

CAST & CREW

“The Source For Theater Happenings”

SPARROW’S NEST: A PERFORMANCE HOME FOR THE COMMUNITY

by Muriel Kenderdine

Early in 1994 Penobscot Theatre Company in Bangor, ME, cast me in the first of a number of productions I did there, NIGHT MUST FALL, the murder mystery by Emlyn Williams. I played mean Mrs. Bramson and a young man named Fred Liebfried was the actor in the role of Hubert Laurie, the lovesick but unromantic suitor to Mrs. B’s niece. I enjoyed working with Fred as well as all the actors in the ensemble cast, but there was no opportunity to repeat working together, and although I certainly saw his name connected with other theatrical productions over the years, it wasn’t until late 2013 that I began to see his name and that of Diane Leeman as founders and directors at Sparrow’s Nest Theater in Industry, ME.

Since that time the group has regularly produced a variety of plays ranging from CHARLOTTE’S WEB to HENRY AND RAMONA to RABBIT HOLE, and Christmas season offerings from A CHRISTMAS CAROL to MERRY CHRISTMAS, STREGA NONA. So this year when I saw they were going to present A CHRISTMAS STORY, based on Jean Shepherd’s story and film, I decided it was time to catch up and asked Fred some questions.

How did you and Diane meet and do you both have a background in theater?

“Diane and I met at Lakewood Theater playing lovers in DAMAGED GOODS and went on to play spouses in real life! Diane teaches 4th grade at Mill Stream Elementary School and has directed their holiday shows for many years. She has acted in and directed numerous plays for the Presbyterian Church and its youth group, and has acted with ACAT, Waterville Opera House, and other groups as well as Lakewood.

“I acted in my first play in 5th grade and directed my first show in 8th grade and have been acting, designing, and directing for college, regional, and community theaters for over 40 years now. My BA is from UM Farmington, and I have an MFA from the University of South Dakota.”

What brought the two of you to founding this theater group?

“The Sparrow’s Nest building was originally a church and has morphed into a performing arts space and creative community over the past several years after services were moved to a different location. Now, we try to produce four plays a year there as well as offering other types of performances. Our mission is to cultivate a space for community theater, education, youth programs, and support for the community at large..”

How do you choose your shows and do you take turns directing?

“We often look for shows that require young performers. Only through them will the art we have devoted so much of our energies to be able to continue. One show per season is chosen for acting and/or technical challenges to stretch the creative muscles of our artists. I generally direct this show and the others

are directed by Diane or an occasional guest artist. We look for stories and characters that are relatable to our central Maine audiences in terms of theme, characters, or time and place.”



A CHRISTMAS STORY, Sparrow’s Nest Theater:
Cole Martin (Ralphie)

What do you see for Sparrow’s Nest Theater in the future?

“Our future plans include infrastructure and equipment improvements and expanding our artist and audience bases. We plan on starting a young performer/technician summer camp and would like to offer acting classes for all ages and abilities. We are always looking for outside artists to use the space for events that will benefit our community, including art classes, concerts, and comedy nights.”

[For more information on the group and/or the space visit them on Facebook or call (207) 696-4323.]

A CHRISTMAS STORY, adapted for the stage by Philip Grecian, will run Dec. 1, 2, & 3 at 7 pm and Dec. 4 at 2 pm at Sparrow’s Nest Theater, Rte 148, 1114 West Mills Rd. Diane Leeman directs. In the large cast are Jordan Plog (Adult Ralph),

Cole Martin (Ralphie Parker), Michelle Stinson (Mother/Miss Shields), Aaron Baum (The Old Man), Jonathan Sparks, Finn Donoghue, Ryan Donoghue, Sierra Steinhauer, Erin Taylor, Jack Donoghue, Bob Smith, Julianna Sparkes, Sylvie Haslem, Elle Donoghue, and Ariya Steinhauer. Call (207) 696-4323 for reservations (special rate for family of 4).



JACK AND THE MAGIC BEANS, Sparrow's Nest Theater August 2015 production: Fred Liebfried and Cole Martin (Jack)

[Directions to the theater: From Farmington, take Rte 43 into Industry, go past Clearwater Lake, turn left onto Rte 148 (West Mills Rd) and take this into West Mills; theater on the left shortly after a 4-way intersection—yellow with a blue door. From Madison, take Rte 148 out of Madison and through Anson, over the river and through the woods and in about 10 minutes you'll be there!]



DADDY'S DYIN', WHO'S GOT THE WILL?, Sparrow's Nest Theater July 2015 production: Diane Leeman, Donnie Dorr, Valerie Heubner, and Anne Smith

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Images: Please e-mail images as JPEG, GIF, or TIF files.

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HOLIDAY GIFT SUGGESTIONS

Idea No. 1 – Gift Certificates for a production (or the rest of the season) at one of your favorite theaters. Check our Theater Listings for a telephone number and make the call. They would be happy to hear from you.

Idea No. 2 – Gift Certificates for classes at one of the many schools listed on our Classes & Workshops page – acting classes, dance lessons, fencing lessons, improv. Lots of possibilities. Many have new classes beginning in January



Wishing You

Season's Greetings

SNOWLION REP BRINGS A LOCAL ISSUE TO THE STAGE

by Harlan Baker

Snowlion Repertory Company will present *ANYTHING HELPS, GOD BLESS*, an original script about the median strip panhandling ordinance and how the Portland, Maine community reacted to it, in workshop performances December 10 & 11 at the Portland Ballet Theater. Cast and Crew caught up with Snowlion Rep's directors, Al D'Andrea and Margit Ahlin, to ask them a few questions about this upcoming production.

What made you decide to come to Portland?

"After years in big cities like New York and Los Angeles working in theater, film, and TV, we wanted a simpler life where we could devote our time to developing new work for the stage and enjoy a quieter, more beautiful environment. Having visited Maine several times, our logical choice was Portland, a small city with big city character, but a place where we see people we know all the time walking down the street. Portland has a real community feeling, and the theater folk were very welcoming."

What gave you the idea for ANYTHING HELPS, GOD BLESS?

"We've wanted for some time to do a piece about homelessness and poverty – huge subjects, and grim ones -- but experiencing the median strip controversy and watching it unfold in the city and later the courts, we thought that would be a good railroad track to follow, to trace a very dramatic story that touches on issues of giving, individual rights, and how we face people in need. As it turned out, the Maine Humanities Council was seeking grantees for a 14th Amendment project – and the 14th Amendment is an important piece of the median strip story. So we were given the grant with the stipulation that we had to present our workshop by the end of the year. We dove into action, gathering our cast of 11 and setting them to some fascinating research, and, especially, personal interviews with key players in the controversy: city council members, police, press, mayors, attorneys, neighborhood reps, the public, and most interestingly, the panhandlers (or signers as they are called) themselves."

Was the process of putting this show together what you expected it to be?

"All of the cast and we two writers were stunned at the amount of material we were able to gather, and all of us were touched by the stories of the signers, the thoughtful responses of the other players, and our own feelings and reactions which were kept in journal entries. Once we had all the material – interviews, court transcripts, city council meeting video, police calls for service, public surveys, and the like – it remained for us to fashion a full-length drama. As writers, we both worked 10-hour days for a month to pull together our script. We found it to be a moving exploration of a community coming to grips with a nearly untenable problem, and we seek to ask the right questions so that some hope for solutions may emerge. We were surprised to find quite a bit of humor as well!"

What are you hoping the audience takes away from this show?

"This is a 'conversation' where all voices will be heard. We know the audience will discover many things they don't already know about the topic, about our city government, about the lives of people on the street. We hope that they will examine their own feelings about being confronted with poverty in the form of signers on the medians, and that the human connection will be strengthened by the power of bringing light to a subject that most turn away from. We believe it will be a unique night at the theater and will inspire hope in all who witness the show with an open heart."



ANYTHING HELPS, GOD BLESS, Snowlion Repertory Company: Callie Cox

Will there be a future for this piece after it is workshoped in December?

"If all goes well, we hope to perhaps bring a full production to the stage in late April. We're also interested in sharing it with local theater companies in cities where panhandling ordinances have been tried and failed – Worcester, for example (and you'd be surprised at how many communities have undergone similar political wrangling). We think the subject matter is universal in its specificity, and will perhaps have a life beyond Portland, Maine."

Written by Al D'Andrea and Margit Ahlin (who writes as MK Wolfe) and directed by D'Andrea, ANYTHING HELPS, GOD BLESS will be performed Dec. 10 at 7:30 pm and Dec. 11 at 2 pm at Portland Ballet Studio Theater, 517 Forest Ave., Portland. Suggested donation at the door is \$10; however, reservations may be made at (207) 518-9305. In the cast are Harlan Baker, Samuel Carlson, Cathy Counts, Callie Cox, Tom Handel, Patricia Mew, Chris Newcomb, Bob Pettee, Natasha Salvo, Pat Scully, and Eric Darrow Worthley.

Harlan Baker is an AEA actor, a director, a university adjunct lecturer in theater, a former state legislator, & a playwright whose work includes his one-man show JIMMY HIGGINS (which he has toured in Eastern & Midwestern USA), a number of short plays, and THE TRIANGLE FIRE AND THE WOMAN IN THE HAT, which was given a staged reading in the 2015 PortFringe..

[Editor's Note: The 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the US and adopted on July 9, 1868, reads, "No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law."]



Patricia Mew



TAKING ONE'S ART TO THE STREETS

Patricia Mew, a local actor, decided to do some serious research for her work in ANYTHING HELPS, GOD BLESS. "I was getting dressed up for a photo shoot and trying to pretend to be a signer," she said. "I chose my outfit very carefully. I mentioned to Cathy Counts and a few people that I wanted to try it. 'You can totally get away with it,' said Cathy, 'because you look anonymous.'"

[Pat's involvement in theater began at Smith College and community theater in Northampton, Massachusetts. Her first professional theater work was with the Enchanted Circle Theatre. "We did a site specific play about the Holyoke Canal and an installation in the Berkshires about poet William Cullen Bryant at his homestead," she said. Since arriving in Portland in 2006 she has appeared in numerous productions, has been the artistic director of Acorn Productions' 24-Hour Play Festival, and is also a playwright.]

In pursuit of research for this new workshop production, Pat said, "I went to Deering Oaks at High Street and Park Avenue, making sure no one saw me park my Prius, and stood there with a sign. Mostly people ignored me. I was pretending to limp. Out of hundreds of cars that passed by me only four of them stopped. In one passing car was a theater friend. She looked away. I saw her later at Mad Horse Theatre. She said she thought, 'Oh my God, is that Pat? Is she in trouble? Oh no! Why didn't I give her something? We're theater people. We take care of each other!'"

Pat Mew donated the \$20 she made on the streets to the local homeless shelter.

Harlan Baker



EVERY CHRISTMAS STORY EVER TOLD (And Then Some...),
Theater at Monmouth: Grace Bauer, James Noel Hoban, and Ian Kramer

HEARD IN THE GREEN ROOM

It's the holiday season again and those productions with Christmas and New Year's themes will be mentioned first; for non-holiday entertainment check out the Green Room further on. First, the shows which are on this first weekend of December only or which opened in November and close this weekend:

Heartwood Regional Theater Company presents MERRY CHRISTMAS, GEORGE BAILEY as a radio show at the Parker B. Poe Theater, Lincoln Academy, Newcastle, ME, Dec. 1, 2 & 3 at 7:30, Dec. 3 also at 2 pm. Griff Braley directs. The cast of 19 includes Mary Boothby, Joe McGrann, Noelle Timberlake, Elliott Cumming, Mike Rowe, Nick Miaoulis, Dan Perry, & Stephen Wallace. Call (207) 563-1373, and visit www.heartwoodtheater.org to get directions.

River Company will give two staged readings of Dickens's A CHRISTMAS CAROL on Dec. 4 at 3pm & 5 pm in the Porter Meeting Hall at the Skidompha Library, Damariscotta, ME. Margo O'Leary directs and there will be original songs by Ellie Busby. The performances are a benefit for Spectrum Generations' Meals on Wheels. Call (207) 563-8116.

As usual during *Sparkle Weekend* in Freeport, ME, **Freeport Community Players** will offer an all new program of holiday-themed songs and skits for the whole family at the *WFCP Home Time Radio Hour* on Dec. 2 & 3 at 7:30, Dec. 4 at 2 pm, at the Freeport Performing Arts Center, 30 Holbrook St. New skits include Sally Hinckley's LET THE SUNSHINE IN, and actors include Barb Finn and Penny Davis-Dublin. The cast will be joined by Rob Babson (Delta Knights) & friends, providing backup for the songs. Call (207) 865-2220 or visit www.fcponline.org.

