



2009-2010 Season Share the Laughter!!

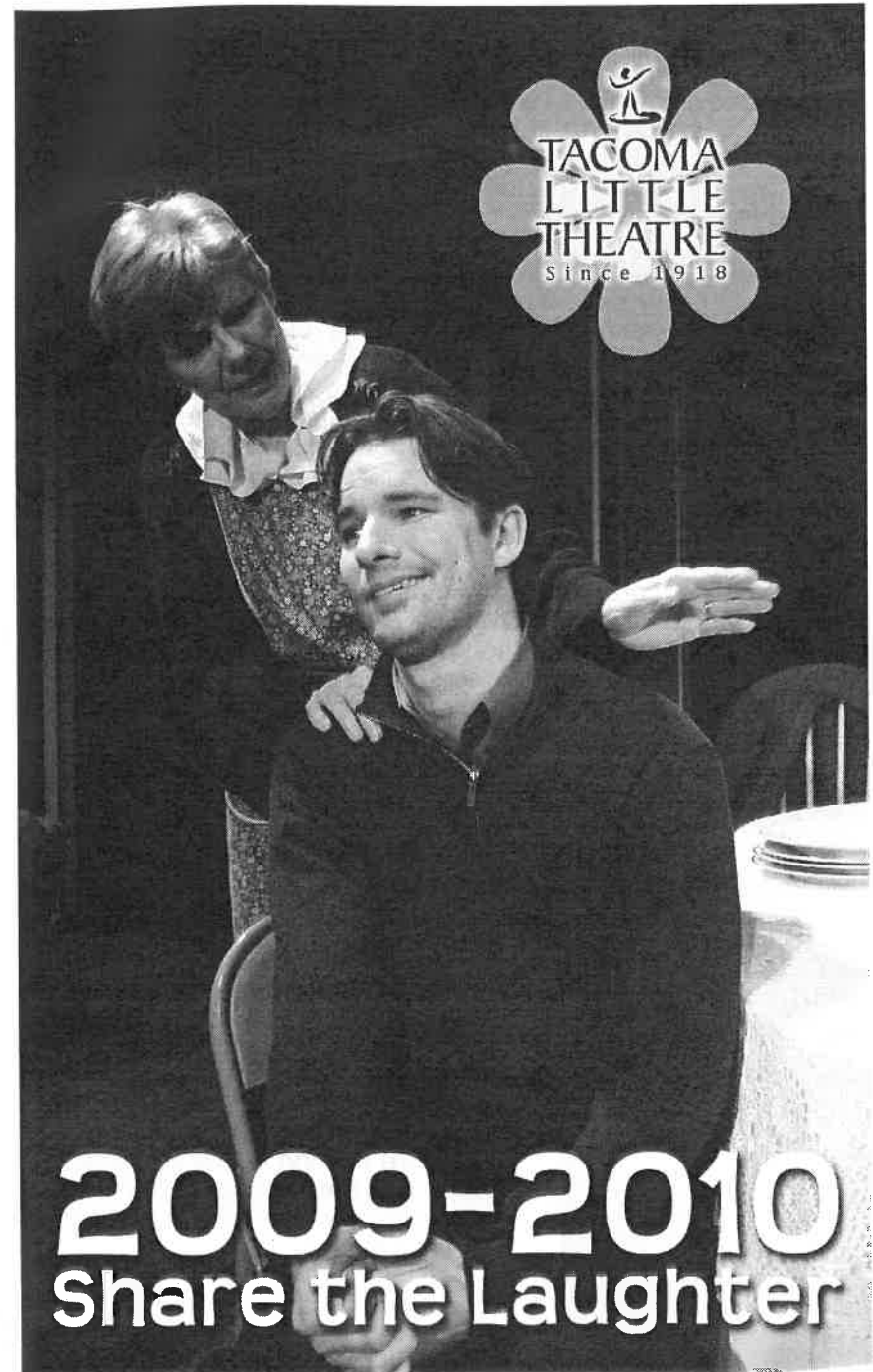
<p>Neil Simon's THE STAR-SPANGLED GIRL</p>	<p>LEND ME A TENOR A COMEDY BY KEN LUDWIG</p>	<p>Jean Shepherd's A Christmas Story</p>
<p>Over the River and through the Woods a comedy by Joe DiPietro</p>	<p>NOSES THE HILARIOUS COMEDY BY MICHAEL FRAYN</p>	<p>MAJOR BARBARA a Comedy by Bernard Shaw</p>

Don't miss your chance to share some laughs with us this season!!

Also as a special bonus!!

