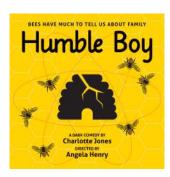
**Prop Rentals and Donations** 

props@langhamtheatre.ca

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Caitlin Reid and Rosemary Jeffery smile for the camera while taking blocking notes.

June 11-27, 2015

## **Humble Boy**

Directed by Angela Henry and Montgomery Bjornson

# **Humming Along**

Submitted by Angela Henry

The cast and production team are well into rehearsals plumbing the depths of astrophysics and the clever funny script of Charlotte Jones. Angela and Monty are tagteaming rehearsals and loving the process.

#### The Cast:

Kyle Kushnir, Wendy Magahay, Elizabeth Whitmarsh, Melissa Taylor, Paul Terry, and Bill Christie.

#### **Production Team:**

Directors – Angela Henry and Montgomery Bjornson; Producers – Gil Henry and Chad Jarvie-Laidlaw; Stage Manager – Rosemary Jeffery; ASM – Caitlin Reid; Set Design – Doug Craig; Lighting Design – Paul Hilton; Sound Design – Tim Watters; Costume Design – Jane Krieger and Madeleine Mills; Set Décor – Joyce Kline; and Properties – Geli Bartlett.



The directors and cast discuss the upcoming scene.

## Special Humble Boy Event Open to All



On **May 17, 8:30-10 p.m.**, the cast and production team are welcoming a guest speaker to Langham Court.

Wayne Cannon is an internationally acclaimed astrophysicist and Professor Emeritus at York University. Professor Cannon has very graciously agreed to give a talk to the Humble team on String Theory, which is an essential piece of the main protagonist's mental quandary. Professor Cannon is visiting family on the coast and is taking a detour through Victoria to mix science with art, one of his favourite topics.

The evening's talk is open to any inquiring mind, so come join us for an informal, unusual and enlightening experience.

# **Artist Spotlight**

The work of Esther Parker will be on display in the theatre lounge during the run of August: Osage County. The pieces are available for viewing and

purchase pre-show, at intermission or post-show during the show run and during box office hours.



# **Our New Costume Loft Manager**

Submitted by Bill Huzar, HR Committee

A long-time member of Langham Court, Lisa Leighton joined the theatre in 2001. She has been a producer, a bartender and a costume designer. She put together the Langham cookbook with Sylvia Rhodes and Bonnie Groening, helped with the initial planning and stocking of the Costume Workshop and continues to curate our extensive pattern collection.

Lisa also helped establish the Costume Guild, the first of the guilds at Langham, which puts on sewing and design workshops (now under the able hand of Ann-Marie Arneson).

It was largely on Lisa's initiative that the ambitious Costume Inventory Project got underway (and is now being continued under the guidance of Erica Thomas).

Anyone who has worked with Lisa knows that she is tireless and detail-oriented about any project she takes on.

Consultative and always happy to move Langham forward, Lisa is

grateful to Ned and the current Loft volunteers for their mentoring and patience as she learns the ropes, and she looks forward to welcoming volunteers, designers, visitors and the generally interested to the Costume Loft.

Welcome Lisa.



Ned Lemley passes the costume loft torch to Lisa Leighton.

## **Notes from Aloft**

Submitted by Lisa Leighton

For donations in cash and kind in March and April, many thanks to: Anonymous via Gil Henry; Joan Walker; Brenda Ellis; Maureen Colgan; In memory of Nel Powell; Craigdarroch Castle; Heather Louis; Reta Fowler via Chris Stusek; Anonymous for three bags of mostly new women's shoes and garments; St. Luke's via Jane Krieger and Madeleine Mills; Noël Taylor; Charles Simpson; Ross Breckon; Airlie Sturrock on behalf of Faye Sturrock; Kathy Peddlesden; Amanda Mills; and Andrea and Keith Ashton.

We have unfortunately had to say goodbye to long-time volunteer Koichiro Ito, who has returned to Japan. Linda MacNaughton has decided to move on to other possibilities, and Saturday anchor Ariel Glidden will be reducing her shifts in order

to invest more of her time in other things. Enormous thanks to all three for all of their hard work over the last several years.

Linda also deserves special recognition for her wonderful work with the Loft jewellery collection, and for identifying and consigning the more valuable pieces. Her efforts have netted a total of \$539.

