

Upcoming Events

Little Shop of Horrors

Book and Lyrics by Howard Ashman, Music by Alan Menken
June 5 through June 27

Memorable music, horror, and laughter abound in this zany tale of ambition and love gone awry. Follow Seymour, a lowly shopkeeper's assistant, as he discovers an unearthly plant with an appetite for human flesh. Watch as he wins the heart of Audrey and slowly succumbs to the lure of fame and fortune as promised by Audrey II, the alien vegetable that grows bigger (and stronger) every day. Memorable side characters, such as Audrey's sadistic dentist boyfriend and a 60s girl-group chorus, keep the story upbeat and hilarious. It's dark comedy at its best!

Also: The "Little Shop" Shoppe

During the run of *Little Shop of Horrors*, Tacoma Little Theatre there will be a "silent auction" for a variety of items: from a *trip to Acapulco* to *an airplane ride around Mt. St. Helens*! All proceeds to benefit Tacoma Little Theatre, the West's oldest theatre company!

Summer Theatre Training Program at TLT

June 22 - August 13th
Classes for children ages 5-9

Touring Theatre production of a new adaptation of Rudyard Kipling's

The Jungle Book

Call (253) 272-2281 to receive a brochure.

Preview of Next Season

Our 80th season has something for the entire family! Subscription sales begin soon--don't miss out on a fabulous season of your favorite plays! The 1998-99 season includes *Steel Magnolias*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Twelve Angry Jurors*, Neil Simon's *Lost in Yonkers*, and Rogers & Hammerstein's timeless classic *The Sound of Music*. Be sure your name is on our mailing list to receive your brochure!

Tacoma Little Theatre
presents

The Rainmaker



by N. Richard Nash

Directed by Rod Pilloud

Produced by special arrangement with
Samuel French, Inc.

~ The Cast ~

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| H. C. Curry | Clark Maffitt |
| Noah Curry | Randy Clark |
| Jim Curry | Mikel Michener |
| Lizzie Curry | Nyree Clark |
| Deputy File | Alan Marshall Brown |
| Sheriff Thomas | Mike Storslee |
| Bill Starbuck | John Munn |

Sponsored by:

Key Bank, Tacoma Voice, City of Tacoma Cultural Resources Division,
Corporate Council for the Arts

Additional support from:

Earforce Studios, Hoyts Greater Radio,
and Douglas J. Knight, Orthodontics

Setting

The play takes place in a western state on a summer day in a time of drought. The time is the 1920s...



Act One

Day.

Act Two

That evening.

Act Three

Later the same night.



There will be two 12-minute intermissions.

There will be a post-performance discussion with members of the cast after the two Sunday matinees on April 12th and 19th.

About Our Featured Artist

Carolyn Price Dyer

Tacoma Little Theatre is proud to exhibit the artwork of Carolyn Price Dyer in our lobby gallery space. Carolyn Price Dyer, Northwest native and Tacoma artist, watches the sky. Her "Particulate Matter" series grows from her observations of new cloud formations over Puget Sound. Carbon clouds and carbon rainbows inspire her to create a metaphor in paper tapestry. She transforms "found paper," newspapers, metal foils and plastic, assembling them on a loom.

Cast & Staff Biographies

Alan Marshall Brown (*Deputy File*) has previously appeared at TLT in *Man of LaMancha*, *1940s Radio Hour*, and *Lone Star*. He directed *The Amen Corner* at TLT about 10 minutes ago.

Nyree Clark (*Lizzie Curry*) Nyree is thrilled to be making her TLT debut as Lizzie. Born and raised in Seattle, Nyree has a degree in education from PLU and also a BFA in Drama & English from the University of Washington. Love and thanks to Danny and Nicholas.

Randy Clark (*Noah Curry*) Randy's TLT appearances have included "Pantalone" in *A Servant of Two Masters*, "Murray" in *A Thousand Clowns*, "Frank" in *Educating Rita*, and "Megs" in *Strange Snow*.

Clark Maffitt (*H.C. Curry*) An actor and musician for over 30 years, Clark's other TLT appearances include: "The Wizard" in *Once Upon a Mattress*, "Atticus" in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, "Charlemagne" in *Pippin*, and "Other Men" in *Later Life*. He has still never performed in Vermont.

Mikel Michener (*Jim Curry*) This is Mikel's first appearance on the TLT stage, as he has just recently graduated from PLU with a BFA in Theatre. At PLU Mikel has appeared as "Cyrano" in *Cyrano de Bergerac*, "Mitch" in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and "Emperor Joseph II" in *Amadeus*.

John Munn (*Bill Starbuck*) feels very fortunate to have been involved in local theatres as an actor, director and producer. Recent roles include "Rick" in *Six Degrees of Separation* at TLT and "Dr. Einstein" in *Arsenic and Old Lace* at Renton Civic Theatre.