For holiday music, **The Choral Art Society** invites you to *Christmas at the Cathedral* on Dec. 3 at noon & 7 pm, and Dec. 4 at 2:30 & 7:30 pm, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 307 Congress St., Portland, ME. They will be joined by the Portland Festival Brass and organist Christopher Pelonzi. Then sing along on Handel's MESSIAH with ChoralArt Singers and the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra at 7:30 pm on Dec. 12 at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford St., Portland (for this please bring non-perishable food donations for Project FEED). FMI call (207) 828-0043 or visit www.choralart.org.

Good Theater's annual holiday fundraiser, *Broadway at Good Theater*, takes the stage at St. Lawrence Arts Center, 76 Congress St., Portland, ME, and will include both holiday and Broadway songs from the 1970's, Nov. 30 – Dec. 4 with Wed. & Thurs. at 7, Fri. at 7:30, Sat. at 3 & 7:30, Sun. at 2. Brian P. Allen directs with musical direction by Victoria Stubbs, set by Justin Cote, lighting by Iain Odlin, & stage management by Michael Lynch. Vicky at the keyboard will be joined by Bill Manning (percussion), Wade Steamer (guitar), & David Emma (bass). Singing actors will be Peter Allen, Glenn Anderson, Marissa Sheltra Brown, Jeff Christmas, Laura Houck, Meredith Lamothe, Steve Leighton, Jennifer Manzi MacLeod, Conor Martin, Lynne McGhee, Jen Means, Halim Moldaver, Amy Roche, & Shannon Thurston; and they will be joined by guests Kenita R. Miller (Miss Celie on Broadway and the national tour of THE COLOR PURPLE) & Daniel Patrick Smith (Buddy the Elf in the national tour of ELF). Call (207) 885-5883 or visit www.goodtheater.com.

Studio Theatre of Bath brings back *Twisted Christmas: A Nice and Naughty Evening of Entertainment* with performances Dec. 2 & 3 at 8 pm at Winter Street Center, 880 Washington St., Bath, ME. It's suggested that you leave the kiddies at Grandma's or find them a play date. Tickets at the door or visit www.studiotheatreofbath.com.

Dickens's story is part of the script for EVERY CHRISTMAS STORY EVER TOLD (And Then Some...The Sequel), which opened at the **Theater at Monmouth** on Nov. 24 in the Victorian Cumston Hall, Main St., Monmouth, ME, & continues there Dec. 1 & 2 at 7:30, Dec. 3 at 1 & 7:30, Dec. 4 at 1 pm. Dawn McAndrews directed and

Will Knapp supplies original music for this show suitable for ages 13 & up. The actors are Grace Bauer, James Noel Hoban, & Ian Kramer. Set and lighting are by Jim Alexander with costumes by Elizabeth Rocha, sound by Elizabeth Nelson & stage management by Kathleen Nation. Call (207) 933-9999 or visit www.theateratmonmouth.org.

Bangor Community Theater offers *Christmas at the Grange* at the Bangor Grange Hall, 1192 Ohio St., Bangor, ME, Dec. 2, 3, 9, & 10 at 7, Dec. 4 at 3 pm. Heather Elkins wrote the musical & directs with musical direction by Michael Cushman, & Eddie Taber at the keyboard. The cast includes Cheri White, Kaelie Merrill, Rachel Palmer, Miranda Falls, Anna Fergusson, Roland Dube, Stephen Elkins, Sue Amero, Casandra Palmer, Nancy Dymond, Katrina Dresser, & Joan Day. Tickets at the door or visit www.bangorcommunitytheatre.org.



A Scene from THE NUTCRACKER, Maine State Ballet
Photo by C. C. Church

Now for all those Nutcrackers in various versions, I'm going to list them all together and you can choose the venue nearest you, starting with **Maine State Ballet**, which opened their traditional performances of THE NUTCRACKER at Merrill Auditorium, Myrtle St., Portland on Nov. 25 and it continues through Dec. 4. There are some new choreography highlights by Linda MacArthur Miele, costumes by Gail Csoboth, and music by the orchestra directed by Karla M. Kelley Brenner. Soloists in this 40th anniversary of the production include Adrienne Pelletier (Clara), Rhiannon Pelletier (Sugar Plum Fairy & Dew Drop Fairy), Veronica Druchniak (Sugar Plum Fairy & Dew Drop Fairy), Boomer Druchniak (Tea From China & Arabian Prince), Ron Trell (Judge Stahlbaum), & Frederick Bernier (Uncle Drosselmeyer). The Nutcracker Prince & The Cavalier will be danced by both Nathaniel Dombek and Glenn Davis, who will be retiring after 20 years of playing these roles. Call (207) 842-0800 or visit www.tickets.porttix.com.

Note that there will be a single performance at 7 pm on Dec. 1 when the touring **Moscow Ballet** brings the GREAT RUSSIAN NUTCRACKER to the State Theatre in Portland. The cast will include some two dozen dancers from the Dance Studio in Gorham, ME, who auditioned early in the fall for a Moscow Ballet ballerina, who cast these young people on the spot in roles suitable for their ages and skill levels. Call 1-800-745-3000 or visit www.nutcracker.com.

Bangor Ballet offers NUTCRACKER IN A NUTSHELL at these locations: Dec. 4 at 3 pm at Bucksport Performing Arts Center, Bucksport, ME; Dec. 10 at 7 & Dec. 11 at 4 pm at Husson University's Gracie Theatre, Bangor, ME; Dec. 18 at 4 pm at Center Theatre, 20 E. Main St., Dover-Foxcroft, ME. For all of these call (207) 945-5911.

Robinson Ballet, which started touring THE NUTCRACKER in November, still has performances: Dec. 10 at 2 & 7 and Dec. 11 at 2 at The Grand Auditorium, 165 Main St., Ellsworth, ME (call 207-667-9500 or visit www.grandonline.org); Dec. 17 at 2 & 7 pm and Dec. 18

at 2, with the Bangor Symphony at Collins Center for the Arts on the UMaine campus in Orono, ME (call 207-581-1755 or visit www.collinscenterforthearts.org).

Bossov Ballet dances THE NUTCRACKER at Waterville Opera House, 1 Common St., Waterville, ME, Dec. 16 & 17 at 7, Dec. 17 & 18 at 2 pm. Call (207) 873-7000 or visit www.operahouse.com.

Portland Ballet presents their VICTORIAN NUTCRACKER, with dancers portraying real 19th century Portlanders, at Westbrook Performing Arts Center, 471 Stroudwater St., Westbrook, ME, Dec. 17 & 18 at 2 pm; and at Merrill Auditorium, Portland, on Dec. 23 at 7:30. Call (207) 772-9671 or visit www.portlandballet.org.

Quirky **Vivid Motion Dance Company** brings back their NUTCRACKER BURLESQUE (inviting you not to miss the Sugar Plum Fairy's sexy visit to Portland!) to St. Lawrence Arts Center, 76 Congress St., Portland, ME, Dec. 16 – 23 at 8 pm. Visit www.vividmotion.org.

Acadia Community Theater's holiday show will be a musical theater version (not Tchaikovsky or the ballet) of THE NUTCRACKER with performances Dec. 2 & 3 at 7 pm at Neighborhood House, Northeast Harbor, ME; and Dec. 9 at 7 pm & Dec. 10 at 11 am at The Criterion Theater, Bar Harbor, ME. Directing is Jacob Spanner, Mt. Desert High School senior for his Senior Exhibition project, with musical direction by Christina Spurling. Doug Van Corder is the producer. Principals in this large family-friendly cast include Lillian Swan (Marie Stahlbaum, a young girl), Jake McKenna (Fritz, her younger brother), Mallory Watkins & Tony St. Denis (Mother & Father Stahlbaum, their parents), Mark Carignan (Godfather Drosselmeier), Molly Dillon (The Nutcracker, a bewitched hero), Ezra Halkett (The Mouse King), Lelania Avila (Mouse Queen, an evil witch), & Faye Durand-McDonnell (Clara, Marie's Christmas doll). FMI visit www.acadiacommunitytheater.net.

And now for productions of A CHRISTMAS CAROL by Charles Dickens, in addition to River Company's and Theater at Monmouth's excerpts mentioned previously:

Sanford Maine Stage will offer a musical version of A CHRISTMAS CAROL at Nason Little Theatre, 457 Main St., Springvale, ME. Kelli Connors adapted the story and directs. Performances will be at 7 pm Dec. 2, 3, 9, & 10 and at 2 pm on Dec. 4 & 11. Call (207) 324-8227.

Portland Stage Company, 25A Forest Ave., Portland, ME, opened their CHRISTMAS CAROL on Nov. 30 and it continues at various times Tues-Sun. through Dec. 24. Direction & scenic design are by Anita Stewart with costumes by Susan Thomas, lighting by Bryon Winn, original music by Hans Indigo Spencer, musical direction & accompaniment by Shane Van Vliet, sound by Chris Fitz, & stage management by Myles C. Hatch. Heading the large cast are Joel Leffert (Scrooge), Michael Thomas (Bob Cratchit), Steph Ross (Mrs. Cratchit), Ian Carlsen (Nephew Fred), Emma O'Donnell (Belle), Larry Nicks (Marley), & Caley Milliken (The Ghosts). Call (207) 774-0465 or visit www.portlandstage.org.

The Public Theatre, 31 Maple St., Lewiston, ME, brings back Artistic Director Christopher Schario's popular adaptation of A CHRISTMAS CAROL, under his direction, Dec. 9 at 7, Dec. 10 at 2 & 7, Dec. 11 at 2 pm. A few actors & a fiddler bring this story to life for the whole family. In the cast are Michael O'Brien (returning as Scrooge), Sheila Stasack (Mrs. Cratchit), Nicholas Perron (Fred/Christmas Present), Russell Berrigan (Marley/Bob Cratchit), Kelsey Foltz (Belle/Fan), Kristian Keef (Tiny Tim), & Adam P. Blais (Christmas Future/Sound effects). Fiddler Jennifer Armstrong provides the holiday music. Call (207) 782-3200.

Mayo Street Arts, 10 Mayo St., Portland, ME, will host **Shoestring Theater's** performance of A CHRISTMAS CAROL on Dec. 17 at 7 pm. In the past Shoestring Theater has performed with both live actors and life-sized puppets, so that may be the case again here. Visit www.mayostreetarts.org.

This year many theaters are choosing different holiday stories. **City**

Theater, 205 Main St., **Biddeford**, ME, will stage A CHRISTMAS SURVIVAL GUIDE: A MINIATURE CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR! Dec. 2 – 18, Fri-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2 (no show, however, on Dec. 4). Linda Sturdivant directs this hysterical revue with musical direction by Kevin Smith and choreography by Mariel Roy. The cast includes Maddy Jarvis, Brian McAloon, Miles Obrey, & Rebecca Rinaldi. Visit www.citytheater.org or call (207) 282-0849.



A CHRISTMAS SURVIVAL GUIDE, **Biddeford City Theater**: Miles Obrey, Maddy Jarvis, Rebecca Rinaldi, Brian McAloon Photo by Audra Hatch

The Frogtown Mountain Puppeteers will offer THE GRINCH at **The Grand Theater**, 165 Main St., Ellsworth, ME, on Dec. 2 at 6 pm & Dec. 3 at 1 pm. Then A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS takes the stage on Dec. 16 & 17 at 7, Dec. 18 at 2 pm with Robin Jones directing, musical direction by Rebecca Edmondson, & choreography by Nina Robinson Poole. Looking ahead, the same creative team will present PETER AND THE WOLF on Jan. 14 at 2 pm, a parody of Chekhov's THE CHERRY ORCHARD to the music of Prokofiev. Visit www.grandonline.org or call (207) 667-9500.

The Footlights Theatre, 190 U.S. Rte 1, Falmouth, ME, has announced a varied line-up of holiday shows beginning with **Susan Poulin** in A VERY IDA CHRISTMAS on Dec. 3 & 4 at 2 pm; HOLIDAZED on Tues-Wed-Thurs. at 7 pm Dec. 6 – 22; **Kelly Cauffield** in A Broadway Holiday Dec. 9 & 10 at 7:30; **David LaGraffe & Claudia Hughes** in their traditional costumed staged readings of Dylan Thomas's A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES and Truman Capote's A CHRISTMAS MEMORY on Dec. 11 at 1 pm & 5 pm; and one performance of A CHRISTMAS CAROL on Dec. 19 at 7. Call (207) 747-5434.