As the Loft moves into its new schedule in May (Mondays 2-7 p.m., Wednesdays and Fridays noon to 5 p.m., and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.), we are looking for volunteers to join us upstairs! Come for as much or as little time as you wish, and enjoy the everchanging challenge of dressing theatre. If you'd like to volunteer, or know someone who might, please contact Lisa Leighton, 250-384-2025 during Loft hours, 250-595-5523 home, or leighton@islandnet.com.

We also need menders and sewers, as our collection ages (gracefully). If you are interested in helping with mending, or in making new costumes, please get in touch.

Our annual cull will start at the beginning of May, so we invite all costume designers for the coming season to visit upstairs as soon as possible, go through the collection, and tag any pieces they want to embargo. We have a lot to cull, so please don't wait.

On a personal note, heartfelt thanks to Ned Lemley and the regular Loft volunteers for their support, advice and patience during our transition time upstairs. Ned has been and continues to be an inspiring and gracious mentor, and we're all looking forward to seeing him back in the Loft as a volunteer when the spirit moves him. Thank you!

# Auditions



# **Stepping Out**

By Richard Harris

Director/Choreographer: Heather-Elayne Day

Performance Dates: January 13-30, 2016.

Audition Dates: Saturday, May 23 and Sunday, May 24 at 1 p.m. in the Rehearsal Room.

Callbacks: Sunday, May 31 at 7 p.m. in the Rehearsal Room.

After the show is cast, there will be a read through in early June, date TBA. Note that the casting is early so that the actors can brush up (or acquire) their tap dancing skills prior to the beginning of rehearsals, which will be in mid-October.

Set in the early 1980s in a dingy church hall in North London, *Stepping Out* is a warm and funny play about the lives, laughs, and loves of a group of women (and one man) attending a weekly tap dance class. Despite the students at first treating the classes as social occasions, and showing little co-ordination, they later develop a level of skill and cohesiveness and by the play's end they have transformed into triumphant tappers. British accents, appropriate to the character, are required for all roles.

# A list of the characters, their descriptions and a copy of the script can be found on the Langham website.

Audition bookings are not required. A prepared audition piece is not necessary. Auditions will include both reading and dancing. Please bring hard-soled shoes, or tap shoes if you have them.



# You Can't Take It With You

By Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman Directed by Chris Moss

Performance Dates: September 30-October 17, 2015

# Theatre Inconnu is auditioning IF WE WERE BIRDS

Directed by Wendy Merk

Performance Dates: September 29 – October 17

Auditions dates: June 13 & 14 (1-5 p.m.)

Callbacks: June 17 at 8 p.m.

LOCATION FOR AUDITIONS WILL BE GIVEN WHEN YOU HAVE BOOKED AN AUDITION.

A shocking, uncompromising examination of the horrors of war, giving voice to a woman long ago forced into silence, spotlighting female victims who have been silenced through violence. Based on Greek myth, this script, while modern, is highly poetical in nature.

To arrange an audition, email the director at <u>coventrycarollers@gmail.com</u> (do not phone or respond through Facebook).

Please prepare a dramatic monologue of at least two minutes.

We are looking to cast a half dozen women and one man. The women are of varying ages, looks and presence. The man should reflect a powerful king. Audition Dates: Saturday, June 13 and Sunday, June 14 at 1-4 p.m., both days in the Rehearsal Room.

Callbacks: Sunday, June 21 at 1-4 p.m. in the Rehearsal Room.

### Be prepared to stay the full three hours.

Auditions will be one-on-one. Prepared monologues are not required. Bring a photo if possible. Scripts will be provided at the audition.

The play, You Can't Take It With You, is a large cast comedy requiring a wide range of ages and talents from its actors.

A list of the characters, their descriptions and a copy of the script can be found on the <u>Langham website</u>.

## **READERS' THEATRE**

## The Steamroom

Written and directed by Pippa Catling. Performance Date: Saturday May 23, evening.

Audition Date: Sunday, May 17 in the rehearsal room at Langham.

Rehearsals on May 18 and 20 at 7 p.m.

The Steamroom is a one act play in eleven short scenes, which tells the story of a disparate group of people who happen to meet regularly in the steamroom of their local recreation centre.

A list of the characters, their descriptions and a copy of the script can be found on the <u>Langham</u> website.



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

# **Guild News**

# **Set Design Guild Session**

Submitted by Don Keith, Set Design Guild Chair



On **Monday, May 4, 7-9 p.m.**, we will be holding our third Set Design Guild session.

Are you an experienced designer or a novice? Have you always wondered how it all happens? Are you designing in the future? Are you curious? Do you want to be a designer?