Mike Storslee (*Sheriff Thomas*) Mike's last appearance at TLT was as "King Sextimus The Silent" in *Once Upon A Mattress*.

Rod Pilloud (*Director*) Rod has been a professional director, actor and production manager for theatres around the nation over the past 30 years. He has worked with such companies as The Seattle Repertory Theatre, Los Angeles Shakespeare Festival, The Milwaukee Repertory Theater, The Empty Space Theatre, The Portland Repertory Theatre and A Contemporary Theatre. His numerous directing credits include: *Picnic*, *Of Mice and Men*, *Twelfth Night*, *Angel Street*, and *Shadow Box*. For TLT, Rod has directed *I'm Not Rappaport* and *Noises Off*, both winners of the Richard Odlin Award for outstanding production of a play. He also directed last year's *Later Life* here. Rod is currently an Associate Artistic Director at The Empty Space Theatre in Seattle.

Rebecca Rex (*Stage Manager*) For the past five seasons 'Becca has participated in TLT in a wide variety of volunteer activities. She is most often found stage managing one of TLT's Mainstage productions.

J.D. Cullen (Costumes) Judy's design work is familiar to most long-time patrons of TLT as she has designed over a dozen productions (usually scenery) since joining the TLT staff in 1993. As a professional scenic designer, she has worked for numerous theatres including The Bathhouse Theatre in Seattle, Portland's Musical Theatre Company, The Emmy Gifford Children's Theatre, Tacoma Actors Guild, and local PBS affiliate KBTC. Born and raised in Tacoma's North End, Judy feels exceptionally blessed to be plying her craft in her hometown.

Stephen D. Kramer (*Lighting Designer*) A transplant from Wisconsin, Stephen was dubbed "The Prince of Darkness" for owning that disembodied voice from the top of the ladder in the darkened theatre. Steve designed both *I'm Not Rappaport* and *Later Life* for Rod here at TLT. Recent productions also include this season's *Christmas Revels* show at the Rialto and Tacoma Musical Playhouse's production of *Grease*. Stephen is often heard quoting the late Gilbert Hemsley, yelling such phrases as "Lighting sells tickets!" and scaring his co-workers.

John Petterson (*Set Designer*) John is pleased to be designing his third production for TLT, having also designed *A Little Night Music* and last season's *Once Upon a Mattress*. His set design for other groups include productions of *Pippin*, *Pump Boys and Dinettes* and *Company*.

Director's Notes

A family, a good family, has a unique chemistry: a glue that binds and holds it together through the worst and best of times. The Currys of tonight's play are lucky enough to be in just this sort of family. Even in the worst of times, the special caliber of the relationships of these children and their father transcends any disagreement or argument; somewhere deep inside each member of the family is the knowledge that whatever is said or done, no matter how painful or maddening, it is meant to help more than it hurts. At its best, each family member is full of love for the other and ready at an instant to protect and nurture each other. Add to this mix the cleverness, skill and special fervor of a Starbuck and you have a full-bodied stew of human passions. I sincerely hope you enjoy this evening's short stay with this wonderful group of people.

Rod Pilloud, Director

Production Staff

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Director | Rod Pilloud |
| Stage Manager | Rebecca Rex |
| Scenic Designer | John Petterson |
| Costume Designer | JD Cullen |
| Lighting Designer | Stephen D. Kramer |
| Light Operator | Deborah Brooks |
| Sound Operator | Colin Lapin, Krista Silvers |
| Master Carpenter | Richard Collum |
| Scenic Construction | Paul Nicholes, Warren Crain, Carl Ritting, Randy Clark, Bradley McDevitt, Dean Lapin |
| Painting | Kim Izenman, Carolyn Burt, Cindy Taylor, Chevi Chung, Robbie Lapin, Dianne Kennish, Nyree Clark, Dean Lapin |
| Properties | JD Cullen, Tracy Berryman |
| Costume Construction | JD Cullen, Lynne Rossman, Tani Lovejoy, Lorelee Ives-Keeler |
| Light Hanging & Focusing | Deborah Brooks, Sam Izenman, Joe Izenman, Brian Rink |
| Sound Technician | Brian Rink |
| House Manager | Loren Osier |

TLC for TLT

Jimmie Warnell, Maura Cullen, Lauren James, Loren Osier, Robbie Lapin,
Cindy Taylor, Rebecca Rex

Special Thanks

Brassfields, Tucci and Sons Construction, Wayne Shields (Tack Room),
Julianne Peterson, Rebecca Switzer, TAG, Alex Lewington, First Congregational
Church, Broadway Center for the Performing Arts, Kim Sweet, BJ Garrison,
Silva Seed Co., Betty Cullen, Puyallup Valley Taxidermy & Muzzleloader Supply,
Tim Kelly, KLAY Radio, and the Tacoma City Ballet