A Tuna Christmas with our own Artistic Director, Scott Campbell and Lakewood Playhouse's Marcus Walker

A TUNA CHRISTMAS
by Jaston Williams, Joe Sears, & Ed Howard
A co-production of Tacoma Little Theatre & Lakewood Playhouse



2009-2010 Share the Laughter

Season Support provided by Gray Lumber

Director's Notes

For me, my grandparents are photographs. I never knew any of them. Two died before I was born, one died when I was four years old and the last one passed on when I was twenty three, but she lived far away, and I only saw her seven or eight times in my life.

My photographs of these people are mostly posed, unsmiling, and fading sepia images frozen in a charming time warp. Moreover, these images are laced with gaps that can never be filled. They give me a few facts, but little else.

I will never experience those things that would make for indelible memories of my grandparents. I will never know their smiles, their smells, the texture of their hands, the warmth of their hugs, nor the sounds of their laughter.

I will never know their special talents, their flashpoints, their views on survival, their views of life and the unknown, or their versions of their own stories. Nor will I ever know what turned them on or what turned them off. These gaps in my knowing them have deprived me of the myriad of idiosyncrasies that made up each of their unique personalities.

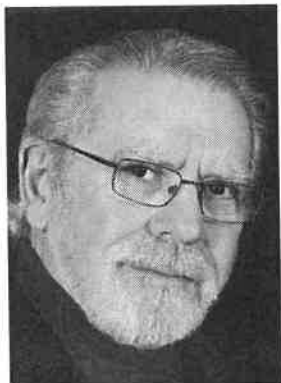
Now as a grandparent and the patriarch and principle genealogist for my family, I find *Over the River and Through the Woods* especially meaningful and thought provoking. It gives me insights into what might have been. One of the reasons I like this play is that it reminds us that on the road to self-discovery, there is much more to it than simply following one's dreams.

Staging plays can be a rewarding experience because doing so requires the collaboration of designers, producers, technical crews, and actors all pulling together to make our long hours and hard work appear effortless. For this show, the design team, the TLT staff, and several great volunteers have been top notch.

One of my pet peeves about theatre is the common definition of "professional actor." For me it has nothing to do with collecting a pay check. It has everything to do with talent, attitude, and the approach to the process. With the exception of Stacia, I have worked with all of these actors before.

I first directed Larry 37 years ago; Syra Beth, 30 years ago; Randy, Chad and Dana more recently. Directing them in this production has been a pleasure beyond words in that I have again had the privilege of working with some of this region's finest professional actors.

Tonight in this performance, I hope you discover some of the magic in this play that we found while rehearsing it.



Tacoma Little Theatre
Since 1918

Over the River & Through the Woods

by Joe DiPietro

Directed by Doug Kerr

Produced by special arrangement with
Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

Cast

Nick Cristiano.....Chad Russell
Frank Gianelli.....Larry Bommarito
Aida Gianelli.....Dana Galagan
Nunzio Cristiano.....Randy Clark
Emma Cristiano.....Syra Beth Puett
Caitlain O'Hare.....Stacia Weber

Setting

The home of Frank and Aida Gianelli,
maternal grandparents of Nick.
In Hoboken, New Jersey, a few years ago.

Act 1

Scene 1: a Thursday afternoon in June
Scene 2: the following Sunday

A 15 minute Intermission
(Refreshments are available in the lobby)

Act 2

Scene 1: the following Tuesday
Scene 2: later that same day
Scene 3: a Wednesday, a week later
Scene 4: another Sunday, a month later
Scene 5: three years later

Tacoma Little Theatre

210 North I Street
(253) 272-2281

Box Office Hours: 3-6 Tuesday-Saturday

Visit Our Website

www.tacomalittletheatre.com

And Join TLT's Email List for Ticket Deals! Show Announcements!
and general information on how to get involved!!

Artistic Staff

Director.....Doug Kerr
Stage Manager/Production Manager.....Kelly Herremans
Technical Director.....Matt Osier
Set Designer.....Doug Kerr
Lighting Designer.....Janna Webber
Costume Designer.....Villa Kerr
Sound Designer.....Scott Campbell
Props.....Tracy Berryman and Villa Kerr
Light Board Operator.....Ginny McClure
Sound Board Operator.....Kelly Herremans
Assistant Stage Manager.....Hanna Myers
Back Stage Crew.....Valerie Warren
Set Construction.....Matt Osier, Mike Valentine,
Micheal O'Hara, Kein Buckley, Brock Marvin,
Kenny Kruse and Doug Kerr
Painting.....Cindy Taylor and Villa Kerr
Hang and Focus.....Janna Webber
Donovan Pukis, John Webber
Programs.....Kelly Herremans
Photography.....Dean Lapin

Special Thanks To:

Glass Works, Lakewood Playhouse, Elliot Weiner, Aya Clark
Mark and Justine Tvedt, Matthew Haring, M.D. and Gray Lumber Co.

