

Behind the Dressing Room Doors

DOTTY OTLEY (Mrs. Clackett) makes a welcome return to the stage to create the role of Mrs. Clackett after playing Mrs. Hackett, Britain's most famous lollipop lady ('Ooh, I can't, ardy, old me lolly up!') in over 320 episodes of TV's *On the Zebra*. Her many stage appearances include her critically acclaimed portrayal of Fru Säckett, the comic char in Strindberg's *Scenes from the Charnelhouse*. Her first appearance ever? In a school production of *Henry IV Part 1* - as the old bag-lady, Mrs. Duckett.

BELINDA BLAIR (Flavia Brent) has been on the stage since the age of four, when she made her debut in *Sinbad the Sailor* at the old Croydon Hippodrome as one of Miss Toni Tanner's Ten Tapping Tots. She subsequently danced her way round this country, Southern Africa, and the Far East in shows like *Zippey-Dooda!* and *Here Come les Girls!* More recently she has been seen in such comedy hits as *Don't Mr. Duddle!*, *Who's Been Sleeping in My Bed?*, and *Twice Two Is Sex*. She is married to scriptwriter Terry Wough, who has contributed lead-in material to most of TV's chat shows. They have two sons and three retrievers.

Dignity is the straitjacket of the soul. Its loss is our first stumbling step towards sanity. - Friedrich Nietzsche

GARRY LEJUNE (Roger Tramplemain) while still at drama school won the coveted Laetitia Daintyman Medal for Violence. His television work includes *Police!*, *Crime Squad*, *Swat*, *Forensic*, and *The Nick*, but he is probably best-known as 'Cornetto', the ice-cream salesman who stirs the hearts of all the lollipop ladies in *On the Zebra*.

SELDON MOWBRAY (Burglar) first 'trod the boards' at the age of 12 - playing Lucius in a touring production of *Julius Caesar*, with his father, the great Chelmsford Mowbray, in the lead. Since then he has served in various local reps, and claims to have appeared with every company to have toured Shakespeare in the past half-century, working his way up through the Mustardseeds and the various Boys and Sons of, to the Balthazars, Benvolios, and Le Beaus; then the Slenders, Lennoxes, Trinculos, Snouts, and Froths; and graduating to the Scroops, Poloniuses, and Aguecheeks. His most recent film appearance was as Outraged Pensioner in *Green Willies*.

The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts

November 2017

Dear theater family & friends,

As we come to the end of our 60th season of shows, it is truly astounding to reflect on the tremendous amount of time, commitment and creativity that has gone into making Brookfield Theatre the community treasure that it is.

There are so many wonderful opportunities ahead. We hope you will continue to join us whether it is on stage, behind the scenes, or in the audience. Keeping the art of theater alive in today's world is more vital than ever and we are honored to be part of a dynamic theater community.

The official announcement of our 2018 season will be made at our annual Paddy Awards Gala held this year on Saturday, Nov. 25 beginning at 6:30 p.m. here at the theater. We are planning some wonderful entertainment, delicious foods, and spectacular silent auction gifts along with our traditional banner giveaway. Please plan to join us to celebrate the shows of 2017, thank all those who make each show possible, and look forward to an exciting 2018 season!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you to our season supporters, advertisers and subscribers. Your support makes EVERYTHING that we do possible! We also thank our community partners including the Brookfield Chamber of Commerce, Brookfield Economic Development, Brookfield Arts Commission, CTGLC, Connecticut Office of Tourism, and Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut along with our extended theater family in the region for helping us to keep the arts alive in our region.

To our patrons, we thank you for being part of our 60th Anniversary Season. It is our privilege to bring you such diverse offerings. We hope you have enjoyed the many different offerings we have been able to bring you this year including our five season shows, curated art shows, staged readings, comedy nights, and other special events.

Please join us for our 2018 season—subscriptions are easy as pie to get and they make great holiday gifts! You'll be singing the blues if you miss out on any of our regal offerings!

