

## Directors' Notes

Ways & Means: It is 1938 and the smart set are in the French Riviera for the season. Toby and Stella are struggling to keep up with the wealthy classes and find themselves down on their luck. Born for nothing but the genteel life, suited to playing games and staying in the homes of rich families, they find that their income of 750 pounds a year (about \$200,000 in 2009 dollars) barely gives them enough to pay Nanny and tip the servants. Toby has lost at the big table at the casino and now they have to leave the home of their hosts and face the world penniless—or do they?

It gives me great pleasure to work for the first time with St Luke's Players and bring to the stage this light hearted look at the pre-war upper classes, and their frivolous lifestyles that large disappeared after WW II.

Thanks are due to my hard working cast and to the wonderful support of a large number of volunteers who make it possible to put a few actors on stage. So relax, sit back, and return to a gentler time when there were still upper crust nomads roaming the beaches of Cannes and Monte Carlo.

**Brian Wyvill**

Exploding Love: It's a story about marriage and all the idiosyncrasies of marriage. Why we marry the people we do, and not want to stay married to the people we marry. However frustrating life is, our partners provide us with the safety valve. But there are occasions when love just explodes!

**Antoinette Church**

### Our next production **"Nightmare" - a mystery thriller**

by Norman Robbins

Director: Geoffrey J. Davidson

Marion Bishop, an elderly writer of romantic novels, is dying. Katherine Willis, a kind soul from the nearby village, looked after Marion in a most caring way, while coping with her own mentally retarded brother of twenty. When Katherine takes leave to attend her cousin's wedding in Scotland, Laura, an experienced nurse from London, comes to take care of the failing writer on the recommendation of the local doctor. A series of mysterious phone calls and the appearance of Raymond, Marion's rapacious nephew, set off a nightmare situation. Deceit, suspicion, blackmail and incrimination are subtly woven into a web of crime which is complicated and will keep you guessing until the surprising close.

**May 20 - 23 and 27 - 30 at 8:00 p.m.**

**Matinee: May 23 at 2:00 p.m.**



# St. Luke's Players

*proudly presents*

# RanDOM ACTs

An evening of two one-act plays

## WAY\$ & MEAN\$

from "Tonight at 8:30" by Noel Coward

Director: Brian Wyvill



## EXPLODING L♥VE

by Joseph Coyne

Director: Antoinette Church

March 4 - 7, 2009 & March 11 - 14, 2009 at 8:00 p.m.

Matinee: March 7, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.

St Luke's Hall, 3821 Cedar Hill X Road

**Celebrating our 60<sup>th</sup> Season**

# Act I: WAY\$ & MEAN\$

## Synopsis:

The play opens with Stella & Toby Cartwright, eating breakfast in bed while staying at the home of Mrs. Lloyd-Ransome. We discover that they are heavily in debt, largely due to Toby's losses at the casino, and Stella's losses at bridge. They are asked to leave the next day by their hostess, ostensibly because other guests are expected. How do they get out of their financial predicament?

**Director: Brian Wyvill**

**Set:** A bedroom in the Lloyd-Ransome's house, Villa Zephyre, on the Cote d'Azur. 1938.

Scene 1: 11:30 a.m. on an April morning  
Scene 2: 1:30 a.m. the following morning  
Scene 3: Two hours later

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc

## **CAST** (in order of appearance)

Stella Cartwright	Caroline Mackenzie
Toby Cartwright	Osiris Malkovich
Murdoch	Mike Chadwick
Lord Chapworth	Frank McGilly
Olive Lloyd-Ransome	Celia Francis
Princess Elena Krassiloff	Jane Krieger
Nanny	Rosalind Coleman
Stevens	Robert Adam

## **PRODUCTION CREW**

Producer	Dave Hitchcock
Assistant Producer	Rita Humphreys
Stage Manager	Joan Emery
Set Design	Tony Gilsenan
Set Construction & Painting	Dave Hitchcock, Neville Owen, Tony Gilsenan, Graham Thomson, Maeve Winchester, Ian Grant, Rod Hogg, Don Lambton, Elsie Lambton, Hillary Pearson, Elaine Lewis, Jay Nefsky, Sarah Owen
Set Décor	Cher Owen
Lighting & Sound	Dann Sherman
Props	Glenys Hughes
Costumers	Virginia Landucci, Renee McGilly
Poster Design	Sharon Sutherland
Program Design	Jane Guy
Tickets	Neville Owen
Publicity	Joanne Frappell, Dave Hitchcock
House Manager	Roger Walker
Concession Coordinator	Joanne Frappell

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Concession  
and Front of House

### **St Luke's Players would like to thank:**

The Reverend Canon Peter Parker and Bonnie Watkins of St Luke's Anglican Church, Victoria Theatre Guild (Langham Court), Petals Plus Florist, Ivy's Book Shop, Croy & Co - Stage Lighting, Admiral Inn, Dairy Queen, Starbucks, Oak Bay Municipality, Times Colonist, Monday Magazine, News Group, Shaw Cable TV, CBC, CFAX 1070, CHEK News, A Channel, 100.3 the Q, 98.5 the Ocean, The Zone @91.3.

**15 Minute Intermission – during which drinks and snacks will be available at our Concession.**

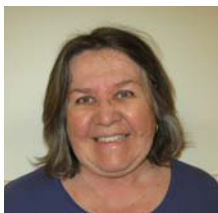
For information on joining the Players, check out our website at [www.stlukesplayers.org](http://www.stlukesplayers.org) or contact us at [stlukesplayers@yahoo.ca](mailto:stlukesplayers@yahoo.ca)

Website maintained by Steve Sturgess



**Frank McGilly (Zeke & Lord Chapworth)**

This is Frank's fifth appearance at St. Luke's Players, this time as an angel (type-casting?). Previous shows included *The Rivals* and *Harvey*. "It is a real pleasure working with such a talented team - off stage as well as on," says Frank, "and I hope the audience has as much fun as we have."



