

Picasso

at the

LAPIN AGILE

BY

STEVE

MARTIN

DIRECTED BY
RICK HORNOR

March 13-March 29, 2015
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Picasso at the LAPIN AGILE

BY
STEVE
MARTIN

Directed by
Rick Hornor

Produced on the New York stage by Stephen Eich and Joan Stein

The video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever are strictly prohibited

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Lighting Design.....Pavlina Morris

Sound Design Blake R. York

Properties Manager/Set Dressing/Wigs..... Jeffery Weaver

Charge Scenic Artist Maggie Knott

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Staff Biographies

Dr. Rick Hornor (Director)

After teaching high school for 15 years in California and New York, Dr. Hornor joined the faculty at Whitworth University in Spokane where he chaired the Department of Theatre until his retirement in 2011. Dr. Hornor's scholarship has been in the area of theatre and education, specifically the use of theatre across the curriculum to teach values education. He has presented workshops for educators throughout the United States, in Saipan, the UK, Lithuania, Russia, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Kenya. Rick is grateful for the privilege of directing his first show at TLT. He directed *70, Girls, 70* at Tacoma Musical Playhouse and *And Then There Were None* at Lakewood Playhouse. Rick spends his summer directing theatre camps at Taproot Theatre in Seattle.

Tracy Engels (Stage Manager)

Tracy is very happy to be back at Tacoma Little Theatre, stage managing *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. It has been a complete joy to see this production come together. The cast and crew have been wonderful to work with and I hope you enjoy the show!

Stacia Russell (Assistant Stage Manager)

Stacia is excited to be behind the scenes at TLT. She was last seen as Myrtle in *The Great Gatsby*. Other roles include Mrs. Bradley in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* at the Tacoma Youth Theatre and as Caitlin in *Over the River and Through the Woods* at TLT. Stacia has loved having the opportunity to learn and work with a great cast and crew. She is looking forward to her upcoming project as Pamela in *The Fox on the Fairway*. She hopes the audience enjoys *Picasso* as much as she has enjoyed being a part of it.

Blake R. York (Technical Director/Set & Sound Design)

Blake has been involved with theatre in the area for the past 12 years. This year Blake became TLT's Technical Director after serving as the Resident Set Designer and Master Carpenter last year. Past shows designed at TLT include: *Endgame*, *Sleuth*, *Spelling Bee*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Sylvia*, *Miracle on 34th Street* and *Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks*. He would like to thank Jen, his parents, and his friends for everything they have done and continue to do for him.

Michele Graves (Resident Costume Designer)

Michele has stitched and designed costumes for Tacoma Little Theatre for over 25 years. In recent years she was costume designer for *Eleemosynary*, *Always*, *Patsy Cline*, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, *Footloose*, *Sylvia*, and *Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks*. This year Michele continues on as the Resident Designer and hopes to continue her relationship with TLT as a costume designer as well as a volunteer for many years to come!

Staff Biographies

Pavlina Morris (Lighting Designer)

Pavlina is thrilled to be back as the lighting designer at TLT and will continue as the resident designer for the remainder of the season. Previous designs at TLT include *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Bye, Bye Birdie*, and *Moonlight and Magnolias*, which she also directed. Pavlina is the Artistic Director for The Changing Scene Theatre Northwest. She teaches college courses in humanities and theatre for Vincennes University's campus in Bremerton.

Jeffery Weaver (Properties Master/Set Dressing/Wigs)

Jeffery is pleased to be the resident Property Master for the 2014/15 Season here at TLT. His talents can be seen both on and off stage throughout the region. Jeffery believes his background in film, stage and television is what contributes to his eye for small details and he loves the challenges of recreating items from another era. Jeffery is blessed to have the ongoing support of his husband Bruce and children. Jeffery would also like to thank his special group of theater friends and his BFF and wifey #1 Ms. Jen, who encourages him and keeps him focused on the positive things he has to offer. Much love to you all!