Enjoy the show,

Lou Okell, President

OUR HISTORY

The Country Players of Brookfield was founded in 1957 by Tillie Ciccala and Dot French. Plays were initially performed in church halls and school auditoriums. After a school complained about an actor appearing on stage with no shirt, it became clear that the band of players needed a home of its own. After refurbishing this building (originally the Curtis school gym built in 1907), it has been the permanent home of Brookfield's community theater. The organization eventually grew to include a wide range of cultural offerings and, in 2003, changed its name to "Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc." (shortened to TBTA or Brookfield Theatre) to reflect this commitment. At the same time, plans began for the building of a lobby annex to offer a gathering place for social events and concerts, and gallery space for art exhibits. The new lobby was dedicated in 2005. This year marks our 60th anniversary and our re-dedication as an all-volunteer, non-profit organization providing quality live performances, cultural events, and educational workshops to the community.

BROOKE ASHTON (Vicki) is probably best known as the girl wearing nothing but good, honest, natural froth' in the Hauptbahnhoftrou lager commercial. Her television appearances range from Girl at In-fants' School in *On the Zebras* to Girl in Massage Parlour in *On Probation*. Cinemagoers saw her in *The Girl in Room 14*, where she played the Girl in Room 312.

The most important technological advance in history, so far as the maintenance of moral standards is concerned, was the invention of the keyhole. - George Santayana

FREDERICK FELLOWES (Phillip Brent) has appeared in many popular television series, including *Calling Casualty*, *Cardiac Arrest!*, *Out-Patients*, and *In-Patients*. On stage he was most recently seen in the controversial all-male version of *The Trojan Women*. He is happily married, and lives near Crawley, where his wife breeds pedigree dogs. 'If she ever leaves me,' he says, 'it will probably be for an Irish wolfhound!'

ROBIN HOUSEMONGER (Author) was born in Worcester Park, Surrey, into a family 'unremarkable in every way except for an aunt with red hair who used to sing all the high twiddly bits from *The Merry Widow* over the tea-table.' He claims to have been the world's most unsuccessful gent's hosier, and began writing 'to fill the long hours between one hosier order and the next.' He turned this experience into his very first play, *Socks Before Marriage*, which ran in the West End for nine years. Two of his subsequent plays, *Briefs Encounter* and *Hanky Panky*, broke box office records in Perth, West-ern Australia. *Nothing On* is his seventeenth play.

LLOYD DALLAS (Director) 'read English at Cambridge, and stage-craft at the local benefits office.' He has directed plays in most parts of Britain, winning the South of Scotland Critics' Circle Special Award in 1969. In 1972 he directed a highly successful season for the National Theatre of Sri Lanka. In recent years he has probably become best known for his brilliant series of 'Shakespeare in Summer' productions in the parks of the inner London boroughs.

Desperation tells a thousand tales - and each of those thousand begets a thousand more. - Moldovian proverb

Noises OFF!

BY MICHAEL FRAYN

directed by SCOTT R. BRILL

produced by LOU OKELL

starring

Priscilla Squiers

Duane Lanham • Anya Caravella

Jody Cohen Bayer • Tony Bosco-Schmidt

Matt Austin • Kate Valiska

Ron Malyszka • Eli Patton

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Wendy Leahy Mitchell, Andrew Okell, Marilyn Olsen, William Squier,

Michael Stengle, Alexis Vournazos, Patricia Vissichelli

IN-KIND SERVICES

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*List current as of press time. We apologize for any errors or omissions.
The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community theater. Donations
are tax deductible—please consult your tax professional.*

Members & Subscribers

Membership is still only \$20 and is a great way to support the theatre!

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Thank you for your support!

List current as of press time. We apologize for any errors or omissions.