# Introducing the Actors' Guild

Submitted by Perry Burton

The Langham Actor's Guild is actively working on creating fee-based workshops that will be open to members and non-members.

The intent of the workshops is to both improve the skills of our regular stable of performers, and to assist newcomers to the stage and give them the confidence to join our merry band. We are looking at workshops on auditioning, scene study, stage combat (easy there... no swords – just slaps and such), and basic stage craft.

If anyone has an idea for a workshop, email me your suggestions at actorsguild@langhamtheatre.ca. As the workshops and schedule are firmed up, we will make announcements on the Facebook page and the newsletter.

Directors, actors, carpenters, lighting designers, audience members, volunteers, and of course, set designers – the more the merrier. Everyone is welcome to attend. This could be the start of something great!

We invite as much input as possible as we appreciate the set design for the current show and have a sneak preview of the next. It's a chance to "walk the set" with the designer and hear about the challenges and joys of design. Bring your questions, or just sit back and observe. We take over the stage on "dark" Monday. It's casual and fun.

This month we will be reviewing the set design for *August: Osage County* and previewing the design for *Humble Boy*. Both designers will be present

# All Good Things Must Come to an End

Submitted by Luke Krayenhoff, President

It is with regret that I announce the resignation of Denise Brown as the Theatre Manager at Langham Court effective June 30, 2015. Denise worked tirelessly with Langham for six years and has been a welcoming face since she started as Box Office Manager in 2009 and advanced to the position Theatre Manager in August 2010. We will work over the coming weeks to find a suitable replacement.

As a staff member she was conscientious, gave her best effort and was appreciated by her co-workers. Denise's skill in management and marketing increased our patronage and she was always willing to jump into the deep end to help sort out the myriad problems which arise while preparing for a show, during the run and tying up loose ends; in the Box Office, the parking lot, the rehearsal room, lounge or auditorium. Denise was there when we needed her!

Denise joined us from the Victoria Shakespeare Society where she was the Production Manager and Marketing Coordinator. She received her education at the UVic Theatre Department and the Canadian College of Performing Arts.

Denise will be missed by the Board and all who worked with her. We thank her for her dedication to Langham Court Theatre and it is with warmest regards that we wish Denise success and the very best of luck with future endeavors.

## **Guild Contacts**

**Costume Guild:** Ann-Marie Arneson costumeguild@langhamtheatre.ca

**Producers' Guild:** Michael Gosselin producersguild@langhamtheatre.ca

**Stage Mgmt Guild:** Finn Archinuk 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



## SPCA GARAGE SALE

Each SPCA shelter is responsible for raising money in order to fund its spay/ neuter program and provide for the homeless critters in its care. If a particular shelter doesn't raise enough funds, it must cut back on its services – to the detriment of the helpless beasties that depend on the kindness of humans.

For the majority of its funding, the Duncan branch of the SPCA holds an annual massive garage sale at the Exhibition Grounds in Duncan. This year, the event is being held **May 30 and 31**.

As you spring clean, downsize or clear out, please consider donating your extraneous "stuff" to the Duncan SPCA. I'd be happy to collect all items small enough to fit in my Honda Accord, even if I have to make several trips!

Needed: sporting equipment, household items, good quality clothing, pet supplies, jewellery, linens, books, toys. If it's sellable – we'll take it!

All donations must be at the shelter by **May 17**.

Cynthia Pronick 250-743-2439 <a href="mailto:cpronick@hotmail.com">cpronick@hotmail.com</a>

## Planning Committee Needs Volunteers

The Planning Committee's main focus is to recommend improvements to Langham's facilities and technical resources. Anyone interested in contributing ideas and volunteering their services can email the Chair, Kevin Stinson at <a href="mailto:kevin@macgeek4hire.com">kevin@macgeek4hire.com</a> or leave a message at 250-686-3235.

# Mark Your Calendars

### April 14-May 17

Belfry Theatre presents Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike (www.belfry.bc.ca/vanya-sonia-masha-spike/)

### April 28-May 6

working class the atre presents *Hedda Gabler* at the Craig darroch Castle (the castle.ca/events/hedda-gabler/)

#### May 1-10

Victoria Operatic Society (VOS) presents Les Misérables (www.rmts.bc.ca/events/ les-miserables)

#### May 5-23

Theatre Inconnu presents *Cock* (www. theatreinconnu.com/2015/01/cock/)

## May 8-10

Peninsula Players production of *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*, held at the Berwick Theatre (thepeninsulaplayers.ca/)