Michael Hjort directs THE MIRACLE ON 34th STREET for the **Schoolhouse Arts Center**, 16 Richville Rd. (just north of the intersection of Rtes 114 & 35), Standish, ME, with performances Dec. 2 – 18, Fri-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2. Call (207) 642-3743 or visit www.schoolhousearts.org.

A Company of Girls will present A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS, adapted for the stage by Eric Schaeffer, on Dec. 8 & 9 at 7 pm at Mayo Street Arts, 10 Mayo St., Portland, ME. Call (207) 747-8241.

A CHRISTMAS STORY takes the stage at the **Waterville Opera House**, One Common St., Waterville, ME, Dec. 2 – 11, Fri-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2. Debra Susi directs with musical direction by Ben McNaboe & choreography by Adam P. Blais. Call (207) 873-7000 or visit www.operahouse.com.

Center Theatre for Performing Arts, 20 E. Main St., Dover-Foxcroft, ME, will also offer A CHRISTMAS STORY Dec. 9 – 11 & 16 – 17. Call (207) 564-8943 or visit www.centertheatre.org.

Menotti's family-friendly AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS

will be fully staged, with an orchestra, on Dec. 9 at 7:30 & Dec. 10 at 4 pm at **Williston Immanuel United Church**, 156 High St., Portland, ME, under the direction of Kathleen Scott. The cast includes Danielle Vayenas as the Mother & Alex Ecker as Amahl on Fri.; and Devin Dukas as the Mother & Ethan Ho as Amahl on Sat. In the cast both times are Scott Wheatley (Melchior), George Aud (Kaspar), Peter Lightfoot (Balthazar), Nick Sutton (Page), & Kasey Gabloff (Dancer). Tickets at the door or in advance (recommended) at www.purplepass.com/amahl16.



AM AHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS, **Williston Immanuel United Church**: Danielle Vayenas (Mother) and Alex Ecker (Amahl)

Oxford Hills Music & Performing Arts Association (OHMPAA) will also stage AM AHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS in December, touring to these locations: Dec. 8 at 7 pm at Unitarian Universalist Church, Norway; Dec. 9 at 7 at Congregational Church, Waterford; Dec. 10 at 7 at First Congregational Church, South Paris; Dec. 11 at 2 pm at Baptist Church, Paris Hill. Cynthia Reedy directs and Karen Chapman is musical director. FMI visit www.ohmpaa.com.

The **Portland Symphony Orchestra's** annual *Magic of Christmas* concerts this year will include the *Cirque de la Symphonie* in performances running Dec. 9, 10, 16, & 17 at 2 & 7:30 and Dec. 11 & 18 at 1 & 5 pm. Call (207) 842-0800 or visit www.portlandsymphony.org.

L/A Community Little Theatre, Great Falls Art Center, 30 Academy St., Auburn, ME, will hold their annual fundraiser, a *Holiday Spectacular*, on Dec. 9 & 10 at 7 pm. Visit www.lacli.com or call (207) 783-0958.

Native Brit **Andrew Harris**, actor/director, Artistic Director at Deertrees Theatre, & currently chair of the University of Southern Maine Department of Theatre, will bring you some Dickens and "Mince Pies and Welsh Cakes," festive readings from across the pond, on Dec. 11 at 2 pm at St. Lawrence Arts Center, 76 Congress St., Portland. All proceeds will benefit the Center's Accessibility Campaign for replacing the wheelchair lift. Call (207) 775-5568.

Wayne Otto directs IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE for the **Chocolate**

Church Arts Center, 804 Washington St., Bath, ME, where performances will be Dec. 15 – 17 at 7, Dec. 17 & 18 at 2. Then *Sing! It's Christmas*, the traditional community sing-along will be on Dec. 19 at 7. Call (207) 442-8455.

The **Maine Narrow Gauge Railroad** again offers train rides on *The Polar Express* with Santa Claus and Elves bringing you hot chocolate and cookies and leading in carol sing-alongs at 58 Fore St., Portland, ME. The rides began Nov. 25 and continue evenings through Dec. 23. Visit www.mainenarrowgauge.org or call (207) 828-0814.

At **The Theater Project**, 14 School St., Brunswick, ME, there will be a community collaboration in offering *Holiday Tales: The Snowy Day and Other Stories* Dec. 16 – 18, Fri-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2: and *Wales and Tales* and a reception with Al Miller and friends on Dec. 21 at 7 pm. Call (207) 729-8584 or visit www.theaterproject.com.

Cold Comfort Theater of Belfast, ME, will present WINTER WONDERLAND with songs, stories, & dances of the season Dec. 20 – 23 at 7 pm at First Baptist Church of Belfast, 95 High Street. Stage direction & concept design are by Aynne Ames with Colin Graebert (accompanist, violinist, & vocal director) and Grant Richards (choreographer, dancer, & vocalist). In addition to Graebert and Richards, the cast also includes Leander Andrews, Autumn Stupca, Stephen Colby, Nat Gray, Alistair Peters, Isabelle Holt, Ezra Holt, Corothy Lovell, & Andre Blanchard. The production team includes Dorothy Wilson (properties), Chesley Lovell (costumes), Maggie Goscinski (publicity), & Grant Stupca (stage management). Admission is by **free will donation**, and the church is handicapped accessible with plenty of parking in front & back. FMI call (207) 930-7244.



MURDER FOR TWO, **Penobscot Theatre Company** Oct/Nov. production: Danielle Erin Rhodes and Jason Cohen Photo by Micky Bedell, BDN

Penobscot Theatre Company's contribution to the season this year will be Lionel Bart's musical OLIVER! at the Bangor Opera House, Main St., Bangor, ME, Dec. 1 – 24 at various times. Directing & choreographing is Allison Bibicoff from California, with musical direction by Phil Burns, who leads the pit band: Tom Libby (percussion), Jim Winters (trombone), Carl Ferm (woodwinds), & Lori Wingo (trumpet/French horn). Scenic design is by Tricia Hobbs, lighting by Scott Hough, costumes by Kevin Koski, & sound by Brandie Larkin. Veteran actor Dominick Varney plays Fagin and Zachary Spreng makes his PTC debut in the title role. The cast also includes Kate Adam, Aidan Babbitt, Andrew Barrett, Brianne Beck, Frank Booker, Emma Campbell, Elena DeSiervo Burns, Neil E. Graham, Molly Hagerty, Anna Kemble, Daniel Kennedy, Grace Livingston Kramer (dance captain), Ben Layman, Annie Leonardi-Merchant, Noam Osher, Zivi Osher, Rebeckah Kay Perry, & Alek Sayers. Note that for the 5th consecutive year, PTC will partner with the Bangor Humane Society to help find homes for dogs in need before each performance. So far the partnership has helped find homes for 72 dogs. Then PTC will ring in the New Year at 6 & 9 pm on Dec. 31 with sizzling performances of *Too Darn Hot: A Vintage Burlesque Extravaganza*, harkening back to the glory days of Gypsy Rose Lee. Produced by an

all-female team, four award-winning burlesque artists from New York City will be featured. Visit www.penobscottheatre.org or call (207) 942-3333.



OATH BREAKERS, **Acorn Productions'** *Naked Shakespeare Ensemble*

Continuing with those December and January theater offerings without specific Christmas references, **Acorn Productions'** *Naked Shakespeare* will present *Oath Breakers*, adapted and directed by Michael Levine at 7 pm on Dec. 2 (free) & Dec. 3 (\$10 for all ages) in the Ballroom at Mechanics Hall, 519 Congress St., Portland, ME. *Oath Breakers* "features story lines from RICHARD III, ANTONY & CLEOPATRA, and TROILUS & CRESSIDEA, bookended with two scenes from LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST, all hosted by a slightly demonic master of ceremonies who delights in provoking duplicitous behavior!" The cast includes Megan Tripaldi, Julianne Shea, Adam Ferguson, Mary Fraser, Christine McNamara and others. Tickets at the door. The company's October program of *Joan* about Joan of Arc, adapted and directed by Megan Tripaldi from HENRY VI, was performed by Sarah Barlow, Julianne Shea, Mike Cheung, Shannon Wade, Beth Somerville, Ella Mock, Noah Bragg, & Misha Pride. In November the theme was *Truth Tellers*, adapted and directed by Sarah Barlow, and it included scenes from A WINTER'S TALE, MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING, TIMON OF ATHENS, TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA & TWELFTH NIGHT. Actors were Noah Bragg, Cullen Burke, Susan Clark, Elizabeth Coughlin, Michele Lettiere, Joe Quinn, Mary Randall, Nick Soloway, Megan Tripaldi, & Rocco Tripaldi. Music was also provided by Megan Tripaldi, Rocco Tripaldi, & Mary Randall.

Acorn's *Naked Shakespeare* will offer "*Sonnets & Soliloquies*" on Jan. 3 at 7 pm at the Victoria Mansion, Danforth St., Portland, where audience members may stroll through the various rooms (still with seasonal decorations), choosing their own theater adventure scene. Light refreshments will be served. Since this is a fundraiser for the company there is a charge of \$25 (or more, if you wish) per person, \$40 per couple. FMI visit www.acorn-productions.org.

In the current season **Acorn Productions'** 2017 *24-Hour Portland Theater Project* will be on Jan. 21 at 7 pm at Portland Ballet Studio Theater, 517 Forest Ave., Portland, ME. Megan Tripaldi is the curator. This is the event where the playwrights receive at 7 pm the names of the director & actors for their 10-15 minute plays as well as the designated setting, prop & phrase, go off to write the plays, get them to the director & actors by 7 am the next day; who then learn & rehearse, getting the plays ready for a 7 pm performance that evening! FMI visit www.acorn-productions.org.

At **Opera House Arts**, **Stonington**, ME, the *Staged Reading Series* is back with ART by Yasmina Reza, translated by Christopher Hampton, on Dec. 2 at 7 pm & Dec. 4 at 2 pm. Serge purchases an expensive white on white painting and his friends, Marc and Ivan, think he is crazy. Featured actors are John Lincoln, Joshua McCarey, & Matt

Hurley. \$15 donation at the door. **THE BREMEN TOWN MUSICIANS** will take the OHA stage on Jan. 14 & 15 at 3 pm. The show is the culmination of Opera House Arts' first *PlayPen Youth Theatre*, whose K-Grade 5 students have been learning & rehearsing since mid-November. Call (207) 367-2788 or visit www.operahousearts.org.

Portland Playback Theatre's *First Friday Series* will continue on Dec. 2 with their annual "Holidays From Heaven and Hell" theme of audience members' experiences to be played back by the actors, and on Jan. 6, with a theme for the new year, at 7:30 pm at CTN5, 516 Congress St., Portland. The *Third Friday Series* returns Jan. 20. FMI on this company founded and directed by David LaGraffe, visit www.portlandplayback.com. October's First Friday theme was "Wrestling Mother Nature." The Third Friday theme was "Egos Trip, But the Humble Doesn't Stumble" conducted by Kym Dakin with actors Marcia Pitcher, Colin O'Leary, Oren Stevens, Erin Curren, & David LaGraffe. On Nov. 4 the theme was "Hopes and Fears in an Election Year" with Erin Curren conducting and actors David LaGraffe, Kym Dakin, Meg Christie, Oren Stevens, & Sandra Sneiderman. November's *Third Friday* theme was "Someone Saved Me", and Meg Christie conducted with actors Colin O'Leary, Marcia Pitcher, Oren Stevens, Geep Amara, & Sandra Sneiderman.



THE MENNONITE AND THE BARTENDER, **The Daytime Players:**
Harley and Katy Marshall Photo by John Ewing

The Daytime Players will present Katy and Harley Marshall in **THE MENNONITE AND THE BARTENDER**, the story of how they met and eventually married after detours along the way, at the Old White Church venue of Saco River Theatre, Salmon Falls Rd., Bat Mills, ME (yes, the signs all say the bridge is closed, but keep going on Rte 4A because you're going to take the left turn just before the bridge, and the building will then be on your right). Performances will be Dec. 2 at 7, Dec. 3 & 4 at 2:30. Call (207) 929-6472 or visit www.sacorivertheatre.org. FMI on The Daytime Players visit them on Facebook.

At the **Lincoln Theater** in Damariscotta, ME, see a screening of *Kenneth Branagh Productions'* **THE ENTERTAINER** on Dec. 3 at 2; the *UK National Theatre Live* in **NO MAN'S LAND** with Ian McKellen & Patrick Stewart on Dec. 15 at 2 & 7; & *UK National Theatre* in **WAR HORSE** on Dec. 17 at 2. FMI visit www.atthelincoln.org or call (207) 563-3424.