“NOISES OFF”

by **MICHAEL FRAYN**

directed by **Scott R. Brill**

CAST

Priscilla Squiers Dotty Otley / Mrs. Clackett
Matt Austin Lloyd Dallas
Duane Lanham Garry LeJeune / Roger Tramplemain
Anya Caravella Brooke Ashton / Vicki
Jody Bayer Belinda Blair / Flavia Brent
Tony Bosco-Schmidt . Frederick Fellowes / Philip Brent / Sheikh
Ron Malyszka Selsdon Mowbray / Burglar
Kate Valiska Poppy Norton-Taylor
Eli Patton Tim Allgood

There will be two 10 minute intermissions.

“NOISES OFF” is presented through special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

IN THE GALLERY — MODERN VISIONS

Four masterful Connecticut artists will highlight an exhibition of paintings at the Brookfield Theatre Gallery through December. The artists include Robert Alberetti, Mary Lou Alberetti, Javi Alvarado and Megan Marden.

Robert Albertti says of his oil paintings on display, “Remembered images coupled with imagination compose my work.” A native of Boston and a former professor and co-chairperson of the Art Department of Western Connecticut State University, he has had extensive one-person and group exhibits, both nationally and internationally.

Mary Lou Alberetti has lived and taught in Italy as well as other European countries. Of her paintings, she observes, “I create works in which I hope to distill both the beauty and the lessons of antiquity.” Many of her paintings can be found in public, private and corporate collections, among them the HBO World Headquarters in New York City.

Javi Alvarado has said that when he was becoming an artist he believed “art got in the way of life,” given his family responsibilities, his work and service in the military. But he adds, “Today, I see that my life made art possible.” Alvarado is a licensed Clinical Social Worker and lives in Watertown, CT.

Megan Marden has had a successful and varied career in the arts from being a gallery director and curator, an Adjunct Professor of Art History to contributing to the background painting for the TV series, “Bob’s Burgers.” In her paintings, she says she tries to communicate “a specificity of place that is non-visual — the musty, attic-like smell, the sounds of an old building and the framing shop next door.”

“Modern Visions” can be seen at the Brookfield Theatre Gallery, 184 Whisconier Rd. (Rt. 25), Brookfield, from Oct. 27 through Dec. 31st. An Artists’ Reception will be held on Friday, Nov. 10 from 5 to 7 pm.

Our Brookfield Theatre Gallery is curated by artist and Board member Anne Marie Foran. Artists interested in showing in our gallery are encouraged to contact her through the theater email: press@brookfieldtheatre.org.

BIOGRAPHIES

Joy Tagliavento (SM MENTOR) is so happy to be working with the wonderfully talented & dedicated Andrew Olson during his stage managing debut! Joy is a Board member and finds this theatre the absolute best place to be. Her theatre experience began in college where she had the incredible opportunity of working with the National Theatre of the Deaf and at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center. Since then, she has performed in, co-directed, produced and stage managed many, many shows, including several at TBTA, and has worked professionally for the Chamber Opera Theatre of New York, the Actors Repertory Company of CT and the Candlewood Playhouse in New Fairfield. When she isn't at her job or at the theatre, you can find her tending to sick or orphaned animals in her capacity as a licensed wildlife rehabilitator. All her thanks and love go to EVERYONE involved in this production!

Kate Valiska (POPPY NORTON-TAYLOR) returns to Brookfield after directing last year's AND THEN THERE WERE NONE and performing in numerous shows both here and in the region including BARE, GODSPELL, HOW TO SUCCEED..., FIDDLER ON THE ROOF, LUCKY STIFF, A CHORUS LINE, JULIUS CEAESAR, WEST SITE STORY and many others. She thanks her best friend and favorite stage manager for his constant love and support. She also thanks her entire family including her future in-laws!