Tacoma Little Theatre Staff

Managing Artistic Director.....Scott Campbell
Office Manager.....Loralei Ives-Keeler
Box Office Manager.....Kelly Herremans
Box Office AssistantTravis Hancock and Sarahann Rickner

Tacoma Little Theatre Board of Directors

President.....Micheal O'Hara
Vice President.....George McClure
Secretary.....Avance Byrd
Treasurer.....Jennifer Niehaus-Rivers
Timothy Acker, Christian Geye, Jennifer Lackman,
Mark Solomon, Justine Tvedt

About the Cast



Larry Bommarito (Frank Gianelli) is a tool & die maker for North West Territorial Mint in Auburn. You may remember him as Long John Silver in TLT's production of *Treasure Island* in 2004. Those of you who are longtime TLT patrons may even remember him as Colonel Douglas in *A Case of Libel* back about 1971, the year before his first collaboration with our present director, Doug Kerr. Larry is, as can be seen, a deeply hooked theatre addict. So if anyone has any leads on therapy, treatment, or any hope of a cure for this dreaded disease, please - PLEASE - keep them to yourself!



Randy Clark (Nunzio Cristano) has acted and directed around the Puget Sound area for over thirty years. He first appeared on the Tacoma Little Theatre stage as Howard Wagner in *Death Of a Salesman* back in the late 70's. His other TLT credits include Tom in *The Glass Menagerie*, both Albert and Murray in two different productions of *A Thousand Clowns*, Frank in *Educating Rita*, Noah in *The Rainmaker* and Juror #3 in *12 Angry Men*. Other local credits include Scrooge in the musical *Scrooge*, Editor Webb in *Our Town*, Martini in *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* and Ross in *MacBeth*. He wants to thank his wife Aya for her patience and love and Doug for the opportunity just to be in the room.



Dana Galagan (Aida Gianelli) previously appeared onstage at Tacoma Little Theatre in last season's *Leading Ladies* as Aunt Florence, and most recently in *Lend Me a Tenor* as Julia. She has also played Clairee in *Steel Magnolias*, Mrs. Van Daan in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, and Helen Hobart in *Once in a Lifetime* at Lakewood Playhouse. Dana is involved in her family's business at Vino Aquino in sales and marketing. She would like to dedicate her performance in this show to the memory of her grandparents, Fisher and Mary Messina. "Everyone who touches your life, becomes a part of who you are."

About the Cast cont.



Syra Beth Puett (Emma Cristano) Syra Beth's first performance in the Tacoma area was here at TLT thirty years ago. She was seen most recently here as Ethel Thayer in *On Golden Pond*. A native of Alabama, She was educated in Texas, holds a B.A. of Music Education degree, and retired from teaching music in Tacoma four years ago. At TLT, she has been in a dozen shows, including leads in *Kiss Me Kate*, *Arsenic And Old Lace* (best actress award), *Noises Off* and *The Glass Menagerie*. Elsewhere, she has had leading roles in *The Hollow*, *The Gingerbread Lady*, *Death Of a Salesman*, *The Diary Of Anne Frank*, *Oklahoma*, *Carousel*, and *The Grapes Of Wrath*.



Chad Rusell (Nick Cristano) This is Chad's first show at Tacoma Little Theatre in over 15 years since he got his start onstage playing Atticus's son, Jem in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. He is overjoyed to be back and it still feels like home. A student of theatre at the University of Portland, Cornish College of the Arts, and most recently the Adult Acting Class at TLT. This winter he has moonlighted as an actor, director, stage manager and musical percussionist in over fifty theatrical productions throughout the greater Puget Sound. His most recent work has been as Larry in *Closer* for Prodigal Sun Productions, George in *Our Town* at Lakewood Playhouse, and stage-managing and drumming this Summer for Capitol Playhouse's Kids at Play Season. In his spare time he enjoys sailing, playing music, and spending time with family and friends, especially Stacia & Nick whom he dedicates this performance.



Stacia Weber (Caitlain O'Hare) is very excited about her first performance at TLT. Though she has not acted before she has explored the arts through open mic poetry events, the winter Adult Acting Class at TLT, drawing, and digital photography/art. She is grateful to have the opportunity to work with the amazing and talented group of people that are in this production.