The monthly *Theater Death Match* of newly written short plays hosted by **The Crowbait Club** will be on Dec. 7 and on Jan. 4 at Mayo Street Arts, 10 Mayo St., Portland, ME, meeting at 7:30 with an 8 pm start. FMI visit www.thecrowbaitclub.org or see them on Facebook.

Portland Players, 420 Cottage Rd., South Portland, ME, will stage **THE LITTLE MERMAID** Dec. 2 - 18, Fri-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2:30. Michael J. Tobin directs with musical direction by Evan Cuddy, & choreography by Laurence Miller. Joanna Chantal & Giselle Paquette are the producers. The large cast includes Hope Celeste Milne (Ariel),

Cameron Wright (Prince Eric), Andrew Rowell (King Triton), Karleena Stoner (Ursula), Jessica Libby (Flotsam), Anthony Marvin (Jetsam), Seth Crockett (Sebastian), Michael Donovan (Scuttle), Rick Kursturin (Grimsby), Alicia Fournier (Flounder), & Jeffrey Caron (Chef Louis). Next will be Shakespeare's *ROMEO AND JULIET*, directed by Stacey Koloski, Jan. 27 – Feb. 12, again Fri-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2:30 pm. The cast will include Sean Senior (Romeo), Emma Payton Cooper (Juliet), Allison McCann (Nurse), Renee Myhaver (Benvolio), Meredythe Dehne Lindsey (Mercutio), Johnny Speckman (Tybalt), David Heath (Friar Laurence), MJ Emerson (Lady Montague), Brandon Johnson (Montague), & Charlie Marengi (Capulet). Visit www.portlandplayers.org or call (207) 799-7337.

Ogunquit Playhouse has mounted a production of Disney's *BEAUTY AND THE BEAST* and it opened at **The Music Hall**, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, NH, on Nov. 30 and continues through Dec. 18 with numerous performances, both evening and matinees. Call (603) 436-2400.

The *Metropolitan Opera Live in HD* continues its 2016-17 season with *L'AMOUR DE LOIN* by Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho on Dec. 10 at 12:55 pm (Prince Jaufre sings to his companions of a woman he could love but who doesn't exist—a Pilgrim arrives at court and says there is such a woman and he has seen her, so the prince journeys to find her, his love from afar); Verdi's *NABUCCO* on Jan. 7 at 12:55 pm (Israelites are captured by King Nebuchadnezzar, Nabucco for short, and taken back to Babylon, where in the course of things Nabucco's throne is usurped by a daughter but he eventually gets it back); and Gounod's *ROMEO ET JULIETTE* (yes, that story) on Jan. 21 at 12:55 pm. Here is the contact information for venues offering this series (be sure to check with your local venue for the times and also because some will have changes in dates in order to fit in with their other scheduled events): **The Grand**, Ellsworth, ME, www.grandonline.org, (207) 667-9500; **The Strand**, Rockland, ME, (207) 594-0070, www.rocklandstrand.com; **Brunswick 10 Cinema**, Cook's Corner, Brunswick, ME, (207) 798-4505; **Lincoln Theater**, Damariscotta, ME, (207) 563-3434, www.atthelincolin.org; **Collins Center for the Arts**, Orono, ME, (207) 581-1755, www.collinscenterforthearts.com; **Eastman Performing Arts Center**, Fryeburg, ME, (207) 935-9232, www.fryeburgacademy.org; **Waterville Opera House**, 1 Common St., Waterville, ME, (207) 873-7000, www.operahouse.com; **Capitol Center for the Arts**, Concord, NH, www.ccanh.com, (603) 225-1111; **The Music Hall**, Portsmouth, NH, www.themusic hall.org, (603) 436-2400.

THE NEW GIRL and *Other Plays* by Israel Horowitz will be staged by **Storm Warnings Repertory Theatre** Dec. 2, 3, 9, & 10 at 7:30 pm at the Brick Store Museum Performing Arts Center, 117 Main St., Kennebunk, ME. Paul Dervis directs. Call (207) 441-8163 or visit www.stormwarningstheatre.com.

The **Maine Film & Video Association** has announced that the premiere of the *Maine Short Film Festival 2017* will be at 5:30 pm on Dec. 9 at The Strand Theatre in Rockland, ME. Many of the filmmakers and their casts & crews will participate in the Q & A period. The 90-minute program celebrates all things about Maine and will tour to 13 Maine theaters through May 2017. For the list of the winning 14 films to be screened and the theaters & dates, visit <http://www.maine film.org>.

Midcoast Youth Theater has announced performances of Disney's *BEAUTY AND THE BEAST* with an all ages cast at the Crooker Theater in Brunswick, ME, Dec. 15 – 18. FMI visit www.midcoastyouththeater.org.

Bangor-based **Some Theatre Company** will present *THE VELVETEEN RABBIT* by Andrew Frodahl, local puppet master & playwright, with a cast of both live actors and puppets. Performances will be at Keith Anderson Community House, 19 Bennoch Rd., Orono, ME, Dec. 15 & 16 at 7:30, Dec. 17 at 2 & 7:30, Dec. 18 at 2. Visit www.sometheatrecompany.com or email sometheatrecompany@gmail.com.

The Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine, 142 Free St., Portland, ME, will stage *THE LION, THE WITCH & THE WARDROBE* Dec. 16 – 30, with performances at various times. The play, adapted by Joseph Robinette based on the classic by C. S. Lewis, is about four children who step through an old wardrobe into Narnia (but I'm sure you know that). Reba Short directs. Call (207) 828-1234 Ext. 247.

Lynne Cullen's **Seanachie Nights** invites you to *Solstice Revels* with stories and songs from Lynne, Janet Lynch, & Kurt Kish at Bull Feeney's Irish Pub/Restaurant, 375 Fore St., Portland, ME, at 7 pm on Dec. 19. FMI visit www.lynnecullen.com. In October Marianne McShane presented *Stories of Celtic Charms & Otherworldly Enchantments*; and in November Phyllis Blackstone told *Stories of Hope & Wisdom*.



VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE, **Good Theater** Oct/Nov. production: Laura Houck (Sonia), Noelle LuSane (Cassandra), Meredith Lamothe (Nina), and Paul Haley (Vanya) Photo by Steve Underwood

Good Theater will offer a limited number of performances this winter of A. R. Gurney's *LOVE LETTERS* at St. Lawrence Arts Center, 76 Congress St., Portland, ME, Jan. 4 – 8 & 31 and Feb. 7, 14, & 21. In the cast are Brian P. Allen as Andrew Makepeace Ladd III and Kathleen Kimball as Melissa Gardner. Visit www.goodtheater.com or call (207) 885-5883.



ON GOLDEN POND, **The Footlights in Falmouth** October production: Vin Brown (Norman), Kelly Caufield (Chelsea), and Cindy O'Neil (Ethel)

Norm Foster's *KISS THE MOON, KISS THE SUN* has been scheduled by **The Footlights in Falmouth**, 190 U.S. Rte One, Falmouth, ME, Jan. 4 – 21. FMI visit www.thefootlightsinfalmouth.com or call (207) 747-5434. The final cast of The Footlights' October production of *ON GOLDEN POND* included Vin Brown (Norman), Cindy O'Neil (Ethel), Kelly Caufield (Chelsea), Mark Calkins (Bill Ray), Isaac Dinnerstein (Billy Ray), & Michael Tobin (Charlie)

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST will be staged by **Windham Center Stage Theater** at Windham Town Hall, 8 School Rd., Windham, ME, Jan. 6 – 15, Fri-Sat. at 7, Sun. at 4. The cast in-

cludes David Ciampa (McMurphy), Randy Hunt (Chief Bromden), Sherry Ragone (Nurse Ratched), Brad VanDamm (Harding), Jon Bolduc (Billy), Laurie Wila (Dr. Spivey), Melissa Allen (Candy Starr), & Carmela Castro (Nurse Flynn). Call (207) 893-2098.

Heartwood Regional Theater Company will present *ETTY*, written & performed by Susan Stein and directed by Austin Pendleton, at the Parker B. Poe Theater, Lincoln Academy, Newcastle, ME, Jan. 13 & 14 at 7:30 pm. This is the diary of a Dutch Jewish girl, who asks that she not be left in memory at Auschwitz but continue to have a say in what she hopes will be a new world. Call (207) 563-1373 or visit www.heartwoodtheater.org. HRTC's November youth production of *THESE SHINING LIVES* chronicled "the strength and determinations of women considered expendable in their day, exploring their true story and its resonance today. Catherine and her friends are dying, but theirs is a story of survival as they refuse to let the company that stole their lives hurt their spirits or endanger those that live after them."

Rene Johnson's **Theatre Ensemble of Color** promises *Scenes from Shakespeare* as you've never seen them before at SPACE Gallery, 538 Congress St., Portland, ME Jan. 13 – 15. FMI visit the group on Facebook.

Sandy River Players will stage *1776*, the story of the early Americans discussing and drawing up the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia, the weekends of Jan. 14 & 21 on the UMaine Farmington campus. Laura Church and Karen West are co-directors. Some of the actors in this large ensemble cast are Michael Reid (John Hancock), Richard Morton (John Adams), Bruce Ibarguen (Ben Franklin), Matt West (Thomas Jefferson), Hal Robbins (Richard H. Lee), Melody Bickford (Edward Rutledge), Mike Sherrod (John Dickinson), Bri Rush (Abigail Adams), & Clare McKelway (Martha Jefferson). FMI visit the group on Facebook or at www.sandyriverplayers.org.

Lyric Music Theater's winter production is *LITTLE WOMEN: The Musical* at 176 Sawyer St., South Portland, ME, Jan. 13 – 29, Fri-Sat. at 7:30 (note new time) & Sun. at 2:30. Joshua Chard directs with musical direction by Bob Gauthier & choreography by Jamie Lupien Swenson. Technical staff includes set design by Steve Lupien, lighting by Bruce Gray, costumes by Cindy Kerr, and stage management by Wayne Russell. Nancy Lupien is the producer. In the cast are Shannon Oliver (Jo), Jennifer Kennedy (Meg), Gabriella Salce (Beth), Jericah Jo Potvin (Amy), Angela Libby (Marmee), Patty Sprague (Aunt March), Samuel Allen (Laurie), Kyle Aarons (Prof. Bhaer), Ryan Walker (Mr. Brooke), & Bruce Lancaster (Mr. Laurence). Visit www.lyricmusictheater.org or call (207) 799-1421.

Johnson Hall Performing Arts Center, 280 Water St., Gardiner, ME, will host *Capital City Improv* on Jan. 14 at 7:30 pm. Visit www.johnsonhall.org or call (207) 582-7144.

Maine State Ballet will dance *Tap Tap Jazz* on Jan. 14 & 21 on the stage of their in-house theater at 348 US Rte One, Falmouth, ME. Call (207) 781-7MSB or visit www.mainestateballet.org.

Playwright **Carolyn Gage** will take part in [Playwriting Techniques for Poets and Writers](#), part of the *Stonecoast Writers Residency Program* in Freeport, ME, on Jan. 19, 1:30-3 pm. The residency program runs from Jan. 8 – 18; FMI call (207) 780-4423 or email stonecoastmfa@maine.edu. Carolyn will also be one of the playwrights in Acorn Productions' *24-Hour Portland Theater Project* on Jan. 21 at Portland Ballet Studio Theater.

The Maine premiere of *THE NETHER* by Jennifer Haley is the winter show of **Mad Horse Theatre Company**, 24 Mosher St., South Portland, ME. Performances will be Jan. 19 – Feb. 5, Thurs-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2. Call (207) 747-4148, email madhorseboxoffice@gmail.com, or visit www.madhorse.com. In late October after closing *THE TOTALITARIANS*, Mad Horse hosted 3 performances of two hits from the 2016 PortFringe: Mark Magee in *NIXON SINGS!* (on the eve of his resignation, President Nixon contemplates his past, present, & future in a variety of show tunes); and Zany Hijinx Productions' *GOD SAVE THE QUEEN - Paul Lynde '79* (the popular comedian & Hollywood Squares regular ponders on his lack of serious roles, his

personal life spinning out of control, & how can he redeem himself?).