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\$93⁷⁵ (\$125 value - save \$31.25)

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**BECOME A MEMBER: support our 61st Season
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**Our 2018 Season of Shows will be announced at the Paddys on Sat., Nov. 25*

The Brookfield Theatre For The Arts

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“NOISES OFF”

by **MICHAEL FRAYN**

directed by **Scott R. Brill**

PRODUCTION CREW

DIRECTOR Scott R. Brill
PRODUCER Lou Okell
STAGE MANAGER Andrew Olson
SM MENTOR Joy Tagliavento
SET DESIGN Andrew Okell
COSTUME DESIGN Adelle Deakin
LIGHTING DESIGN/EXECUTION David Jurman
SOUND DESIGN/EXECUTION Lou Okell
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Larry Coleman, Donald Lombardo, Lou Okell
SET DECORATION Arlene Coleman, Caitlin Griffing,
Andrew Okell, Lou Okell
PROP FABRICATION Caitlin Griffing, David Jurman,
Andrew Okell, Lou Okell, Sarah Rotikowski
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EMERGENCY FIRE NOTICE

Please observe the **EXIT** sign nearest to the seat which you occupy. It is the shortest route to the exterior of the building. In the unlikely event of an emergency, theatre personnel will be available to assist your orderly departure.

BIOGRAPHIES

THE LAPIN AGILE, CASH ON DELIVERY, A CHRISTMAS CAROL, NOISES OFF, RUMORS, PYGMALION, ALL IN THE TIMING, MOON OVER BUFFALO, BEDROOM FARCE, DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER, AS YOU LIKE IT, A MID SUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM AND ARSENIC AND OLD LACE, to name a few. At TheatreWorks New Milford: PHILADELPHIA STORY, THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER, THE LARAMIE PROJECT, and TAMING OF THE SHREW. COMPANY and STEPPING OUT in Sherman.

Andrew Okell (SET DESIGNER-2011 Volunteer of the Year) thanks his wonderful daughter, Emma, for introducing him to theater. By day he runs his own graphics & printing business (arkett.com). He hopes you will tell everyone about the show so that he can return to build many more sets with "Bob da Builder" Lane and his growing band of set building co-horts.

Lou Okell (PRODUCER-2009 Volunteer of the Year) serves as president of Brookfield Theatre and has had so much fun producing NOISES OFF! She thanks Scott for his outstanding directorial talents, Priscilla and the rest of the cast for their tireless work on this show, and the production team and crew for putting it all together. Special thanks to Andy for the inventive set and for all the sardines! Thank you to our patrons for their support of all the creative work being done here in Brookfield. We need your support now more than ever to continue our work for the next 60 years. *Please help us spread the word about what a gem this little theater is!*

Andrew Olson (STAGE MANAGER) returns to TBTA after performing in summer musicals DAMN YANKEES and BARE. He is currently a college sophomore with local stage credits including MUCH ADO and SPRING AWAKENING with PAC 32 Below, and IMPROVAPALOOZA and CINDERELLA at NMHS.

Eli Patton (TIM ALGOOD) is a fine jeweller who not only designed and made his fiance's engagement ring but also presented it to her at a performance of HAMILTON! He returns to the TBTA stage after having performed in DAMN YANKEES and COMPANY as well as stage managing GODSPELL and AND THEN THERE WERE NONE. He thanks his bride-to-be Kate Valiska for introducing him to Brookfield Theatre.

Sarah Rotikowski (PROPERTIES) is a high school Junior in New York State who has worked on many shows, most recently LES MISERABLES. She hopes to work professionally in stage management.

Priscilla Squiers (DOTTY OTLEY/MRS. CLACKETT) is delighted to make her TBTA debut in the company of old friends and new, and to be working again with Scott Brill. A veteran of many area stages, she counts among her favorite dramatic credits SOUVENIR (Florence), MASTER CLASS (Maria Callas), THE BELLE OF AMHERST (Emily), TWELFTH NIGHT (Olivia), AS YOU LIKE IT (Rosalind), A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (Titania), THE ELEPHANT MAN (Mrs. Kendal), MRS. WARREN'S PROFESSION (Vivie), THE REAL THING (Annie), JEFFREY (The Women), DANCING AT LUGHNASA (Kate) and THE SEAGULL (Nina). Key musical credits include SWEENEY TODD (Mrs. Lovett), THE KING AND I (Anna), KISS ME, KATE (Lilli/Kate), A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC (Charlotte), INTO THE WOODS (Baker's Wife), TITANIC (Alice Beane), RAGTIME (Emma Goldman), ASSASSINS (Emma Goldman), SISTER ACT (Mother Superior), PARADE (Lucille), THE TAFFETAS (Kay), THE MUSICAL OF MUSICALS: THE MUSICAL (Abby), RUTHLESS! (Judy/Ginger) and ANNIE GET YOUR GUN (Annie). She sends love to her stalwart husband Kyle Minor and her four children: Kieran, Olivia, Arden and Viola.