**Madeleine Mills (Court Officer)** is thrilled to be in her first part with St. Luke's Players. Recently in the Alzheimer's drama, *I'm Still Here*, a play with only two boxes for a set, she's really impressed with the work of the set designers and crew here.



**David Mohr (Rory)** Although David has never been a hostage, he has experience in excitement. David has been seen 'on the boards' at St. Luke's Players in *Harvey*, *Cinderella*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and *Aladdin*. He is pleased to be part of this presentation of *Exploding Love* as Rory.



**Neville Owen (Detective)** is very happy to be on stage again. He has appeared in several productions over the past few years and has directed four plays for St Luke's Players: *Key for Two*, *Move over Mrs Markham*, *An Act of the Imagination* and most recently *Rumors*.



**Gerald Schieven (Skeeter)** recently moved from Hawaii and this is his debut with St Luke's Players, and second production in Victoria. Mild-mannered astronomer by day, his numerous roles have included Dame Twanky in *Aladdin – the Panto*, William in *How the Other Half Lives*, Pooh Bah in *Mikado*, and Dick Deadeye in *HMS Pinafore*.



**Brian Wyvill (Director)** has been performing since his unscripted attempt to steal Eve's apple at age four. His directing experience includes; *Much Ado About Nothing* for the town of Banff, *Walsh* at the Banff Centre, *Communicating Doors* and *Death-trap* for Pinetree Players (Canmore) and a number of his own productions at the University of Calgary.



# Act II: EXPL<sup>O</sup>NDING L♥VE

**Synopsis:**

Skeeter still loves his ex-wife, and when he hears she is about to remarry, he dons a belt of dynamite and barges into the judge's chambers at City Hall to disrupt the ceremony. He is forced to retreat to the men's room where another bride and groom-to-be, and Zeke, a charming eccentric who claims to be a dog angel, become his hostages.

**Director: Antoinette Church**  
**Assistant Director: Rita Humphreys**

**Set:** A men's room in City Hall.  
Present day.

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc

## **CAST** (in order of appearance)

Rory	David Mohr
Detective	Neville Owen
Skeeter	Gerald Schieven
Court Officer	Madeleine Mills
Zeke	Frank McGilly
Fran	Jane Guy
Winnona	Amanda Kennedy
Fiancé	Chris Harris

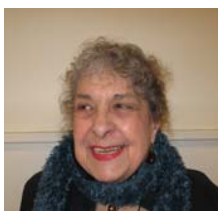
**Kindly turn off cell phones and pagers during the performance.**



**Robert Adam (Stevens)** has acted locally since 1994, most recently in *A Shot in the Dark*. He has had leading roles in *The Winslow Boy*, *An Ideal Husband*, *I Hate Hamlet*, *Private Lives*, *A Woman of No Importance*, and *The Man who came to Dinner*.



**Mike Chadwick (Murdoch)** has appeared a few times on St Luke's stage, most recently in fish-net tights and lovely dresses as a panto actor/actress in *Sleeping Beauty - the Panto*. Acting the part of a pretentious British upper class penniless twit confirms the limits of his acting talent.



**Antoinette Church (Director)**  
All my experience in the theatre has left me the one step to take and that is directing. So here we go! Please bear with me and enjoy this farcical story of *Exploding Love* with me and my wonderful cast.



**Rosalind Coleman (Nanny)** studied theatre at UVic, UBC and the Banff School of Fine Arts. She later joined the Canadian International Development Agency and has worked in China, Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia. She continued to do community theatre, whenever she could, and is delighted to be back in Victoria and part of *Ways and Means*.



**Celia Francis (Olive)** has been involved in theatre since her school days and has worked with Langham Court, St Luke's Players and Peninsula Players. Appearances include: *A Shot in the Dark*, *Rebecca*, *A Woman of No Importance*, *Private Lives*, *The Night of January 16<sup>th</sup>*



**Jane Guy (Fran)** has been acting (up?) since she was a child and has been involved in community theatre as far afield as the Philippines and Bangladesh. She has acted in several St Luke's Players' productions: *A Murder is Announced*, *A Tomb with a View*, *Key for Two*, *Plaza Suite* and *Rumors*.



**Chris Harris (Fiancé)** returns to St. Luke's after a brief hiatus. Previously he had roles in *Aladdin* and *Cinderella*. "I enjoy playing the off-the-wall, nut-bar sort of characters as well as the more traditional roles. As much as I take the role seriously the character keeps things light and playful."



**Rita Humphreys (Assistant Director)**  
This is Rita's third production (as producer or director) with St. Luke's Players. She is enjoying working with the cast and production team, and looks forward to more rewarding adventures with this talented company.



**Amanda Kennedy (Winnona)**  
As a new resident of Victoria, Amanda is thrilled to join St. Luke's Players. Drama has always been a part of her life, providing entertainment for family and friends, but especially while studying at The University of Toronto, George Brown College and helping out local theatre groups.



**Jane Krieger (Princess Elena)** is delighted to be on stage at St. Luke's Players and to be given the opportunity to channel her inner "Princess". She would like to thank everyone involved and hopes to see you again soon.



**Caroline Mackenzie (Stella)** is happy to be back on St. Luke's stage this season even though she will do so in significantly less clothing than she has ever worn on stage. She is also extremely happy to be able to collaborate with Osiris in a role that will become more permanent later this year.



**Osiris Malkovich (Toby)**  
This is Osiris' fifth production on St. Luke's stage, and he is happy to be given a chance to try a new accent! He has loved Brian's stage direction of "more bed antics" and is thrilled to be working with Caroline again.