



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS

COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948!

68th Season. No. 4

May 2017

Executive 2016-17

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St Luke's Players'
Newsletter is published quarterly

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Beverly van Druten-Blais

For information about
St. Luke's Players go to:
www.stlukesplayers.org

President's Message

Bronwyn Taylor

While our March show, *Duets*, had slightly lower audience numbers than some of our recent shows, it was proclaimed "*the best show we have seen at St. Luke's*" by some of our season ticket holders and other patrons. Kudos to directors **Jon Scheer** and **Effie MacMurchy** for their artistic vision in successfully combining 4 actors to portray 8 different roles in these one-act plays, and to the actors who had to be entirely different characters from one act to the other.

Our final production this season, a mystery/comedy *The Robin Hood Caper*, runs May 17-28, and introduces two new directors to SLP--**Lori Dunn** and **Rachel Millar**. If you have not already purchased tickets, they are available on line through EventBrite (credit card), at The Papery on Fort St., and at the door during the run (the latter 2 with cash or a cheque made out to St. Luke's Players). Tickets are \$16.

Consider becoming a Season Ticket Holder to get reserved seats, a reduced rate on tickets over purchasing them individually for each show, as well as being able to order a limited number of Panto tickets along with your season ticket application. Brochures with the application form will be available at the May show and at various locations, including The Papery and Tourism Victoria on the Inner Harbour.

This time last year we hoped the new directors and other new crew for the 2016-17 season would attract new volunteers for all aspects of producing our shows, and we were not disappointed. We have collected a cadre of new volunteers for next season. If you are interested in or curious about getting

involved with any of the many and varied aspects necessary to produce a show, please contact me so we can discuss your interests further and possibly connect you with one or more of our producers/directors for next season. No experience is necessary for many of the positions. You can also access our Production Manual on the SLP website to see what is required of each position, to help you decide what might be of interest to you.

As you drive along Cedar Hill X Rd. you may have noticed the new sign on the end of the building that recognizes the Hall as the 'Home of St. Luke's Players'. Starting in the fall, look for a sub-board below the sign that will advertise our shows.

Capital projects being considered by the Players for next year are renovations to the dressing rooms (approved), leveling the stage floor, and work to the under-stage storage area to improve lighting and insulation (pending).

Soundproofing and blackening out the kitchen are on hold at this time, as the church decides what modifications it might make to the kitchen.

Stay tuned for the next newsletter to hear more about the Annual General Meeting and BBQ to be held this summer when we elect a new Executive Committee for 2017-18 and members will vote on the special resolutions that will make our Constitution and Bylaws compliant with the new BC Societies Act.

Respectfully submitted,
Bronwyn Taylor



THE ROBIN HOOD CAPER

ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS presents a comedy

written by Fred Carmichael
 directed by Lori Dunn & Rachel Millar

Evening Performances 7:30pm
May 17, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27

Matinee Performances 2:00pm
May 20, 21, 27 & 28

TICKETS

- at the door by cash or cheque
- online via eventbrite.ca (search for St. Luke's Players)
- in person at The Papery, 669 Fort Street,
 Mon to Sat 10am – 6pm & Sun 11am – 5pm

RHC is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH

As we write this, we're more than halfway through rehearsals for *The Robin Hood Caper*, St. Luke's Players final show of the season. We have started full runs of the play, with sound F/X and pretty much all of our props. The show is coming together beautifully, and we're very proud of our hardworking cast!

We've been honoured to have this opportunity to work with St. Luke's Players - both of us are new to this group. Lori is an amateur from the South Okanagan who moved to town a few short years ago, and Rachel is a recent graduate from UVic's Theatre department, with a focus on directing. The experiment of throwing two strangers together to direct a show is paying off, we feel, as we're learning a great deal from each other.

