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PRESENTS

A ONE ACT PLAY FESTIVAL

Executive Director Sarah LeClair

Executive Producer
Jenny McNiven

The One Act Play Festival is a special production designed to allow new directors the opportunity to direct short plays on the T&C stage. This year's festival will include five unique plays directed by five fledgling directors.

Act I

Your Mother's Butt Written by Alan Ball

Directed by Joe O'Neill

Variations on the Death of Trotsky

Written by David Ives Directed by Michael Schiumo

The Role of Della

Written by John Wooten Directed by Nicole Zucal

15-minute Intermission

Act II

The Lifeboat is Sinking

Written by Shel Silverstein Directed by Kallie Cooper-Damon

Post-Its (Notes on a Marriage)

Written by Paul Dooley and Winnie Holzman Directed by Jackie Parzanese

Special thanks to
Meg Waldowski, Ken Ambs, Michael McClintic, Kim O'Byrne and
Janemarie Cloutier

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Kallie Cooper-Damon, The Lifeboat is Sinking

Did you know Shel Silverstein was more than just a children's book author? I did not! With a little digging I discovered Silverstein was a cartoonist, songwriter, illustrator, poet, and playwright. *The Lifeboat is Sinking* is part of a compilation of short plays presented as *An Adult Evening of Shel Silverstein*. Each play is not what you would expect, if you only know Silverstein as the author of *The Giving Tree*. They are funny, eccentric, and even a little raunchy. *The Lifeboat is Sinking* made me laugh and made me think. I hope it makes you do the same.

Joe O'Neill, Your Mother's Butt

You may have already had a chuckle or two from the works of screenwriter Alan Ball. He is a writer and director who has made a significant impact on American culture. He is best known for his work on the hit TV shows *Six Feet Under* and *True Blood*, as well as the Academy Awardwinning film *American Beauty*. His work often explores complex themes such as identity, sexuality, and the meaning of life.

I am proud to bring *Your Mother's Butt* to the stage. This play is a unique exploration of the relationship between a young adult and his psychologist, as well as a reflection on society's obsession with appearance. As the play unfolds, we see how his obsession with fashion goes beyond just clothing, and becomes a lens through which he views the world. *Your Mother's Butt* is a play that will leave you laughing, thinking, and talking long after the lights go down.

Jackie Parzanese, Post-Its - Notes on a Marriage

Post-Its: Notes on a Marriage allows a look into the deepest and truest intimacies of a partnership, from initial attraction, through some of life's many ups and downs, and finally, to the natural and eventual conclusion of any relationship. Through a unique storytelling method, we get to watch a couple's whole lives unfold (literally), which was one of the things that most drew me to this script.

Traditionally performed as a table read, we've decided to switch it up, add some movement, and have some fun! Here we witness a fascinating interplay of intimacy versus distance as the audience becomes privy to this couple's closest moments, which we see communicated in the most casual method one could use to relay a message: the Post-It Note.

I'm confident that you'll find something to connect to in this touching story that conveys some of life's most heartfelt moments. I have absolutely loved helping to bring these characters to life and watching them grow old together, and I hope you do, too!

P.S. You (probably) need milk.

Michael Schiumo, Variations on the Death of Trotsky

What if you could do over a moment in your life so that the ending was perfect? While you're at it, try other variations, and see how they all play out? Funny, tragic, confusing, there's always a perspective for life's moments. I first performed this play in college and loved the humor in it. Fast forward 20 plus years, and there are so many more layers to it, and more angles to explore. I hope you enjoy these variations of one of life's biggest moments...its end, and see if you can find the humor, the tears, and even the acceptance in its inevitable conclusion.

Nicole Zucal, The Role of Della

Welcome to *The Role of Della*, a comedy where an eager young actress has her eyes set on the role of Della. Can she convince a cold, sarcastic director that she's right for the part? This riveting and riotous look at the contemporary audition process, gives new meaning to the term "stealing a scene". I want to thank our talented cast and crew for bringing this one act to life; their dedication and hard work have truly inspired me, and I am honored to have been a part of this production. Thank you for joining us today, and I hope you enjoy the show!