About the Artistic Staff

Doug Kerr (Director and Scene Designer) has worked on over 200 shows as an actor, director, designer, or producer in his 50 plus years in the theatre. He served as the Technical Director for *The Summer Palace*, was an actor and Company Manager for the touring Shakespearean troupe, *The Commedians*. He received his graduate degrees from Central Washington University and from Washington State University. He founded the theatre department (and served as its chair) at Pierce College where he taught for thirty years before retiring in 2001. He also was the Artistic Director of *America Northwest Repertory Theatre* which took six shows to Korea, Poland, and Mexico. Additionally, he has toured shows to remote Eskimo villages in Alaska in the middle of winter. While teaching he took two sabbatical leaves to England where, on one, he studied acting pedagogy at the *Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts* and *The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts*. On the other, he studied Shakespeare's staging techniques. He has served on national educational theatre committees, presented papers at several national and regional conferences, and served as an adjudicator for the *Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival (KC/ACTF)* for many years. He has been the recipient of nine prestigious *Meritorious Achievement Awards* for his directing and scene designs from the KC/ACTF. He was also recognized by the Washington Humanities Association and received their *Exemplary Status Award* and was selected by the Pierce College Faculty to deliver the annual *Distinguished Faculty Address*. He also has received the *Northwest Drama Conference Teaching Recognition Award* and a *NISOD Award for Excellence in Teaching* from the University of Texas. Last year he served as the Interim Artistic Director at Tacoma Little Theatre. His recent directing and/or designs at TLT, include *Treasure Island*, *Leading Ladies*, *The Crucible* and *Lend Me a Tenor*. At the Lakewood Playhouse some of his recent designs and/or directing projects have been: *The Sound of Music*, *The Miracle Worker*, *Our Town*, *How the Other Half Loves*. His direction and design work have also been seen at Washington State University, Centerstage, Centralia College, Eastern Oregon University, Tacoma Community College as well as other venues. He has also authored three plays.

Kelly Herremans (Stage Manager/Production Manager) has worked at TLT for the last year as the Box Office Manager. She was also the Stage Manager for *Dear Santa* and Production Manager for *A Christmas Story* here at TLT. Kelly also directed *Big Bad* a week long summer camp for children ages 5-14. She has a B.A. in Theatre from Hope College, Michigan. Kelly's past credits include being a personal dresser Off-Broadway in NYC, member of the Bear Creek Players Improv Toupe in Michigan, and the leading role in two different short films, *Pious*, and *Broken Oblivion*, which debuted at the Wilmington Film Festival in Wilmington, North Carolina.

About the Artistic Staff cont.

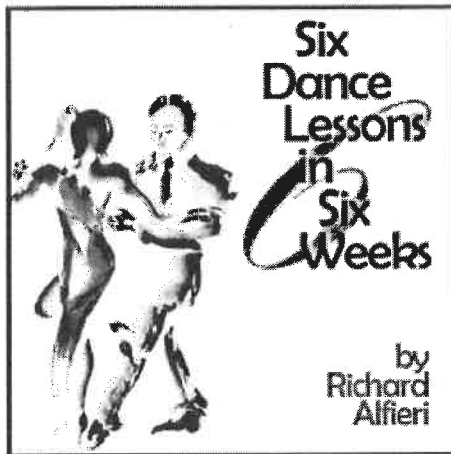
Villa Kerr (Costume Designer) has been designing costumes for over twenty-five years. She was resident Costume Designer for the *America Northwest Repertory Theatre* where she designed over 150 costumes that toured to Europe, Asia and Mexico. Some of her favorite designs include: *E.R/Emergency Room*, *Tracers*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Our Town*, *Death of a Salesman*, *All My Sons*, *Tartuffe*, *Desire Under the Elms*, *The Crucible*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *The Heidi Chronicles*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Fences*, *An Enemy of the People*, *Vanity Plates*, and *The Miracle Worker*. Her work has been seen at Pierce College, The Lakewood Playhouse, Tacoma Little Theatre, Centerstage, Eastern Oregon University, Centralia College as well as other venues. She has studied at the University of Kentucky at Madisonville, and received several awards for her artwork at Tacoma Community College and Pierce College. She also works as a Merchant Services Officer for Columbia Bank.

Janna Webber (Light Designer) has just completed her B.A. in theatre from Loyola University Chicago this past December. She is excited to be making her post graduate design debut at Tacoma Little Theatre. Last summer she was the Assistant Light Designer for *The Buddy Holly Story*. Most recently she designed *Steel Magnolias* at Loyola and is looking forward to an upcoming Production Internship at Silk Road Theatre Project in Chicago. Thank you to everyone who put their hard work into this show.