Because of Rachel's involvement, the Players have an influx of new, young, enthusiastic volunteers working hard behind the scenes **Jaymee Sidel** (Stage Manager), **Chris Green** (Set & Lighting Design), **Emily Friesen** (Sound Design), **Em Yarnold & Quinn MacTavish** (Costumes), and the lighting and sound operators, **Ben Turner, Niko Batinovic, Gus McFids** and **Maegan Bercovici**.

Our actors are a mix of familiar faces (so we've been told!) and some new ones - St. Luke's Players theatre regulars will recognize **De Roger, Jordan Bell, Janine Longy, Bill Tolson, Malcolm Harvey, John Johnson** and **Beverly van Druten-Blais**, but will find **Selene Hough, Roland Wille** and **Bill Taylor** to be great additions to the roster!

As to the play itself...well, it's hard to describe it without giving away the plot. Let's just say that title is a great big reveal, and that *The Robin Hood Caper* includes a bit of romance, some shenanigans, and a big pile of humour! Hope to see you come out!

Co-directors, Rachel Millar and Lori Dunn





When director **Jon Scheer** and I sat down to discuss *Duets* for the first time, we knew our first challenge would be to find 4 actors who could, together, tackle the 8 colourful characters of Peter Quilter's charming play. We needn't have worried: we found ourselves a wonderful cast in **Mitch** and **Jo Barnes**, **Michael Rodgers**, and **Susan Ko** (in her first St. Luke's production), all of whom jumped in with gusto and gave us 2 hilariously entertaining characters apiece. Even colds, cancelled rehearsals due to the snow, and buckets of water dumped over their heads couldn't deter their talent and hard work!

Set Designer **Dick Newson** gave us a perfectly simple set to play in, one that could be transformed into 4 very different locations with ease, while **Anne Swannell's** original art, both on the backdrops and on the walls, really made each separate location feel different and new. **Sally Crickman** and **Ann Harris** (Set Decor and Scenic Painting, and Props, respectively) rose to the challenge of providing us with all the elements the show needed - over 100 props and set décor items! **Paul Hilton's** lighting design, and Mitch and Jon's sound design not only illustrated each scene beautifully, but gave us many

delightful gags (surprise tango music and a perfectly coordinated thunder and lighting storm, to name a few) that thoroughly delighted the audience. **Vinnie Chadwick** dolled up our actors to perfection (a personal favourite being Mitch's coordinated purple outfit), and **Anne Marie Arneson** was absolutely brilliant in creating the audience-favourite wedding dress, ready for rips, tears, and sudden unexpected downpours.

All in all, *Duets* was a great success, and from the cackles, guffaws, and other assorted hoots of laughter I heard from the booth every night, the audience loved every minute of it. Thank you to everyone who put their time and energy into such a fun and successful production.

Restrospective from Euphemia MacMurchy,
Stage Manager and Assistant Director



Cast and Crew of *Duets*.

Our Members Around Town

Wendy Cornock is performing in *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* at Langham Court Theatre, April 21st – May 1st. www.langhamtheatre.ca

Ann Walsh participated in *Confabulation*, a story-telling event at the Victoria Event Centre on April 26th. <http://annwalsh.ca>

Rachel Moss is directing *Cinderella* for Mt. Douglas Secondary School, performing at the Dave Dunnet Theatre at Oak Bay High School April 26th - 29th. <https://moundoug.sd61.bc.ca/>

Elizabeth Brimacombe is performing in *Sunset Boulevard* with Victoria Operatic Society, May 5th – May 14th at the McPherson Playhouse. <http://www.vos.bc.ca>

Helen Bunyan is involved with a dinner theatre production, *The Second Passenger* with the Monterey Players, May 18th. <https://www.oakbay.ca/sites/default/files/recreation/documents/oak-leaves-this-month.pdf>

Jon Scheer is performing in, **Dick Newson** is set designing, and **Carol-Anne Moore** is lighting *Proof* at Langham Court Theatre, June 9th – 24th. www.langhamtheatre.ca

Effie MacMurphy is playing Cordelia and the Fool in *King Lear* with Vancouver Island Shakespeare Arts down at Fisherman's Wharf from June 29th - August 20th. <http://www.vancouverislandshakespearearts.com/2016/11/king-lear-2017/>

Jonathan Ure Stoppi is translating the book *Between Jerusalem and Athens* by Professor Nurit Yaari of Tel-Aviv University to be published by Oxford University Press this year.