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CAST/CREATIVE TEAM

CAST in alphabetical order

Cathy Alaimo	Post-Its and The Lifeboat is Sinking
Amman Bansal	Your Mother's Butt
Karen Cameron	Variations on the Death of Trotsky
Carly Covel	The Role of Della
Lee Damon	Post-Its
Caitlin Davies	The Role of Della and The Lifeboat is Sinking
Carly Moore	The Lifeboat is Sinking
Jim Moore	The Lifeboat is Sinking
Michael Nieves-Hoblin	Variations on the Death of Trotsky
Julie Simeone	Your Mother's Butt
Ken Stephon	Post-Its
Meghan Sudol Crook	Post-Its and The Role of Della
Paul Waldowski	Variations on the Death of Trotsky
PRODUCTION/CREATIVE TEAM	
Executive Director	Sarah LeClair
Producer	Jenny McNiven
Lighting Design	Matthew Schultheis
DIRECTORS	
Kallie Cooper-Damon	The Lifeboat is Sinking
Joe O'Neill	Your Mother's Butt
Jackie Parzanese	Post-Its: Notes on a Marriage
Michael Schiumo	Variations on the Death of Trotsky
Nicole Zucal	The Role of Della



Cathy Alaimo

Cathy is happy to be making her T&C stage debut, although she did perform in a T&C Holiday Show several years ago. She recently appeared as Grandma Kurnitz in *Lost in Yonkers* at DCP Theatre. Favorite roles: Princess Puffer - *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, Miss Shingle - *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, Carlene - *The Hallelujah Girls*, and Rose in *Gypsy*. Cathy would like to thank Jackie and Kallie for including her in the one-acts, and her husband Joe for a lifetime of love and support



Amman Bansal

Amman is making his debut at Town and Country Players. He was last seen as Sir Christopher, one of the knights in the winter production of *Once Upon a Mattress* produced by Harmony Theatre in Blue Bell. When he's not on stage, you can catch him writing creatively or drawing.



Karen Cameron

Karen is thrilled to be a part of the incredibly talented cast & crew of T&C's One Acts! Recently seen in the hysterical *Spamalot*, being included in this eclectic and thought-provoking group of stories is a gift. Previous T&C endeavors: *Clue*, *Holiday Shows*, and past *One Act's*. Sincere gratitude and love to my son Forrest, my mom and dad, Tom, Kevin and Christine; and Ryan, for their endless patience and love as I continue to grow my talents on stage. I hope you enjoy the show!



Carly Covel

Carly is a Philadelphia area teaching artist, props master, choreographer and social media content curator. Her passions include movement/dance, storytelling, and arts edu. Previous credits: Dot, *Mrs. California*, Elizabeth Lavenza, *Frankenstein* (DCP), Molly Aster, *Peter and the StarCatcher*, Elizabeth Proctor, *The Crucible* and Schwartzy, *25th Annual Putnam Co. Spelling Bee* (Eastern Uni.). She would like to thank her family and husband Michael for their constant support.



Lee Damon

Lee is pumped to be doing not-so-known-about material and working with a fantastic director!!! Srsly guys - she's good. She took an abstract idea and morphed it into a charming and heartening one-act. Bravo! Hope you enjoy! Love to my wife Kallie and the Rykerman.



Caitlin Davies

Caitlin is thrilled to be a part of the *One Acts* festival! Her past credits include *Young Frankenstein*, *Puffs* (Cedric/Voldy) and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. She would like to thank her family and friends for their love and support!



Carly Moore

Carly is thrilled to be back onstage after taking a 3.5 year hiatus to have a couple of super cute babies. Thank you to the most amazing family (Mom, Dad, Mom and Dad Moore) for taking care of said babies. Thanks to Kallie for this opportunity to play and have fun acting again. Love to Jim for the support onstage and off. All the love to Evelyn and James, my sunshines.



Jim Moore

Jim is happy to be back in the one acts for the 4th time - thanks Kallie! Last seen at 1 Acts 2022. This is Jim's 3rd time sharing the T&C stage with his biggest fan, the dazzling Carly Moore. He looks forward to the day their children, Evelyn & James, are old enough to watch a recording of this performance. Jim dedicates this performance to his mother and mother-in-law. Thanks for taking care of our kids, and please don't look too far into the plot of *The Lifeboat is Sinking*.



Julie Simeone

Julie has performed in various shows such as T&C's Holiday Show, Tony 'n Tina's Wedding, Southern Fried Funeral and Plaza Suite. She also writes for the "Doylestown Cardinal" and does social media on FB and IG at @ForTheLoveofDoylestown. She would like to thank her husband Pete and son Max as well as the rest of her family and friends for their love and support.



Ken Stephon

Ken is delighted to return to the Town & Country stage and thankful to work with a wonderful cast and production team. Previous T&C productions include *Cold Stun* (Randall Cook), *The Children's Hour* (Dr. Joseph Cardin), *The Laramie Project* (Dennis Shepard), and *A Few Good Men* (Commander Walter Stone). Offstage, Ken performs as the CEO of William Penn Bank.