BIOGRAPHIES

Matt Austin (LOYD DALLAS) has numerous credits both onstage and in the director's chair here at TBTA and throughout the region. He uses his theatrical talents by day with the education and training programs of the Women's Center of Great Danbury.

Anya Caravella (BROOKE ASHTON/VICKI) is so happy to be back at Brookfield Theatre after starring as Mae in CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF. Anya is a singer, who studied classical voice for several years including in Milan. She is a music director for The Ridgefield Theater Barn Kids' program. Anya's theater credits (the past 2 years) include FIVE WOMEN WEARING THE SAME DRESS, COMPANY, DEARLY DEPARTED, OLYMPUS ON MY MIND, SEMINAR and DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS, and acting in the International Playwrights Festival last summer. Anya shot the movie WANDERING OFF last July that premiered at La Femme Festival in Los Angeles. She would like to thank her amazing husband, George, for all of his love and support.

Jody Bayer (BELINDA BLAIR/FLAVIA BRENT) has enjoyed performing with area theaters for many years and cherishes the memorable roles and friendships made. She thanks the following favorite characters she's played for teaching her the "little life lessons" she strives to live by daily: Eleanor (LION IN WINTER), Madame Arcati (BLITHE SPIRIT), Edna (PRISONER OF SECOND AVENUE), Frieda (THE TALE OF THE ALLERGIST'S WIFE), Chris (CALENDAR GIRLS), Miss Mona (BEST LITTLE WHOREHOUSE IN TEXAS), Rita (THE LYONS). Kisses to Scott and crew, my dear friends and family, for their support. *"When all around is strife and uncertainty, there's nothing like a good old-fashioned plate of..."* Laughter!

Tony Bosco-Schmidt (FREDERICK FELLOWES/PHILIP BRENT/SHEIKH) would like to thank his husband, Eric, and children, Maya and Tyler, for their constant love and support. After a 24-year hiatus, Tony returned to the stage in our recent production of BENT. In a previous life (aka 1992/'93) at the Ridgefield Playhouse, Tony was seen as the Baker in INTO THE WOODS, and also directed TEN LITTLE INDIANS and NOISES OFF. Tony's first role in community theatre was here at TBTA in 1988 in AND MISS REARDON DRINKS A LITTLE. Tony also thanks the cast, crew, producers and director of NOISES OFF!

Scott R. Brill (DIRECTOR) received his Master's Degree in Theatre Directing from Emerson College in Boston and is an Associate Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society. For Brookfield, Scott previously directed the play, AS BEES IN HONEY DROWN. His numerous directing credits for other area theatres include: BAREFOOT IN THE PARK, DA, WHAT THE BUTLER SAW, ART, VANITIES, THE MUSICAL COMEDY MURDERS OF 1940 and RUMORS (Westport Community Theatre), RUMORS (Ridgefield Theater Barn), THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST, MOON OVER BUFFALO, and LEND ME A TENOR (Center Stage Theatre), BLITHE SPIRIT, A GRAND NIGHT FOR SINGING (New Canaan Town Players); OUR TOWN, RUMORS, A THURBER CARNIVAL, STEEL MAGNOLIAS (Darien Players); BLITHE SPIRIT, THE SISTERS ROSENSWEIG, THE REAL THING (Wilton Playshop); GYPSY, SOUTH PACIFIC (Musicals at Richter), BLITHE SPIRIT and THE ACTOR'S NIGHTMARE (Eastbound Theatre). As an actor, Scott's roles include his critically acclaimed performance as Crumpet the Elf in THE SANTALAND DIARIES (Playhouse on the Green); Allan Felix in PLAY IT AGAIN, SAM (for which he won the Square One Theatre Subscriber's Award for Outstanding Actor); Rupert Cadell in ROPE (Eastbound Theatre); Ko-Ko in THE MIKADO