Portland Stage Company brings Joseph Kesselring's classic *ARSENIC AND OLD LACE* to the stage at 25A Forest Ave., Portland, with performances at varied times Jan. 24 – Feb. 19. You remember Mortimer, who pays his aunts a visit, discovering their peculiar hospitality tendencies, and, between the aunts and their other nephews, murderous family dysfunction ensues! Visit www.portlandstage.org or call (207) 774-0465. PSC's November production was *SOTTO VOCE* by Nilo Cruz, the play following a Cuban man who sets out to recover memories of the historic 1939 voyage of the German ocean liner M.S. St. Louis, which left Germany for Cuba with German-Jewish refugees only to be turned back. Actors were James Cusati-Moyer as Saquiel, Anita Petry as Lucila, & Carmen Roman as Bemadette. Liz Diamond directed with scenic design by Anita Stewart, lighting by Solomon Weisbard, costumes by Fabian Aguilar, sound by Kate Marvin, & stage management by Shane Van Vliet.

On Nov. 1 **Portland Stage Company** hosted their annual *From Away Festival* of writers from other countries, this year with playwright and poet Obari Gomba from Nigeria and playwrights Mariano Tenconi Blanco of Argentina and Yaroslava Pulinovich of Russia. Their work was performed in translation by PSC's Affiliate Artists. The writers had completed a 3-month residency with the International Writing Program (IWP) at the University of Iowa. On Oct. 24 as part of a *National Play Reading Event* with other theaters across the country on the same night, PSC held a public staged reading of the Berkeley Repertory Theatre's new stage adaptation of Sinclair Lewis's 1935 novel *IT CAN'T HAPPEN HERE*. And believe me, it was scary, because it predicted 80 years ago just what has been happening in the USA this fall and, terrifyingly, continues to unfold. Local actors reading were Mark Rubin, Dustin Tucker, Michael Raffin, Grace Bauer, Shannon Campbell, Cameron Foley, Anna Gravel, Ann Tracy, Jody McColman, & Meredythe Dehne Lindsey.



LAST GAS, **The Public Theatre** October production: Ben Loving (Guy), Katharine McLeod (Cherry-Tracy), and Augustus Kelley (Nat)

UNDER THE SKIN by Michael Hollinger is the winter show for **The Public Theatre**, 31 Maple St., Lewiston, ME, Jan. 27 – 29 & Feb. 2 – 5. This New England premiere explores the sometimes complicated connections between parents & children. "Raina's ailing father needs her kidney. But he's been a lousy dad, so she's not sure he's 'kidney worthy'." The special post-show discussion will be Jan. 29; free wine tasting is Feb. 2; and Social Saturday is Feb. 4 at 3 pm. Visit www.thepublictheatre.org or call (207) 782-3200. In The Public's October production of John Cariani's *LAST GAS* the actors were Augustus Kelley (Nat Paradis), Kurt Zischke (Dwight Paradis, his dad), Brandon Tyler Harris (Troy Paradis, Nat's son), Ben Loving (Guy Gagnon, Nat's best friend), Katharine McLeod (Cherry-Tracy, forest ranger & Nat's ex-wife), & Mary Mossberg (Lurene, Nat's high school flame). The playwright attended the cast's first read-through &

returned to participate in the post-show discussion with the audience on Oct. 16.

Terrence McNally's *IT'S ONLY A PLAY* will be staged at the **Waterville Opera House**, 1 Common St., Waterville, ME, Jan. 27, 28, Feb. 3 & 4 at 7:30, Jan. 29 & Feb. 5 at 2. Visit www.operahouse.com or call (207) 873-7000. The WOH October production of the musical *YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN* was directed by Debra Susi & Adam P. Blais with choreography by Blais and musical direction by Rebecca Caron & Ben McNaboe.

At the colleges, **Bowdoin College**, Brunswick, ME, presents their *December Dance Concert* at Studio 210, Edwards Center for Art & Dance, Dec. 1 & 2 at 7, and Dec. 3 at 5 pm. Featured will be Special Guest Lily Bo Shapiro from the class of 2012, who will perform a solo work showcasing her creative & unusual style. Free, but reservations may be made at (207) 725-3375.

At **Colby College** in Waterville, ME, the dance concert at 7:30 pm on Dec. 2 & 3 is entitled *Boxers, Ethnographers, Bullfighters, Workers, & Printers* and it is a collection of new works, which includes outcomes of Prof. Sonja Thomas' Critical Race Feminisms and Tap Dance course, and a new work directed by Prof. Annie Kloppenberg featuring student performers from Colby's Collaborative Company course. Call (207) 859-4535.

The *Fall Dance Concert* at **Bates College**, Lewiston, ME, will be in the Schaeffer Theatre on Dec. 3 at 5, Dec. 4 at 2, & Dec. 5 at 7:30 pm. Featured will be repertory pieces by visiting guest artists Delfos Danza Contemporanea, Sean Dorsey, & Takeshiro Ueyama in collaboration with Hideki Kato & the Music Department, and Bates Assoc. Prof. Rachel Boggia. Then Martin McDonagh's *THE PILLOWMAN* will take the stage at the Gannett Theater Dec. 8, 9, & 12 at 7:30, Dec. 10 at 5, & Dec. 11 at 2. Sam Wheeler '17 directs this play about "a box of unpublished stories bearing a striking resemblance to several recent murders in town" which results in the writer & his brother being brought in for interrogation (not suitable for young children). Call (207) 786-6161.



AVENUE Q, **University of Southern Maine** October production: Rachel Grindle (Kate Monster) and Taylor Gervais (Princeton)

At the **University of Southern Maine** the *USM Opera Workshop* will present scenes from various popular operas in Corthell Concert Hall on the Gorham campus on Dec. 4 at 2 pm. Scott Wheatley directs. Student performers include Rachel Shukan and Christopher Gerrapy. Then *Dance USM* will take over the stage of Russell Hall on the Gorham campus Dec. 8 – 10 at 7:30 pm & Dec. 11 at 5 pm. Maria A. Tzianabos directs. Call (207) 780-5555. USM's School of Music presented *AVENUE Q – The Musical*, directed by Edward Reichert, in late October, with the cast including Taylor Gervais as Princeton, Rachel Grindle as Kate Monster, Samuel Allen as Nicky, Sean Arsenault as Rod, Drew Masse as Brian, Sarah Flagg as Christmas Eve, & Matty Boyd as Trekkie Monster. USM's November performances of *THE LANGUAGE ARCHIVE* by Julia Cho was directed by faculty member Sara Valentine. In the cast were Jake Hammond (linguistic

researcher George), Mariah Larocque (his wife, Mary), Braden Socquet (George's assistant, Emma), Savannah Irish (language teacher), and JJ Jensen & Luis Del Valle (a bickering couple).

At the **University of Maine in Orono**, the *UMO Opera Workshop* takes the stage at Minsky Recital Hall on Dec. 4 at 2 pm. Then the *Fall Dance Showcase* will be presented at Hauck Auditorium at 7:30 pm Dec. 8 – 10. At the Collins Center for the Arts on the Orono campus see a screening of the *UK National Theatre* in *WAR HORSE* on Dec. 6 at 7 pm, and a touring company on stage in *A CHRISTMAS CAROL* on Dec. 8 at 7 pm. The Metropolitan Opera Live screenings here will be Verdi's *NABUCCO* on Jan. 7 at 1 pm and Gounod's *ROMEO ET JULIETTE* on Jan. 28 at 1 pm. Call (207) 581-1755 or 1-800-CCA-TTXX. In October the UMO student performers staged *BIG LOVE* by Charles Mees, based on *THE SUPPLIANTS* by Aeschylus, and directed by Tom Mikotowicz. The play is about would-be brides who don't want to be married off to cousins they hardly know and so bolt from Greece to Italy seeking refuge at a villa. The grooms follow to claim the brides. The cast included Katie Dube, Nicole Felix, & Mackenzie Peacock as sisters Lydia, Thyona, & Olympia. Fenton Cummings, Reed Davis, & William Krason played brothers Nikos, Constantine, & Oed. Also in the cast were Nathan Reeves and Taylor Cronin as residents of the villa in Italy. Marcia Joy Douglas of the UMO faculty directed the SPA November production of Nick Payne's *CONSTELLATIONS* and staged it in the Emera Astronomy Center planetarium, providing theatergoers with the maximum effect of convergence of time, space, & characters and "a theatrical experience not soon forgotten" in the words of BDN reviewer Judy Harrison. The cast included John Dalton Logan as beekeeper Roland and Amelia Raphaela Courtney as quantum physicist Marianne.

There are a number of December performances at the **University of New Hampshire** in Durham, NH: *J. C. Edwards Undergraduate Prize Plays*, written, directed, & designed by students, at the Hennessy Theatre Dec. 1 – 3 at 7, Dec. 4 at 2; *Musical Theater Showcase* in the Hennessy Theatre on Dec. 6 at 6 pm; *Aerial Dance* at Newman Dance Studio on Dec. 7 at 7; *Puppetry Showcase* in Hennessy Theatre on Dec. 8 at 7; *Dance Showcase* in the Johnson Theatre on Dec. 9 at 7 pm; and *Student Capstone Performance* in the Hennessy Theatre on Dec. 14 & 15 at 7 pm. Visit www.unh.edu/theatre-dance or call (603) 862-7222 Mon-Fri between noon & 5 pm. The UNH November production was *A MAN'S WORLD* by Rachel Crother, the most successful female playwright of the early 20th century prior to Lillian Hellman. This 1910 play, the first by a woman to be produced on Broadway, tells the story of Frank Ware, a young woman & aspiring novelist who writes under a man's name in hopes of greater acceptance.

The **University of New England Players** performed *SHE KILLS MONSTERS* the first weekend in November at City Theater in Biddeford, ME.

Over in New Hampshire, **M & D Playhouse**, 1857 White Mountain Highway, North Conway, will offer *THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER* Dec. 1 – 17, Thurs-Sat. at 7:30 pm. Christopher Bellis directs. *DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS* is scheduled for Jan. 12 – 28. Call (603) 733-5275. The cast of M & D's October production of *THE BOYS NEXT DOOR* included Bruce Coopera (social worker Jack), Jonathan Dubey (Norman), Dan Tetreault (Lucien), Ken Martin (Arnold), Eric Jordan (Barry), and Andrew Brosnan, June Desmond, Dan Phelps, & Julianne Brosnan.

Hampstead Stage, based in Center Barnstead, NH, continues to tour *A CHRISTMAS CAROL*, as well as *THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER*, through Dec. 23. FMI visit www.hampstead.org.

The **Leddy Center for the Performing Arts**, 131-133 Main St., Ep-ping, NH, offers a musical version of *A CHRISTMAS CAROL* the weekends of Dec. 2 – 11. Visit www.leddycenter.org or call (603) 679-2781.

At **Jean's Playhouse** in Lincoln, NH, *THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER* takes the stage Dec. 2 – 18, Fri-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 3. Sharon Paquette directs assisted by Vicki Etchings, with musical

direction by John Waldie, costumes by Emma Ford, and scenic/lighting/sound designs by Tom Lott. Lott is also the technical director, and Heather Michelle is the stage manager. The large cast includes Robert Wetherell (Rev. Hopkins), Olivia Opal (Grace Bradley) Jackie Scott (Helen Armstrong), and Hanna Olivier, Wyatt Safford, Noah Daigle, Adaline McKenzie-Proulx, Gineva McKenzie-Proulx, & Gavin Thibeault as the Herdman Kids. Visit www.jeansplayhouse.org or call (603) 745-2141.

The **Palace Theatre**, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, NH, offers A CHRISTMAS CAROL the weekends of Dec. 2 – 18 with some more performances through Dec. 23. Visit www.palacetheatre.org or call (603) 668-5588.

At the **Rochester Opera House**, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, NH, see A CHRISTMAS CAROL Dec. 8, 9, 17, & 21 – 22; and *Sole City Dance* in THE NUTCRACKER Dec. 10, 11, 15, & 16. Call (603) 335-1991 or visit www.rochesteroperahouse.com.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL also takes the stage at **Players' Ring**, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, NH, Dec. 2 – 23. Andrew Pinard presents *Discovering Magic* Dec. 28 – 30. And John Patrick Shanley's DOUBT will be the winter play Jan. 6 – 22. *Generic Theater* will continue monthly play readings on Jan. 11, and the *21st Century Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* improv fundraiser also returns in January. FMI call (603) 436-8123 or visit www.playersring.org. In November *Brownwater Productions* brought to this stage YE MERRY GENTLEMEN, a new play by G. Matthew Gaskell featuring those Sharp Dressed Men, with Gaskell, Christopher Savage, Whitney Smith, Becky Fowler, Scott & Meredith Caple, Christine Faulkner, Jamie Bradley, Cathy McKay, & Andy Fling in the cast. Todd Hunter directed. *Generic Theater's* November play reading choice was PLATTSBURGH by Greg Hovanessian. The setting was a small Vermont grocery store and actors were Bill Humphreys, Scott Degan, David Maurillo, Roland Goodbody, Alex Pease, Shawn Crapo, Deb Barry, & Cathy Wolff, who also directed.