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Director's Note

Steve Martin is arguably one of the best known and most talented comedians in America. In 1993 Martin decided to write his first play, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, thus adding playwright to his long list of titles, including stand-up comedian, actor, screenwriter, author, producer, and musician. The play achieved instant success, receiving rave reviews after premiering in both New York City and Los Angeles in 1995.

Like the main characters of *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, Martin had to overcome many obstacles to achieve his dreams. He had to push the boundaries limiting him and re-think ideas with new perspectives. Martin writes with a clear fascination for the power of creativity and how we define the products of creativity. Are both artists and scientists creative but just in different ways? Martin's positive message to the audience: great creative potential exists in humanity.

Martin's fascination with Picasso began long before 1993. As he writes on his personal website: "I went to the Metropolitan and there's Picasso's painting of the Lapin Agile [The Nimble Rabbit]. I thought of that picture's journey from that little bar [in Paris] to the Met some 40 million dollars later". As he wrote the play, the idea to create the character of Einstein suddenly occurred to him; Martin had not originally planned for the famous scientist to be in the script. Martin researched Einstein's background and decided that it made perfect sense for him to exist in the world of the play.

By Martin choosing to include Picasso and Einstein in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, he amplifies the connection between the two historical men and the significance of their innovations. What makes their association even more interesting is that Picasso and Einstein both presented their new ideas and works within a few years of each other; in 1905 Einstein published his revolutionary Theory of Relativity papers and in 1907 Picasso painted his first Cubistic work, *Les Femmes d'Alger*. These inventions ushered in the twentieth century, along with the ideas and standards of modern art and science.

Though famous later in their lives, in the play both of these men are on the cusps of their brilliant careers. It's 1904. They are still undiscovered, which shows in the place that they choose to spend their time: an unimportant bar for artists and free-thinkers called Lapin Agile.

We have thoroughly enjoyed our time in our Lapin Agile: the creative process of bringing these eccentric characters to life has been filled with lots of laughter but also with many moments of thoughtful consideration of what art really is. Thank you for joining us at the Lapin Agile. Be prepared to rethink your ideas about the power of creativity and celebrate, with us, your own great creative potential.

Enjoy,

Rick

Cast of Characters

(in order of appearance)

Freddy (the owner and bartender of the Lapin Agile).....	Jacob Tice
Gaston (an older man).....	John Saunders
Germaine (waitress and Freddy's girlfriend).....	Colleen Bjurstrom
Albert Einstein (age twenty-five).....	Rodman Bolek
Suzanne (age nineteen).....	Ana Bury
Sagot (Picasso's art dealer).....	Paul Sobrie
Pablo Picasso (age twenty-three).....	Bryce Smith
Charles Dabernow Schmendiman (an inventor)	Dan Lysne
The Countess/Female admirer.....	Tara Jensen
A visitor (from another era).....	Chad Russell

PLACE

A bar in Paris, France

TIME

October, 1904

*One year later, Albert Einstein published
the Special Theory of Relativity.*

*Three years later, Pablo Picasso
painted "Les Demoiselles D'Avignon."*

There will be one 15 minute intermission

Cast Biographies



Colleen Bjurstrom (Germaine)

Colleen is happy to be performing in her first show at the Tacoma Little Theatre. She is especially elated to be telling a story written by the hilarious and talented banjo connoisseur, Steve Martin. Colleen has appeared in shows around the Puget Sound area and holds a BA in theatre from the UW. She would like to thank her devoted friends and family, and express the deepest gratitude for the precious young scholars who fill her classroom with creativity and teen angst 5 days a week.



Rodman Bolek (Albert Einstein)

Rodman returns to Tacoma Little Theatre, where he was recently seen in *The Great Gatsby*. Prior to returning home to Washington from Chicago, he worked with AtticRep, The Playhouse, The Classic Theatre, Proxy Theatre Company and The Company Theatre in San Antonio in addition to having performed in a number of shows at Trinity University, whence he holds a B.A. in Theatre.



Ana Bury (Suzanne)

Ana is very excited to be a part of her second production at Tacoma Little Theatre. She was last seen as Jordan Baker in *The Great Gatsby* here at TLT and is really enjoying getting to the hit the stage once again. She would like to thank everyone for coming out tonight and supporting local art.