BIOGRAPHIES

(Musicals at Richter, Troupers Light Opera Company); The Duke in BIG RIVER, Banjo in THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER, Marley in A CHRISTMAS CAROL (Center Stage Theatre), Antony Wilding in ENCHANTED APRIL (New Canaan Town Players); Gonzalo in THE TEMPEST, Hortensio in TAMING OF THE SHREW (Putney Players); Wes Hurley in FIFTH OF JULY, Lloyd Dallas in NOISES OFF, Jesus in GODSPELL (Wilton Playshop) and Samuel in THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE (CT Gilbert & Sullivan Society). An avid crossword puzzle solver and trivia hound, Scott was a contestant on *Jeopardy!* Scott is the Circulation Supervisor at the Huntington Branch Library and Treasurer of the Connecticut Library Association. He lives in Westport with his husband, Kevin and their six adopted rescue cats.

Adelle Deakin (COSTUME DESIGN) is a creative Brookfield high schooler who helped to costume this past summer's DAMN YANKEES. She plans to further her studies in costume design in England. She also sells her creations at her etsy shop: CloakedInSerendipity.

Caitlin Griffing (RUNNING CREW, PROPS, SEWING) has returned to Connecticut after recent storms forced her relocation from Key Largo where she worked as a ship's mate and snorkelling guide as well as Company Manager at Riverside Theater in Vero Beach. We are sorry for her misfortune but happy to welcome her to Brookfield Theatre—*welcome aboard!*

David Jurman (LIGHTING DESIGN/EXECUTION) As a 33-year resident of Newtown, David is happy to join the team of NOISES OFF. He worked previously here on the Technical Team of FROST/NIXON and as the Vocal Coach and Sound Designer for DAMN YANKEES and THE FANTASTICKS. He has been involved in music since first grade and has worked on shows with The Sacred Heart Theater, the Old Polka Dot Playhouse on Pleasure Beach, Monroe's Country Collage Players, and others. He runs a small manufacturing business in Monroe, joined by his two sons and youngest brother. Along with music David takes great joy in working with his hands with hobbies including cooking. He hopes you enjoy the show!

Bob Lane (SET FABRICATOR-2010 Volunteer of the Year) is happy to help out on building NOISES OFF with the regular suspects. After many years of volunteering, he produced his first show this season (CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF) with his set building sidekick. Bob thanks his teammates, his friends and family, and his savior...Rita. It's a good night for theater!

Duane Lanham (GARRY LEJEUNE/ROGER TRAMPLEMAIN) has appeared in numerous and many others across the U.S. and South Dakota, including, A ROGUE AND A RAKE: THE GARRULOUS GARDENER, not to mention, SCOUTING FOR THE MASTER, for which he won not two but thrice, and who can forget his portrayal of the scoundrelly Doctor McSnickels in the beloved family classic, WITHOUT A POT. Love to, gratitude for, and also thank you. Without whom, really. Favorite rolls include Kaiser, Portuguese, and Hot-Buttered. Finally,

Ron Malyszka (SELSDON MOWBRAY/BURGLAR) couldn't be more pleased than to be working with Scott and such a great cast and production staff in this production of NOISES OFF. Other Brookfield credits include: FROST/NIXON, THE FANTASTICKS, AND THEN THERE WERE NONE, TUESDAYS WITH MORIE, HARVEY, AN INSPECTOR CALLS, EXIT THE BODY, SPIDER'S WEB, LA CAGE AUX FOLLES, DIAL M FOR MURDER, and WHODUNNIT. At Town Players in Newtown: MOUSETRAP, DESIGN FOR MURDER, PICASSO AT