The holiday show at **Seacoast Repertory Theatre**, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, NH, will be A WONDERFUL LIFE Dec. 2 – 23. Call (603) 433-4472 or visit www.seacoastrep.org.

The **New Hampshire Theatre Project**, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth, NH, opened GREAT EXPECTATIONS, Charles Dickens's novel adapted for the stage by Gale Childs Daly, on Nov. 18 and it continues for one more weekend through Dec. 4. Meghann Beauchamp directed. In the cast are Bretton Reis as Pip and 5 narrator/actors as everyone else: Adam LaFamboise, James Stewart, Linette Miles, Molly Dowd Sullivan, & Matthew Schofield. Then celebrate *The Winter Solstice in Legend & Song* on Dec. 21. The company's winter play will be METAMORPHOSES Jan. 13 – 29. FMI call (603) 431-6644 or visit www.nhtheatreproject.org.

At the **Winnepesaukee Playhouse and Performing Arts & Education Center**, 50 Reservoir Rd., Meredith, NH, the Education Department will offer THE BOY WHO DREW CATS by Timothy L'Ecuyer Dec. 2 – 4, Fri-Sat. at 7:30, Sat. & Sun. at 2. Then the professional ensemble will offer their holiday English pantomime of JACK AND THE BEANSTALK Dec. 16, 17, 26, 29 – 31 at 7 pm, Dec. 17, 18, & 31 at 2 pm, Dec. 19 at 10 am, and Dec. 27 & 29 at 11am. Visit www.winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org or call (603) 279-0333. In October the Winni Playhouse presented the regional premiere of Joe Simonelli's THE GHOST IN THE MEADOW. Two sisters relocate from Manhattan to an old, abandoned farmhouse intending to modernize it & call it home; but soon specters dating as far back as the Civil War begin to appear. Marta Rainer directed with set design by Dan Daly. Actors included Kevin Killavey, Elizabeth Swan, Jeannie McGartland, Dana Block, & Lynn Dadian. And in November Neil Simon's comedy LAUGHTER ON THE 23rd FLOOR took the stage with Ray Dudley as the TV show host Max Price & Winni Players actors Jim Rogato, Rodney Martell, Jennifer Schaffner, Andrew Burke, Jim Mernin, Daniel Adams, James Gocha, & Ursula Minich Boutwell. Anmarie Karayianes directed and stage manager was Chris Slater.

At the **Capitol Center for the Arts**, 44 So. Main St., Concord, NH, MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER CHRISTMAS by Chip Davis takes the stage Dec. 7 at 7:30. Next will be THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS with 100 talented musicians & dancers from across NH on Dec. 9 at 7 & Dec. 10 at 2; and then *Opera North* comes in with Menotti's AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS on Dec. 13 at 11 am. (Don't forget that the *Met Opera Live* is available at this venue with some December & January performances.) *Christmas With the Rocking Horse Studio* will be on stage Dec. 16 & 17 at 7 pm. See Ian McKellen and Patrick Stewart in a screening of the *UK National Theatre Live* performance of NO MAN'S LAND on Jan. 10 at 6 pm. And there will be dancers on stage in CINDERELLA on Jan. 31 at 7 pm. Visit www.ccanh.com or call (603) 225-1111.

Peacock Players, 14 Court St., Nashua, NH, will present ELF JR. The Musical the weekends of Dec. 9 – 18. Visit www.peacockplayers.org or call (603) 889-2330.

Garrison Players will offer a *Christmas Cabaret* Dec. 9 – 11 and *The Shadow Radio Show* Dec. 16 – 18, both at 650 Portland Ave., Rte 4, Rollinsford, NH. Visit www.garrisonplayers.org or call (603) 516-4919.

NUNCRACKERS is the **Majestic Theatre's** next show Dec. 9 – 11 and it will be at the Derry Opera House, 29 W. Broadway, Derry, NH. Then enjoy dinner & a show when Tom Smith's DRINKING HABITS will be staged Jan. 13 & 14 at 7 pm and Jan. 15 at 1:30 pm at the Executive Court Banquet Facility, 1199 South Mammoth Rd., Manchester, NH. The company will be back at Derry Opera House for performances of RUMORS Jan. 27 – 29. Call (603) 669-7469.

Back in Maine, those in the cast of the **Midcoast Actor's Studio** November production of Amy Herzog's 4000 MILES in Belfast, ME, were Andrea Itkin (Vera), Tyler Johnston (her grandson, Leo), Dana Wilson (Bec), & Grace Underhill (Amanda). Meg Nickerson directed and Shelley King was the stage manager. FMI on the group visit www.midcoastactors.org.

The theater community was happy to welcome back Keith Powell Beyland and his **Dramatic Repertory Company** in November after a year's hiatus to allow Keith sufficient recovery time from a stroke. Sally Wood directed a workshop production of SOFONISBA by Callie Kimball, which had 8 performances between Nov. 11 & 20 at Portland Stage Company's Studio Theater. The play, which won a Portland Stage Company Clauder Gold Prize and is based on real people, tells the story of Italian Renaissance painter Sofonisba Anguissola, who was court painter for Philip II of Spain for 20 years and confidante of young Queen Isabel. The negotiations and sacrifices she may have made for her art and how she navigated the tricky waters of court politics are explored. In the cast were Abigail Killeen (Sofonisba), Sean Ramey (in several roles including King Philip/Bishop/Don Francisco), & Marjolaine Whittlesey (Queen Isabel). The creative team also included Meg A. Anderson (scenic design), Heidi Kendrick (costumes), Michaela Wirth (lighting), & Nem Heileman (stage management).

Bangor-based **Ten Bucks Theatre's** November production was Kim Rosenstock's TIGERS BE STILL with performances at Eddington-Clifton Civic Center, Eddington, ME. Daniel Burson directed and the cast included Moira Beale as Sherry Wickman, who is starting a new job as an art teacher after climbing out of a depression, and has to figure out how to live with her agoraphobic mother, her grieving-from-a-breakup sister, and other quirky characters. Also in the cast were Padraic Harrison (Zack) and Ron Lisnet (Joseph).

The **Denmark Arts Center**, Denmark, ME, offered staged readings in November of an as yet untitled new trauma play by Callan Stout, with community members (who auditioned for the roles) in the all female cast. The story is about Gerda, a young immigrant from the Czech Republic, who sells encyclopedias to get beyond her past and discover the future. Jenny Beth Snyder directed and the actors were Gretchen Davidson, Chloe Cekada, Allie Freed, Cookie Harrist, & Delaney McDonough.

L/A Community Theatre's November production of **CHICAGO** at the Great Falls Arts Center in Auburn was directed by Richard Martin with musical direction by Paul G. Caron, & choreography by Jake Boyce. Heading the large cast were Colleen Katana (Roxie Hart), Melissa May Stevens (Velma Kelly), Daniel Hollander (Billy Flynn), Cody Watson (Amos Hart), Jennine Canizzo (Matron Mama Morton), & Jason Pelletier (reporter Mary Sunshine).

In October, **Cast Aside Productions** revived Marc Blitzstein's 1937 musical drama **CRADLE WILL ROCK** with performances at the Portland Stage Studio Theater. David Surkin & Celeste Green co-directed this "scathing condemnation of corporate corruption in America," with Rebekkah Willey at the keyboard. The cast included Leslie Gail Reed (lady-of-the-evening Moll), David Surkin (vice squad brute Dick), Tim Wooten (drunken former drugstore owner Harry), Bruce Lancaster (capitalist Mr. Mister), Tess Van Horn (Machiavellian Mrs. Mister), Ryan Walker (Editor Daily), Celeste Green (a dead mill worker's sister), & Catherine Buxton (an indolent cop). FMI on the company visit www.castasideproductions.com.

On Oct. 15 the **Gendron Franco Center** in Lewiston, ME, kicked off its 2016-17 season with its annual *Gala & Benefit Concert* with the theme "Songs of the Silver Screen." Richard Martin & Mitch Thomas of the Center staff co-directed and Thomas's band supplied the accompaniments. Since both directors are frequently involved with L/A Community Little Theatre, a number of CLT performers were on the program including Kay Warren, Shawn & Angela Robitaille, Michael James Litchfield, Chris L'Hommedieu, Eileen Messina, Sophie Messina, Renee Mahon Davis, Jordan Payne, Emily Flynn, & Hayden Thomas.



ANGEL STREET (AKA GASLIGHT), **The Originals** October production at Saco River Theatre: Dana Packard (Sgt. Rough) and Jennifer Porter (Bella Manningham)

In October at various venues **David Greenham** presented a reading of Mike Daisy's **THE TRUMP CARD**, including one at the Michael Klahr Human Rights Center in Augusta, ME. David was at the helm of the Theater at Monmouth for over a decade until 2011 when he left to pursue other opportunities, which include acting and free lance directing.

In November **The Magnificent Liars** returned to the Eastport Arts Center, Eastport, ME, with **MASTER CLASS**, Terrence McNally's play set in a master class with opera star Maria Callas. Michael Moody directed with musical direction by Peter Frewen & Anne Moody as producer. In the cast were Laura Baker, Ryan French, Elizabeth H. Nichols-Goodliff, Michael Moody, John Newell, & Jenie M. Smith.

Monmouth Community Players staged Garson Kanin's **BORN YESTERDAY** in Cumston Hall, Monmouth, ME, Oct. 28 – Nov. 6.

Ray Fletcher directed assisted by Linda Duarte and Cindy Dunham. In the cast were Cory King (corrupt junk dealer Harry Brock), Rebecca Cole (Billie Dawn, his mistress), Charlie Cole (Ed Devery, Brock's attorney), David Marshall (Sen. Norval Hedges), Leslie Bascom (Mrs. Hedges), Henrik Strandkov (Eddie Brock), Henry Quintal (Paul Verrell, who educates Billie), and Jim Wright, Brittany Bazinet, Chris Dumont, & Nancy Kenneally.

The **Theater at Monmouth** toured communities & schools in October with Shakespeare's **THE TEMPEST**. Dawn McAndrews directed with set design by Brian Dudkiewicz, costumes by Elixabeth Rocha, lighting by Jim Alexander, and original music & sound by Rew Tippin. In the cast were Christopher Holt (Prospero), Hannah Daly (Miranda), Erica Murphy (Ariel), Ardarius Blakely (Caliban), Oliver Archibald (Ferdinand/Sebastian), Alexandra Linn (Alonso), Heather Irish (Gonzalo/Trinculo), & Michael Dix Thomas (Antonio/Stephano).

Page to Stage Pipeline, a group to develop new plays, presented a staged reading of **RACE TO THE BOTTOM**, a new play by **Laura Emack** of Prospect, ME, on Nov. 10 in Talbot Lecture Hall of Luther Bonney Hall on the USM Portland campus. Actors included Jackie Oliveri, Mike Rowe, Jack Emack, and four USM students under the direction of Prof. Assunta Kent. Ms. Emack's plays have been produced in NYC as well as in Maine by Husson University Theatre, Midcoast Actor's Studio, Acorn Productions' Maine Playwrights Festival, & Snowlion Repertory Company.

Patrick Dorow Productions of Portsmouth, NH, staged **CABARET** in October at the Star Theatre at the Kittery Community Center in Kittery, ME. Heading the cast were Jennifer Fogarty and Patrick Dorow. FMI on the company visit www.patrickdorowproductions.com.

Maine Inside Out, founded to help youth who are or have been incarcerated find healing and turn their lives around through theater, returned in Nov. 10 to Hannaford Hall on the USM Portland campus with "Do You See Me? All Who Struggle, Salute." The program offered short pieces written & performed by the participants in MIO, based on social and personal issues they have confronted in their lives. Chiara Liberatore, a co-founder of MIO along with Margot Fine & Tessa Seward, says, "Our goal – and I would call it one of the biggest successes of the organization – is kids outside the facility (Long Creek Youth Development Center) continuing to be engaged in their home towns and in their community. That successful reintegration sees them become agents of change in their own world." MIO hosts a monthly first-Monday-open-mic performance at Local Sprouts Cooperative on Congress St., Portland, giving the youth an opportunity to present their most recent thoughts and concerns. FMI visit Maine Inside Out on Facebook.