Tara Jensen (The Countess/Female Admirer)

Tara's childhood dream was to perform in the waterskiing team in the Wisconsin Dells but she was not a strong swimmer, often succumbing to hypothermia in the bath tub. Opting for Plan B, Tara moved to the Midwest and earned a bachelor's degree in theatre from the University of Kansas. Since moving to Seattle, Tara has performed with Greenstage, acted and directed with the Driftwood Players, and many others. While she may not be a water-skier, at least she lives near water now!



Dan Lysne (Charles Dabernow Schmendiman)

Dan is so excited to be back at TLT. His most recent roles have been George Bailey, *It's a Wonderful Life* (TLT), Ben, *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (ASTRA), Duncan, *Leading Ladies* (Act 1). Much love to Meri, Elsa and Jonas.

Cast Biographies



Chad Russell (A Visitor)

Chad is thrilled to be back on the TLT stage! He was last seen here four seasons ago as Nick in *Over the River and Through the Woods*, where he met, fell in love and eventually married his beautiful co-star, Stacia. When not on stage he enjoys bowling on Monday nights, drumming in his blues trio Sister Madame and time traveling.



John Saunders (Gaston)

John is supremely chuffed to be making his second appearance with TLT. His first dramatic appearance ever was in TLT's 2014 rollicking production of *Bye Bye Birdie* (Maude; Men's Ensemble), and he enjoyed the experience immensely. John is a graduate of Western Washington University, the University of Puget Sound School of Law, and The US Army JAG School. He lives in Tacoma, where he recently retired after an enjoyable if undistinguished tenure with the US Army's legal corps.



Bryce Smith (Pablo Picasso)

This is Bryce's first role at the Tacoma Little Theatre! The role of Picasso instantly caught his interest because his words themselves evoked eccentricity. He's excited to give life to the role, and looks forward to treading TLT's boards in the future!



Paul Sobrie (Sagot)

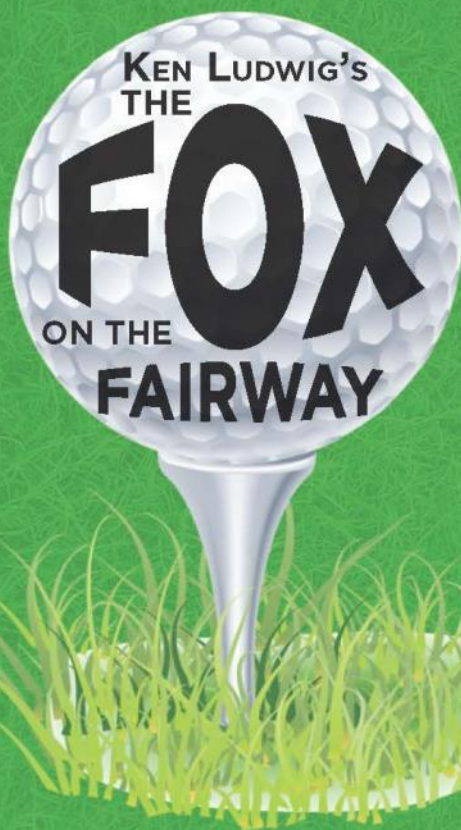
Paul re-discovered a passion for acting as he approached his fifth decade of life and has since been honing his craft with each opportunity afforded to him. Most of his acting experience has been in film in both Los Angeles and Seattle. His last stage work was *Miracle on 34th Street* at Tacoma Little Theatre. He is very excited to return to TLT in this hilarious play as Sagot, a very French character. Paul feels a bit "at home" with the character as he is from Belgium.



Jacob Tice (Freddy)

This is Jacob's 4th show at Tacoma Little Theatre, having been Victor Fleming in *Moonlight and Magnolias*, Max Halliday in *Dial M for Murder*, and most recently, Tom Buchanan in *The Great Gatsby*. He has immensely enjoyed the process of bringing this show to life with this charming and vivacious cast, and hopes very much you enjoy it as well.

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