Meghan Sudol Crook

Meghan's most recent credits include *The Last Flapper* (Zelda) at Footlighter's Theater, *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Blanche) at Town and Country Players, and *Best Laid Plans for Romance* (Laura) at SALT Performing Arts.



Paul Waldowski

Paul is excited to be part of the cast of this year's *One Acts* as the title role in *Trotsky*. He has directed a number of *One Acts* in the past and has been on stage and behind the scenes in numerous T&C productions, most recently as the "mic guy" for the recent run of *Spamalot*, *Clue* - Colonel Mustard and *Guys and Dolls* - Big Jule. A great thing about T&C is that it offers opportunities to learn from both the stage and behind the scenes. Always fun working with cast and crew.



Michael Nieves-Hoblin

Michael is thrilled to be returning to the Town and Country stage once again. Previous T&C credits include *The Sound of Music* (bad German soldier/ensemble), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Steve Hubbel), *Puffs!* (Oliver Rivers), AND *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Ted). I would like to dedicate this performance to the mountain climber's axe that was smashed into Trotsky's skull.



Sarah LeClair

Executive Director

Sarah has been working at T&C in every capacity imaginable, since 1998. Her favorite role at the moment is producing/nurturing new stage work in the Philadelphia area, including work with New Feathers Productions, ComedySportz Philadelphia, and Langhorne Players. Congratulations and love to all of the directors and their casts and crew this weekend!



Jenny McNiven

Executive Producer

Jenny has been involved with every T&C One Act since 2019! First as an actor, then on the play-selection committee, then a director, and now the producer. She is thrilled to be helping guide this new group of directors and bringing another fantastic night of theatre to the T&C stage. Past credits include *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* - Esmerelda, *Holiday Shows* 2018, 2019 (actor), 2020 (director), 2022 (producer) and *The Best from the Best* (producer). Love to Rykerman and many thanks to the production crew for this show and all who helped us along the way.



Matthew Schultheis

Lighting Design

Matthew is elated to be back working at T&C. Past lighting design at T&C has included *Deathtrap*, *Bonnie and Clyde*, *Holes*, *Good People*, and *Anne of Green Gables*. Matthew has been involved in theater since high school and has worked professionally for numerous shows in the Philadelphia area. When not at the theater or working, Matthew likes to throw heavy rocks across ice at the Bucks County Curling Club. He also serves as the current President of Town and Country Players. Love to Vicky and Alexander



Kallie Cooper-Damon

Director

Kallie is thrilled to make her directorial debut with this talented group of directors, actors, and crew members. Kallie started her T&C journey in 2010 with *Annie* and has never looked back. Since then you may have seen her on stage in *Bye, Bye Birdie*, *Oklahoma!*, *Guys and Dolls*, and most recently *Spamalot*. She is thrilled to move off stage and explore the art of directing. Kallie gives all her love and thanks to Lee, Ryker, Baby Damon, and the Cooper Clan.



Joe O'Neill

Director

Joe is pleased to do another T&C show this season after assistant-producing "Monty Python's Spamalot." Previous productions include "12 Angry Jurors" and "A Christmas Story." He served on the T&C board for a couple of years too. He sends his love to Tom for his unconditional support and early rehearsal night suppers.



Jackie Parzanese

Director

Jackie is excited to be making her directorial debut on the T&C stage. Notable T&C credits include: *A Christmas Carol* (Stage Manager), *The Sound of Music* (Asst. Stage Manager), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Eunice Hubbel), *Young Frankenstein* (Stage Manager), *Puffs* (Asst. Stage Manager), and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (crew). Jackie would like to thank her cast for their hard work bringing this touching story to life, and her partner, Michael, for his never-ending support. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Michael Schiumo

Director

Michael returns to T&C's One Act festival with another short story to tell. He has been active with T&C since 2006 and was last seen on this stage as Nathan Detroit in *Guys and Dolls*. He recently completed a wonderful run of *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, as the D'ysquith Family, and will soon be seen in *The Mikado*, right in Doylestown. By day, Michael is IT Support for Merakey, freelance videographer, and full time dad. Break legs to everyone involved in this year's festival!



Nicole Zucal

Director

Nicole is thrilled to be directing for the first time! Other T&C credits include *Young Frankenstein* (Asst. Stage Manager/Wigs & Makeup), *Next to Normal* (Natalie), and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Asst. Stage Manager). Many thanks to her family and husband, Adam, for all their support.