Vaudevillian & physical performer **Michael Trautman**, now teaching regularly at Circus Maine in Portland, has launched a new website giving visitors an easier way to learn about his teaching & performing services: www.michaeltrautman.com.

ISLAND ZERO, a horror movie filmed & produced in Camden, ME, was screened on Oct. 28 at Camden Opera House. It was produced by **Mariah Klapatch** (daughter of Maine actor/director Joe Klapatch) and directed by Josh Gerritsen (son of Tess Gerritsen, author of the Rizzoli & Isles mysteries, and who also wrote the screenplay). The cast stars veteran film actress Laila Robbins as well as Adam Wade McLaughlin, Teri Reeves, & Matthew Wilkas. Local actors include Stephanie Atkinson, Richard Sewell, Anna Gravel, Joseph Klapatch, Robin Jones, & Paul Hodgson. The setting for the 99-minute movie is a remote island that has lost power & communications with the outside world after the ferry from the mainland fails to arrive. **ISLAND ZERO** is being submitted to various film festivals and the goal is for it to be in theaters by the end of 2017.

Muriel Kenderdine

Sandy River Players-Community Theater, P.O.Box709 Farmington, ME 04938 Jayne Decker, Art. Dir. www.sandyriverplayers.org also on FB (207) 799-7884

1776 – Jan. 13 – 22 on UMaine Farmington campus.

Sanford Maine Stage – Community
P.O. Box 486, Springvale, ME 04083 (207)324-8227
www.sanfordmainestage.com (NLT=Nasson Little Theat)

A CHRISTMAS CAROL (NLT) – Dec. 2 - 11

Schoolhouse Arts Center - Community & Children's Theater, 16 Richville Rd. (Rte. 114, 1/2 blk No. of Rte. 35), P.O. Box 140, Standish ME 04084-0140 (207) 642-3743 www.schoolhousearts.org

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET – Dec. 2 – 18
PLAZA SUITE - Spring
PETER PAN – Summer 2017
DRACULA – Fall
ELF – Dec. 2017

Seacoast Repertory Theatre - Prof. Non-Equity
125 Bow St. Portsmouth, NH 03801
(603) 433-4472 www.seacoastrep.org

A WONDERFUL LIFE – Dec. 2 - 23

Snowlion Repertory Co. – Prof./Equity Guest Artists
P.O. Box 1199, Portland, ME 04104-1199
www.snowlionrep.org Al D'Andrea, Artistic Director
Margit Ahlin, Producing Director (207) 518-9305

ANYTHING HELPS, GOD BLESS-Dec. 10-11
@ Portland Ballet Studio Theater

Some Theatre Company – Community Theater
Bangor, ME. Performing @ Keith Anderson Community House, Orono Elaine Bard, Artistic Director
www.sometheatrecompany.com

THE VELVETEEN RABBIT – Dec. 15 – 18
Radio Show – Feb. 3 – 5
AGNES OF GOD – Mar. 2 – 5

Sparrow's Nest Theater (Community)
Rte 148, 1114 West Mills Rd, Industry, ME
Fred Liebfried & Diane Leeman (on FB)
www.sparrowsnesttheater.com (207) 696-4323

A CHRISTMAS STORY – Dec. 1 - 4

Stage One Productions-Prof. non-Equity/Dinner Thea.
124 Bridge St., Manchester, NH 03101 George F. Piehl
(603) 669-5511 www.stageoneproductions.net

Stage Source of Boston, Boston Theater Network Equity & Non-Equity, 15 Channel St Suite 103, Boston, MA 02110 (617) 350-7611 www.stagesource.org

St. Lawrence Arts Center
76 Congress Street, Portland (207) 775-5568
www.stlawrencearts.org Deirdre Nice, Exec. Dir.
(GT = Good Theater) (VM = Vivid Motion)

Broadway at Good Theater (GT) – Nov.30-Dec. 4
Mince Pies & Welsh Cakes (Andrew Harris) – Dec. 11
2016 NUTCRACKER BURLESQUE (VM) – Dec. 16-23
LOVE LETTERS (GT) - Jan. 4-8 & 31; Feb. 7, 14, & 21
THE MAY QUEEN (GT) – Jan. 25 – Feb. 26
THE TRIP TO BOUNTIFUL (GT) – Mar. 29 – Apr. 30
SHEAR MADNESS (GT) – Jan. 2018

Stonington Opera House – Equity Small Prof. Theater
One Opera House Lane, P. O. Box 56, Stonington, ME 04681 (207) 367-2788 www.operahousearts.org
Meg Taintor, Producing Artistic Director

ART (Staged Reading) – Dec. 2 & 4
BREMEN TOWN MUSICIANS (Youth)–Jan. 14 – 15

Storm Warnings Repertory Theatre
117 Main St., Kennebunk, ME (207) 441-8163
Paul Dervis, Art. Director, Susan Staples, Managing Dir.
www.stormwarningstheatre.com also on FB

THE NEW GIRL & Other Plays by Horovitz-Dec.2,3,9,10
EXCHANGE STREET – Feb. 3, 4, 10, 11
THE ELEPHANT by David Gow-May 26, 27, June 2, 3

Studio 48 Performing Arts & Dance Center
20 Davis St., Brunswick, ME
(207) 798-6966 Rebecca Beck, Founder

Studio Theatre of Bath – Community Theater
P.O.Box 898, Bath, ME 04530
www.studiotheatreofbath.com also on FB
Caroline Hawks (207) 522-1810

TWISTED CHRISTMAS–Dec. 2 – 4 @ Winter St Ctr

Summer Theatre in Meredith Village (Prof.)
P.O. Box 837, Meredith, NH 03253 (603) 707-6035
Nancy Barry, Producing Dir. www.interlaketheatre.com

Ten Bucks Theatre Company
Mail: 300 French St, Bangor, ME 04401 (207) 884-1030
www.tenbucks theatre.org Julie Arnold Lisnet, Pres.

Theater at Monmouth Prof. Equity/Shakespeare & Classics-Cumston Hall, P.O. Box 385, Monmouth, ME 04259 (207) 933-9999, 933-2952
www.theateratmonmouth.org
Dawn McAndrews, Producing Artistic Director

EVERY CHRISTMAS STORY EVER TOLD (And Then Some... The Sequel) - Nov. 24 –27 & Dec. 1– 4
2017 SUMMER: THE LEARNED LADIES, THREE DAYS OF RAIN, OTHELLO, RED VELVET, EQUIVOCATION, MY FATHER'S DRAGON.
Fall 2017: PETER & THE STARCATCHER

Theater Ensemble of Color, Portland, ME (on FB)
Rene Johnson TheaterEnsembleofColor@gmail.com
Shakespeare at SPACE Gallery – Jan. 13 - 15

Theater Project, The - Prof. Non-Equity/Equity Guests
Young Peoples Theater & Community Theater
14 School St., Brunswick, ME 04011 (207) 729-8584
Al Miller, Artistic Director www.theaterproject.com
CSP=Center Stage Players, YC=Young Co, YP=Young People's Theater, PE=Prof. Ensemble

The Snowy Day & Other Holiday Tales – Dec. 16 - 18
Wales and Tales – Dec. 21
COCKTAILS AND TRAVAILS – (PE) – Feb. 2 - 12
MOTHER'S HELPER (Community Collab.)-Mar. 2-12
ANZACS – Apr. 6 – 16
Reader's Theater (CSP) – May 13 – 14
Voices in the Mirror (YC) – June 2 - 4

Theatre Under the Stars (Prof.)
3 Noon Peak Rd., Waterville Valley, NH (603) 726-0098
Donna Devlin, Art. Dir. www.shakespeareinthevalley.com

Umbrella Theatre , The - (Community)
Lincoln Street Center for Arts & Education
Rockland, ME Sally MacVane, Valerie Wells

University of Maine Farmington, Alumni Theater,
Academy St., Farmington, ME (207) 778-7465
www.umf.maine.edu

1776 (Sandy River Players) – Jan. 13 - 22

University of Maine Machias www.umm.maine.edu
9 O'Brien Ave., Machias, ME (207) 255-1200

University of Maine Presque Isle www.umpi.edu/theater
181 Main St., Presque Isle, ME (207) 768-9400

LAST GAS(Presque Isle Comm.Players)-Mar.31-Apr.8

University of New Hampshire Durham, NH
(603) 862-2290, (603) 862-0093 David Kaye, Chair
Johnson Theatre (J) Hennessy Theatre (H)
www.unh.edu/theatre-dance

J.C.Edwards Undergrad Prize Plays(H)-Nov.30-Dec.4
Student Capstone Perfs.(H)-Dec.14-15;Feb.3-4
OEDIPUS AT COLONUS(Collaboration)(J) –Feb. 22-26
UNH Dance Company Concert – Mar. 29 – Apr. 2
7 BOXES OF BOOKS – Apr. 19 – 23
FIRST DATE – Apr. 28 - 30

University of Southern Maine (USM)Dept.of Theater
Russell Hall, College Ave. Gorham, ME 04038
(207)780-5480 Box Office:(207) 780-5151
Andrew Harris, Chair www.usm.maine.edu/theater

Opera Scenes (USM School of Music) – Dec. 4
Dance USM! – Dec. 8 - 11
THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR (opera)-Mar.3-12
Molded by the Flow – Apr. 13 - 30

Village Players, The – Community Theater
51 Glendon St., P.O.Box 770, Wolfeboro, NH 03894
(603) 569-9656 www.village-players.com

Vivid Motion, Inc. Dance Company
90 Bridge St. Dana Warp Mill, Suite 227 (Drouin Dance)
P.O.Box 1417, Westbrook, ME 04098
www.vividmotion.org

NUTCRACKER BURLESQUE–Dec.16–23 @St.Law.

Waterville Opera House www.operahouse.com
1 Common St., Waterville, ME 04901
(207) 873-5381, Tix 873-7000

A CHRISTMAS STORY – Dec. 2 – 11
THE NUTCRACKER (Bossov Ballet)–Dec. 16 – 18
IT'S ONLY A PLAY – Jan. 27 – Feb. 5

Wayside Theatre – Community
Wayside Grange, 851 No. Dexter Rd., Rte 23, Dexter, ME
(207) 924-8813 Jane Woodman – Art. Dir. On FB

Windham Center Stage – Community Theater
P.O.Box 529, 8 School Rd., Windham, ME 04062
(207) 893-2098 www.windhamtheater.org

ONE FLEW OVER/CUCKOO'S NEST-Jan. 6 - 15
THE WIZARD OF OZ – Mar. 10 - 26

Winnepesaukee Playhouse & Performing Arts and Education Center– Prof. & Comm. 50 Reservoir Rd.,
Meredith, NH 03253 Bryan Halperin–Ex..Dir. Neil Pankhurst–Art.Dir. (603)279-0333 www.winnipplayhouse.com:

THE BOY WHO DREW CATS (Ed.Dept) – Dec. 2 – 4
JACK & THE BEANSTALK(Prof.Co.Panto)-Dec.16 – 31
INHERIT THE WIND (Wnni Players) – Feb. 2 – 5
GODSPELL (Ed. Dept.) – Feb. 17 – 19
STUART LITTLE (Rec. Dept.) – Mar. 24 – 25
LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS (Prof.)-Apr. 7-15
DIARY OF ANNE FRANK(Staged Reading)-Apr.29-30
A FUNNY THING...FORUM(Winni Players)-May 11-14
THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW(Prof. Co.)-June 14 – 24
HIGH SOCIETY (Prof. Co.) – June 28 – July 15
HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES(Prof.)-Jul. 19-29
THE GRADUATE (Prof. Co.) – Aug. 2 – 12
ROUND & ROUND THE GARDEN(Prof.)-Aug.16-26
THE MAN WHO SHOT LIBERTY VALANCE (Prof. Co.) – Aug. 30 – Sep. 9
DEATHTRAP (Prof. Co.) – Oct. 5 – 8
Radio Variety Show (Winni Players) – Oct. 21 – 22
THE LORD OF THE FLIES (Ed. Dept.) – Nov. 3 – 5
M.A.S.H. (Winni Players) – Nov. 16 – 19
NARNIA (Ed. Dept.) – Dec. 1 – 3
SNOW WHITE (Prof. Co.English Panto)-Dec.16-30,2017

Winterport Open Stage - Community Theater
P.O. Box 5, Winterport, ME 04496
(207)223-2501 (on FB)
www.winterportopenstage.net

Ziggurat Theatre Ensemble (Prof.)(207)319-7289
Bowdoinham, ME. www.ziggurattheatre.org
Stephen Legawiec, Dana Wieluns

All information is up to date as of press time. Cast & Crew suggests you call to confirm.