### May 15-17

Peninsula Players production of *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*, held at the Mary Winspear Centre (thepeninsulaplayers.ca/)

#### May 20 & 31

St. Luke's Players production of *Barely Heirs* (www.stlukesplayers.org/barely heirs.html)

### May 22-31

Four Seasons Muscial Theatre's production of *Shrek The Musical* (www.fsmtheatre.ca/2015/02/08/shrek-coming-to-langford-may-22-31/)

#### May 23

Readers'Theatre Festival at Langham Court Theatre (www.langhamtheatre.ca/support/readers-theatre)

### May 23 & 24

Stepping Out auditions

# Readers' Theatre Festival



Langham Court Theatre presents a Readers' Theatre Festival on **Saturday**, **May 23, 7-10 p.m.** (**lounge will open at 6 p.m.**) Come and see four plays in one evening! Admission is by donation.

#### 7 p.m.

Monterey Middle School Reader's Theatre Group presents *Gracie Takes Up Crime Solving*. This group, which is made up of 11 to 13 year olds, will be performing an episode of the George Burns and Gracie Allen comedy radio show from the 1940s (complete with period commercials).

#### 8 p.m.

Target Theatre presents A Mad Breakfast, by Isabel Gray, and I'm Herbert, by Robert Anderson. A Mad Breakfast is a farce from vaudeville days. I'm Herbert is a conversation performed by Target octogenarians June Boston and Fred Mabey. An elderly married couple reminisce about their former spouses,

sometimes confusing one with another.

#### 9 p.m.

Langham Court Theatre presents *The Steamroom*, written and directed by Pippa Catling. This 40-minute comedy-drama is about a disparate group of people who meet regularly in the steamroom of the local recreation centre and the effect that their interaction has on all their futures.

For more information, please email readerstheatre@langhamtheatre.ca or visit our website at www.langhamtheatre.ca/support/readers-theatre/



# **Life Member Party**

Submitted by Marilyn Kuss



With Luke Krayenhoff's help, Vinnie Chadwick presents Dick Newson with his Life Member pin.

On Sunday, March 29, the Langham Board of Directors was delighted to honour the Life Members with a party and a short ceremony. Party appetizers were designed and prepared by Vinnie Chadwick.

Luke Krayenhoff, as President, gave a ceremonial certificate. He also encouraged the recipients to give a few remarks, in ten words or less... Vice President Monty Bjornson gave a printout of the Life Member's contributions to the Theatre as well as a copy of "Playbills to Programs."

But the true star of the ceremony was Vinnie Chadwick who presented a Life Member pin – and then pinned (via magnets) it on, followed by much hugging. Thanks go to Dick Newson and Michael Kuss for their design efforts with the handsome new pin.

Other Board members in attendance were: Rosemary Jeffery, Bill Huzar, and Angela Henry.

Life Members recognized at this ceremony were: Al and Peta MacKenzie, Michael and Vinnie Chadwick, Angel and Gil Henry, Michael Tyler, Antoinette Church, Bill Adams, Ann Marie Arneson, John Britt, Ginny Carter, Sally Crickman, John Fear, Barry Grimshaw, Jill Groves, Ned Lemley, Nan Long, Dick Newson, Paul Terry, Roger Carr, Barb Waldner, Toshik Bukowiecki. At the next Langham function, please ask all Life Members to show you their pins.



Michael Tyler shares a few words after getting his pin from Vinnie Chadwick and Monty Bjornson.

# CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS: PUPPETS FOR PEACE 2015

The popular PUPPETS FOR PEACE, launched last year under the sponsorship of the Lieutenant Governor and the Community Arts Council Greater Victoria, are on the march again. We are currently seeking volunteers in various areas:

- Parade puppeteers: Victoria Day Parade May 18
- Puppet re-furbishers/display organizers
- An experienced Parade Marshall for our September 13 parade
- Activity and booth operators for numerous events leading up to and including the September 11-13 festival
- More positions will be announced as they arise closer to the event

The Earth Walk, April 25, was our first event. This will be followed by a large contribution to the Victoria Day Parade, May 18. There will also be a summer of puppetry events and activities in local communities, finally climaxing with the PUPPETS FOR PEACE Festival weekend September 11-13. Mark the calendar and join the fun of puppetry.

Visit <u>www.puppetsforpeace.org</u> for more information, and like our FB page: <u>www.facebook.com/puppetsforpeace.</u>

Contact: Petra Kixmöller, Volunteer Coordinator at <u>petrakix@gmail.com</u> or call 250-598-7488.