T&C WANTS YOU TO KNOW.....

Welcome to the Town and Country Players' 2023 Season. This season is our 76th season of bringing quality community theater to the Bucks County Area. Last year, we celebrated our 75th Anniversary Season with a full schedule, including five mainstage productions, a One Act Festival, a 24-Hour Play Festival, a Ballet, and a Holiday Show.

This year, we once again have a full calendar of events, with five mainstage shows, the return of our One Act Festival and Holiday Show, another 24-Hour Play Festival, and a new-to-T&C Youth Musical this summer. In addition, we are continuing to offer our Youth Workshops this summer, and other workshops on all aspects of theater throughout the year.

But none of our productions would be possible without the having a location to perform in. This winter, we accomplished major upgrades in our space to both improve the patron experience and the quality of the product presented on stage.

The major upgrade this winter was a \$20,000 improvement to our front parking lot. As you may be aware, due to environmental concerns and the need to control storm water runoff, our parking areas are not paved, but grass covered. In general, this works well, but in times of heavy rain, can cause issues.

To address this, we installed environmentally friendly permeable pavers to stabilize the handicap and front parking areas and improve the experience for our patrons. We were also able to significantly upgrade our electrical system in support of our stage lighting needs.

Of course, we never want to stop improving our unique facility. Our next planned capital improvement project is the installation of an ADA compliant handicap ramp to allow easier access to our facility for all. To get this ramp built, we will continue to rely upon the support of our patrons and donors to enable us to provide high quality community theater to all the residents of the Central Bucks area for many years to come.

In closing, I would like to thank all of our patrons, season ticket holders, Gold Patrons, and donors over the years. Your generosity has enabled us to keep the lights on, improve our infrastructure, and weather hard times.

Matthew Schultheis
President, Town and Country Players



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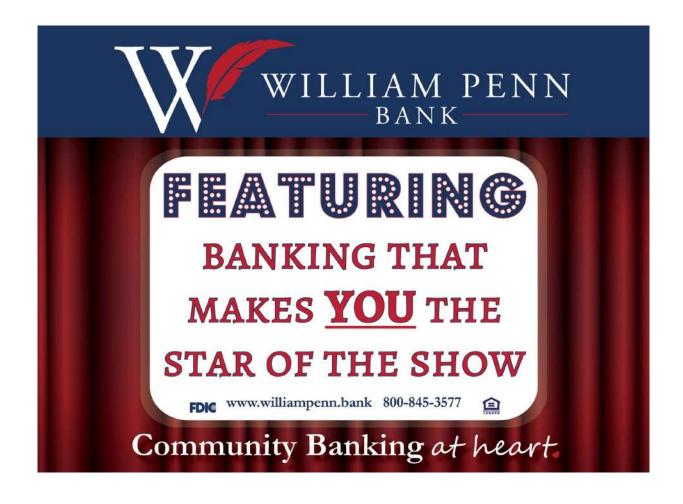
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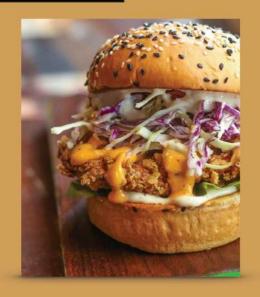
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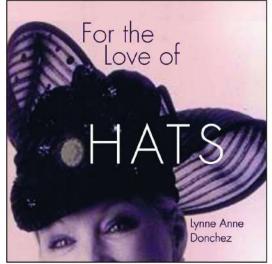
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Lynne Anne Donchez, Author

Book description: For the Love of Hats showcases dozens of chic and unique hats from the collection of Lynne Anne Donchez, professional hair stylist, salon owner, teacher and hat connoisseur of Bucks County, PA. Her hat collection spans cloches, pillboxes and fascinators to pork pies, Mr. John hats and men's toppers. The book also intertwines some of Lynne Anne's fond memories about individual hats and stories of their origins.

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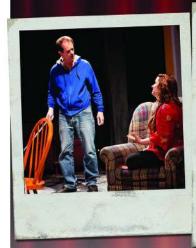
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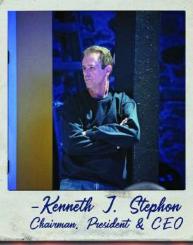
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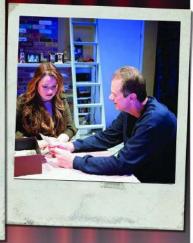


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