Ted Lavallee has recently published his first book, a collection of short stories, *Crime Spree in Iroquois Falls*, available at New Horizons on Menzies St., or by contacting the author directly at tedlavallee@shaw.ca

Sheila Martindale is the current theatre critic for *Monday Magazine* online.

Jo Barnes, Geoffrey Davidson, Rosalind Coleman and **Beverly van Druten-Blais** are performing in The Peninsula Players' *Fawty Towers* at Mary Winspear Centre in Sidney May 5th - 8th. www.thepeninsula.players.ca

Winners to Langham Court Theatre's April production of *Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde* were **Justine Kallstrom** and **Pamela Welch**.

Dragon Monkey Theatre is pleased to present *Shirley Valentine*, by Willy Russell, directed by Wendy Merk and featuring Lorene Cammiade as Shirley Valentine.

The show will be stage managed by Michael Gosselin with lighting design by Carol-Anne Moore.

Performances will be held at Intrepid Theatre with shows at 8 p.m. on both Friday, June 2 and Saturday, June 3, and a 2:00 p.m. matinee on Sunday, June 4. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Victoria Women's Transition House.

For more information, please email shirleyvalentinetickets@gmail.com

WANTED

Target Theatre is looking for a part-time Artistic Coordinator. He or she will have knowledge of and respect for seniors' issues and experience working with seniors in a creative capacity. He or she will maintain a balance between artistic leadership and fostering a collaborative environment with the Players. The successful candidate will show demonstrated ability to meet project objectives while remaining within budget. Monthly honorarium, exact pay and hours to be determined. Please contact Penelope Harwood at psharwood@telus.net



Jean de Cartier, Merry Hallsor and **Ann Harris** cleaning out the prop room in anticipation of renewal of Dressing Rooms over the summer.

Refer to St. Luke's Players' website for more information on upcoming plays and to look at photos of your favourite productions from the past.
www.stlukesplayers.org



ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS

Announcing our 2017/18 Season of Community Theatre

DRAMA

The Twelve-Pound Look

written by
J.M. Barrie



SEPARATE TABLES



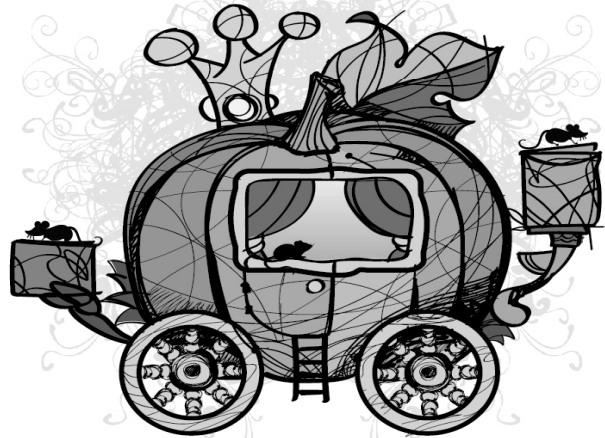
Performing
'Table
Number Seven'

written by
Terrance
Rattigan

directed by Michael King • Oct 11-22, 2017

PANTO

Cinderella



written by
Dave & Helena
Hitchcock

directed by
Neville Owen
& Janine Longy

Dec 15, 2017 – Jan 1, 2018

COMEDY

BEDTIME STORIES

written by
norm foster

directed by Merry Hallsor • Mar 7-18, 2018



MURDER MYSTERY

Laura

written by
Vera Casper
and George Sklar

directed by
Don Keith

May 16-27, 2018



"Table No. 7" and "The 12 Pound Look" are presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH
"Laura" is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.