Scott Campbell (Sound Designer) Scott is the Managing Artistic Director at Tacoma Little Theatre. He has created dozens of sound designs including *Holes*, *The Woman in Black*, *Seussical*, and many others. In addition to sound designing, Scott is a noted area director as well as an accomplished scenic and lighting designer. Scott is the winner of two Emmy awards and numerous other television awards. Last year, his production of *Macbeth* was named "Best Drama of the Year" by The News Tribune. Scott is recently starred in *A Tuna Christmas*. He thanks Julie, Sydney, and Paige for their tremendous love and support.

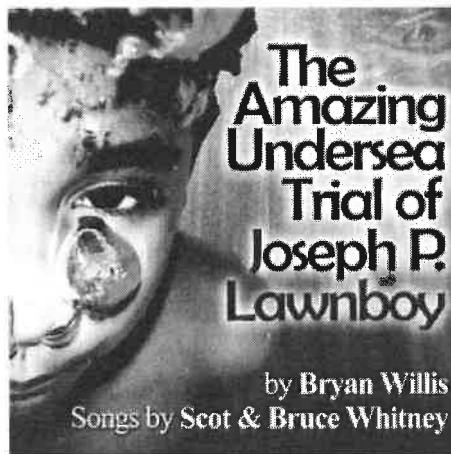
Don't Miss!

Our next Second Stage production...



Runs February 12th - 21st

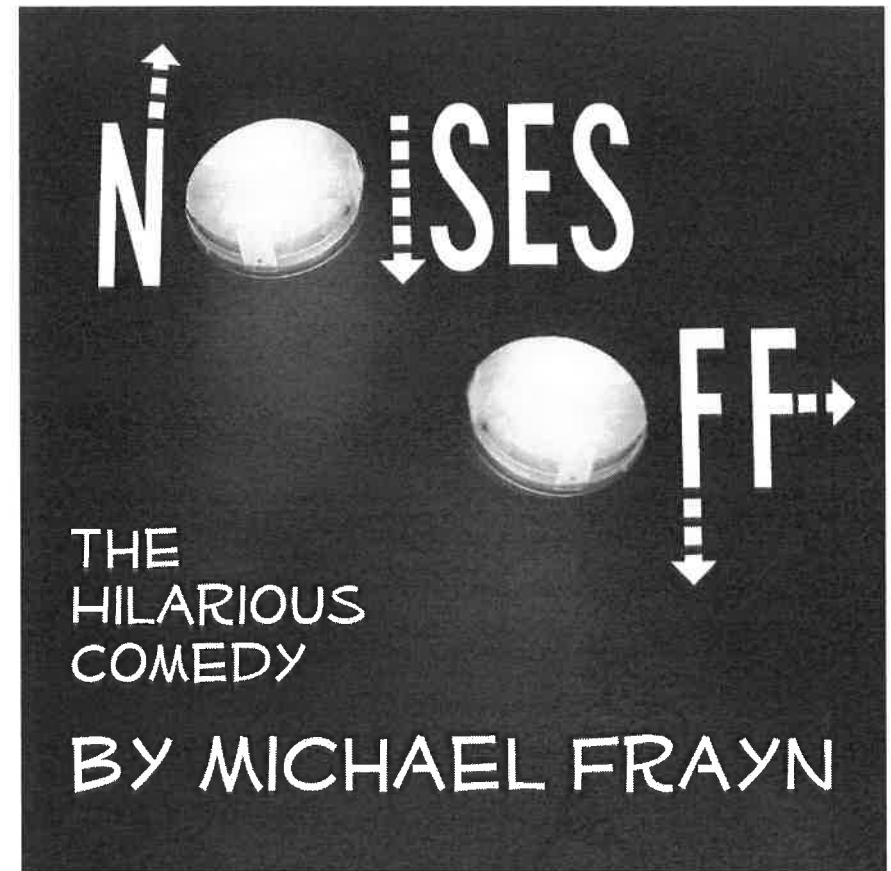
Followed by...



Runs March 5th - 14th

Coming up Next.....

Our next Mainstage production this season is the very funny show...



A British theater company is running through a final dress rehearsal of the farce Nothing On. After this disastrous rehearsal, the set turns 180 degrees and we see Nothing On from a back stage perspective. The final act puts the audience in its proper place – only to witness the hilarious conclusion to Noises Off.

For ages 13 and older.

Runs March 26th - April 25th