BAD DATES, a Jerry Walker production at
Schoolhouse Arts Center Black Box Theater in
November: Teresa Dyer (Haley)

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

ACORN PRODUCTIONS Acting Academy at Mechanics Hall, 519 Congress St., Portland, ME. Winter acting classes begin in Jan. & include 10-week Shakespeare for beginners, 10-week Shakespeare for continuing actors, 8-week scene study, and mask/commedia classes. FMI visit www.acorn-productions.org.

After School ARTS, 31 Lafayette St., Portland, ME. An after school arts enrichment for children ages 5 – 12. Erica Thompson, Artistic Director. For class listings visit www.theschoolhouseonmunjoyhill.com.

AYNNE AMES, COLD COMFORT THEATER Artistic Director offers classes in Belfast, ME, for “12 – 20” working on scene study, characterization, methodology & confidence!. Call (207) 930-7244.

BOSSOV BALLET SCHOOL, 125 So. Main St., Pittsfield, ME 04967. Classes in ballet at Maine Central Institute. (207) 487-6360.

CASCO BAY MOVERS DANCE STUDIO, 517 Forest Ave., Portland, ME 04101. (207) 871-1013. Classes for children, teens, adults.

CENTRE OF MOVEMENT School of Performing Arts, 19 State St., Gorham, ME 04038. Children & adults. Vicky Lloyd (207) 839-3267.

CITY DANCE, 196 U.S. Rte One, Falmouth, ME. Tap, ballet, jazz, street funk, pre-school. FMI call (207) 767-0870.

DENMARK ARTS CENTER, 50 W. Main St.(Rte 160), Denmark, ME. Mondays: *Anatomy in Movement* at 5:30; 2nd & 4th Tuesdays: *Songwriters Circle* at 7:30; (207) 452-2412 www.denmarkarts.org FMI email info@denmarkarts.org.

DROUIN DANCE CENTER at Dana Warp Mill, 90 Bridge Street, Suite 325, Westbrook, ME. All types dance, ages & experience. Visit www.drouindancecenter.com or call (207) 854-2221 FMI.

GOTTA DANCE, Dana Warp Mill, 90 Bridge St., Studio 425, Westbrook, ME 04092. Call (207) 321-1240. www.gottadance2.com. Beginner to advanced classes in ballroom dance – no partner necessary.

LIGHTS UP IMPROV, Classes in improvisation for kids & adults taught by David LaGrafte—over 25 years experience. NEW: **Sat. morning Improv class for 8 weeks starting Jan. 29**. Ongoing classes for all ages & experience at studio spaces in Portland & So. Portland. David also offers courses at various locations in the greater Portland area, as well as half-day and day-long workshops throughout southern Maine. Call (207) 799-3489, email lightsup1@maine.rr.com or visit www.lightsupimprov.com; also www.portlandplayback.com.

MAINE STATE SCHOOL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, 348 U. S. Rte. One, Falmouth, ME. (Home of Maine State Ballet) Training in dance, voice, drama, music. Call (207) 781-7672 for schedule & information.

M & D PLAYHOUSE TAS (Theatre Arts Studio), 1857 White Mtn Hwy, No. Conway, NH. For winter class schedule visit www.mdplayhouse.com.

NEW SURRY THEATRE & ACTING SHOOOL, Blue Hill, ME. Bill Raiten Artistic Director. FMI www.newsurrytheatre.org

PENOBSCOT THEATRE Dramatic Academy, Main St., Bangor, ME. *Ongoing theater classes for youth*. Also available: School Residency Programs: *Authors Alive, Improv Alive, Arts Alive*; from 90-min. workshops to week-long engagements. FMI visit www.penobscottheatre.org & click on the Education tab, email education@penobscottheatre.org or call (207) 947-6618.

PORTLAND FENCING CENTER, 90 Bridge St., Suite 410, Westbrook, ME. Taught by Nancy Reynolds. FMI call (207) 856-1048.

PORTLAND SCHOOL OF BALLET, 517 Forest Ave., Portland, ME. (Home of Portland Ballet) Call for schedule information (207) 772-9671 or visit www.portlandballet.org.

PORTLAND STAGE COMPANY, 25A Forest Ave., Portland, ME. Classes for kids ongoing FMI visit www.portlandstage.org or email education@portlandstage.org or call (207) 774-1043 X 104.

ROBINSON BALLET SCHOOL, Studio at 107 Union St., Bangor, ME. (Home of Robinson Ballet) (207) 989-7226 (Voice Mail)

ROCHESTER OPERA HOUSE, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, NH. Classes for kids and teens. Visit www.rochesteroperahouse.com.

SCARBOROUGH DANCE CENTER. Oakhill Plaza, Rte 1, Scarborough, ME. Classes for all ages & types of dance. Melissa Willey, Dir. Visit www.scarboroughdancecenter.com or call (207) 883-4569.

SCHOOLHOUSE ARTS CENTER, Rte. 114 just no. of Rte. 35, Standish, ME. Classes for kids & teens. Visit: www.schoolhousearts.org, email education@schoolhousearts.org, or contact Education Director Dillon Bates at dillonfbates@gmail.com . Also dance classes now with Centre of Movement’s Vicky Lloyd; FMI email vickylloyd70@gmail.com or call (207)839-3267.

SEACOAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, NH. (603) 433-7272 X 131. Workshops for young performers from 5 and up in all aspects of musical production. Also Jazz/Tap/Tumbling/Ballet for all levels.

SNOWLION REPERTORY CO., Portland, ME, *PlayLab* – Playwrights meet to hear their work & get feedback. Monthly readings of rehearsed & directed new plays at 408 Broadway, South Portland, ME, usually on a Tuesday. FMI: Margit Ahlin, at margit@snowlionrep.org or (207) 518-9305. Also see www.snowlionrep.org.

SPOTLIGHT MAINE DANCE STUDIO, 875 Broadway, So. Portland, ME. (207) 767-1353 www.spotlightdancemaine.com

STAGES: Performing Arts Academy for Kids, NEW LOCATION at Woodfords Cong. Church, 202 Woodford St., Portland, ME. Theater classes pre-school - high school. FMI (207) 699-3330. www.stagesacademy.com

TAP DANCE Lessons for Adults & Seniors with Betsy Melarkey Dunphy at Studio 408, 408 Broadway, South Portland, ME. Classes for Beginners meet Wednesdays from 12:30 – 1:30 pm; Intermediate class Wed. 11 am – 12. FMI call (207) 799-3273.

TERPSICHORE DANCE, 798 Main St., So. Portland, ME. Classes for age 3 - adult. Musical theater dance. Maria Tzianabas, Dir. (207) 518-9384

THE THEATER PROJECT, 14 School St., Brunswick, ME. Theater classes for kids, teens, and sometimes adults. Some scholarships available. FMI visit www.theaterproject.com or call (207) 729-8584.

MICHAEL TRAUTMAN, after years of touring, now teaches clowning & physical theater at CIRCUS MAINE in Portland, ME. FMI visit www.michaeltrautman.com.

VIVID MOTION, INC Quirky dance company, 90 Bridge St., Suite 227, 2nd floor, Dana Warp Mill, Westbrook, ME.. Company class Wed. 7-8:30 pm, mixed level, pay-what-you-can. FMI www.vividmotion.org

WATERVILLE OPERA HOUSE & ARTSPACE, 93 Main St., 3rd floor, Waterville, ME. Classes in dance plus theater camps during summer & school vacation weeks. FMI call (207) 873-5381.

Are you sick of performing the same stale one-act plays at play competitions?

I can cut two or three-act plays for you and bring them in under 40 minutes. I have references re cuttings which have become regional and state winners. You pick the play, you get the clearance for the cutting, and I'll do it for you for a flat fee of \$300.00. This might be the best expense you have in your High School Theater budget. Aynne Ames coldcomforttheater@gmail.com



AUDITIONS & OPPORTUNITIES

We try to bring our subscribers all the audition information available. However, theaters may set their own audition dates after we go to print; so we suggest that you also consult your newspaper listings & the individual theater as well (see Theater Listings). Subscribers, for notification between issues, send your email address to castandcrewnewsletter@yahoo.com

ACADIA COMMUNITY THEATER will audition for SHREK!, their spring show, on Dec. 12 & 14, 6 – 8 pm, at Mt. Desert High School, 1081 Eagle Lake Rd., Bar Harbor, ME. FMI on ACT visit www.acadiacommunitytheater.net.

CHOCOLATE CHURCH ARTS CENTER, 804 Washington St., Bath, ME, will hold auditions for Ernest Thompson's ON GOLDEN POND on Dec. 4 at 2 pm & Dec. 5 at 7 pm. Roles: 1 male & 1 female both 60+, 2 males 45-ish, 1 female 45-ish, & 1 male 13-14. Thom Watson directs. Show dates Feb. 17-19 & 24-26 in the Curtis Room at CCAC. FMI call (207) 442-8455 or email info@chocolatechurch.com.

CITY THEATER, 205 Main St., Biddeford, ME. Looking ahead, City Theater will audition for STEEL MAGNOLIAS by Robert Harling on Mar. 20 – 21 at 6:30 pm; show dates May 12 – 21. Casting 5 women, There will be cold readings from the script; a good Southern accent will be a plus. Linda Sturdivant directs. City Theater will also audition for THE WIZARD OF OZ on Apr. 17 & 18, children 4:30 – 6 pm; adults at 6:30 pm. Show dates Jul. 21 – Aug. 6. Children should be prepared to sing a short piece from something they know well & bring their sheet music; accompanist provided; a capella & karaoke auditions are discouraged. There will also be a dance audition & they should be dressed comfortably. A dance background is not needed but they should be ready to try out new things & have fun. Adults should come prepared to sing 35 bars of a musical theater piece & bring sheet music; again, accompanist provided. There will also be a dance audition. The non-singing parts of Elmira Gultch/Wicked Witch & The Professor/Wizard will have cold reads from the script. Casting 3 principal females & 5 principal males, plus a large adult ensemble & a children's ensemble. Linda Sturdivant directs with musical direction by Kevin Smith & choreography by Mariel Roy. FMI visit www.citytheater.org.

NETC (New England Theatre Conference) 2017 auditions for 18 & up, non-Equity & Equity Membership Candidates, plus mature experienced adult talent for both seasonal & job-in employment, will be held in March. FMI & application details and form, visit www.netconline.org. Staff & Tech position interviews will also be in March. There are application fees. Application deadline is Feb. 15, 2017, but the earlier your application is received by them, the better chance of getting an audition time.

OPERA HOUSE ARTS, Stonington, ME, has launched the *Harbor Residency* program to provide artists & ensembles with 2 of the most requested resources for the development of new work: time & space. Through the residency program participating artists will receive free rehearsal space & accommodations and, in exchange, will have opportunities to engage with Deer Isle-Stonington's year-round community. Residencies are available for individuals and groups of artists creating works of theater, performance, dance, film & opera. This includes, but is not limited to, playwrights, theater companies, collaborative ensembles & performance artists. Applications will be accepted & reviewed on a rolling basis, with residencies offered January through May for periods of time to be determined by the needs of the project. The application process is in 3 steps: the initial proposal, including a 1-page letter of intent addressing specific questions & an artistic CV or resume; a meeting, either in person or through Skype, between the artist & OHA; and the submission of a residency outline & timeline. FMI email Producing Artistic Director

Meg Taintor at director@operahousearts.org, call (207) 367-2788, or visit www.operahousearts.org.

PENOBSCOT THEATRE COMPANY, Bangor, ME, continues to accept on a regular basis new plays which tell stories of the Bangor region; possible subjects: ice industry, lumbering history, Hannibal Hamlin, etc. Playwrights should send a synopsis, a 10-page sample, development/production history, & a short bio of the playwright to Penobscot Theatre Company, 115 Main St., 4th Floor, Bangor, ME 04401.

PortFRINGE, Portland, ME: Applications for *PortFringe 2017* Theater Festival open December 1, 2016. This is a by-lottery, non-juried fringe festival. FMI visit www.portfringe.com.



THE SECRET OF COMEDY, **Pie Man Theatre Company** October production: Marie Stewart Harmon (Carey), Anna Cranage Conathan (Emily), and Rachel Flehinger (Katie) Photo by Craig Robinson



WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?, **New Surry Theatre** October production: Bryan Lescord (Nick - right) tries to separate Cindy Robbins (Martha) and Tim Pugliese (George)

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