



ST LUKE'S PLAYERS

64th Season. No. 2

November 2012

Executive 2012-13

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St Luke's Players'
Newsletter is published quarterly

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

President's Message

Rosalind Coleman

Dear Members:

Autumn has arrived with a vengeance. The rain is pouring down outside my window splattering on the dead leaves. More rain is promised in the coming days. The daylight is getting short and the evenings are cold and dark - perfect weather for the theatre.

Yes, it is the perfect time of year for putting on your raincoat and coming out to St Luke's to see a play. And we have some wonderful entertainment for you. Rehearsals are well under way for our fabulous pantomime, *Goldilocks and the 3 Bears*. Opening on December 20 and running until Jan 1, this play is a tale of a girl, three bears and some porridge. There is a wicked queen bee in the woodland who causes all kinds of mischief but good conquers evil in the end. We urge you to come and cheer on Goldilocks and her friends. Get your tickets early to avoid disappointment - last year we sold out 2 weeks before opening night.

In the spring we will be staging *Castling for Murder*, a sinister murder mystery set in the Gulf Islands and written by the Canadian playwright, Elizabeth Elwood. There is a chance the playwright will come over from Vancouver for one of our performances which would be exciting. Auditions for *Castling for Murder*, directed by Tony Cain, will be held on Saturday, December 1 from 1 - 4 pm and Monday, December 3 from 7- 9 pm at St Luke's Hall. More information can be found on our web-

site www.stlukesplayers.org or later in this newsletter.

Our fall play, *The Constant Wife*, was brilliantly staged and acted. We received lots of accolades for the set design and the costumes which were stunning. It was ably directed by Don Keith as his first venture with St Luke's Players. Audience numbers were high, almost as many as for *Nana's Naughty Knickers* which was our fall play last year. Many people liked *The Constant Wife* so much they came twice. So this year is off to a great start.

We have gone ahead and purchased new stage lights which really transform the space. We also received some special lights courtesy of Langham Court Theatre and we would like to thank Langham again for their generosity.

Our new Play Selection Committee for 2013-14 is up and running. The members are excited about the opportunities. If anyone has any brilliant suggestions about plays for next year, please contact Jane Guy, the Chair of the Play Selection Committee at jane-guy@shaw.ca.

Wishing everyone the best for the holiday season!

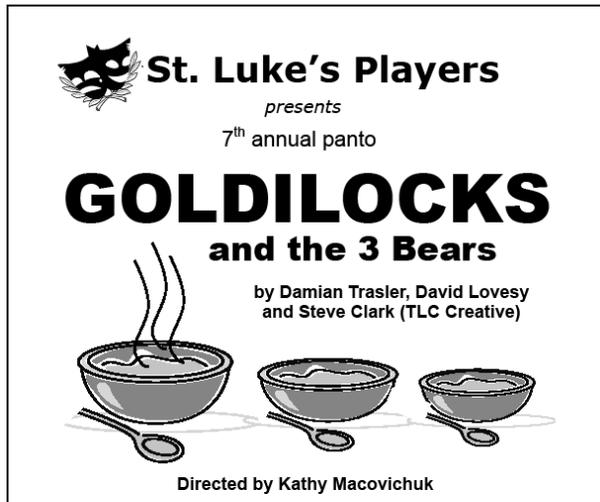
Rosalind Coleman



Goldilocks and the 3 Bears

A traditional panto by Damian Trasler, David Lovesay and Steve Clark (TLC Creative)

Directed by Kathy Macovichuk



Panto time again at St Luke's - "Oh Yes It Is!"

Preparations are well underway for St Luke's Players annual panto - this year it is *Goldilocks and the 3 Bears*.

A tale of a girl, three bears and some porridge... and much more! The traditional Goldilocks story is given a new slant in this panto tale. An evil queen bee is up to no good in the woodland, planning global domination for her wicked swarm and now she has a secret weapon... a potent hypno-honey. Soon a battle is underway for control of the wood, with Goldilocks and her friends in the thick of it.

This will be the seventh panto presented by St Luke's Players. Although primarily directed towards children, this family entertainment is fun for the whole family, both young and old. Victoria audiences have come to love the traditional British panto format, and this is a high-energy production with larger-than-life colourful characters, singing and dancing. Lots of bad jokes abound as the audience gets to help, hinder, cheer for the good guy and boo the bad.

Matinees at 2 p.m.
Dec 22, 23, 26, 29, 30 & Jan 1

Evenings at 8 p.m.
Dec 20, 21, 23, 27, 28, 30



Tickets go on sale on **November 14** and, like previous years, will sell out fast. So, don't wait until Christmas and be disappointed - buy yours now! They can be purchased at the following outlets:

- Amica at Douglas House - 50 Douglas Street
- Ivy's Book Shop - 2188 Oak Bay Avenue;
- Petals Plus Florist - 3749 Shelbourne Street
- Russell Books - 734 Fort Street
- and at the door - if there are any left!

- Regular - \$15
- Seniors/Students - \$13
- Children 5 & under - \$5



Constructing a periaktos for the set: Tony Gilsenan, Martha McNeely and Helena Hitchcock.



AMICA
at Douglas House

Amica at Douglas House is pleased to sponsor St. Luke's Players' 2012/2013 season.

For more information go to: www.amica.ca

The Constant Wife - a comedy of manners by Somerset Maugham

Directed by Don Keith



Cast from L to R: Jane Guy, Luke Krayenhoff, Steve Eastman, Catriona Black, Mike Chadwick, Elizabeth Brimacombe, Osiris de Korte, Wendy Cornock, Caroline Mackenzie de Korte

The Constant Wife was the 3rd best attended show in the history of the St Luke's Players. *Nana's Naughty Knickers* and *Arsenic and Old Lace* were 1st and 4th. Interestingly these three plays out of the top four are all about unusual women: an undercover knicker knitter, two lovely old serial killers, and an assertive wife telling her husband she'll have a lover if she feels like it. Is this where "the fairer sex" is headed?

The show was directed by Don Keith - retired drama teacher and refugee from the Okanagan, driven by an urge to present Somerset Maugham's clever, scintillating English wit using a bunch of local Canucks, a South African and an ex cockney Brit. The script had to be pared down so that we could finish around 10 pm so the audience could get home to sleep (rather than nod off before the end of the show). Don brought with him some interesting techniques - asking the cast to write letters to each other, challenging them to explain why they were acting at all, and eyes-closed-group-hand-clapping exercises. With these and some long stirring directorial speeches he knocked them into shape. The assistance of an "accent coach" helped to change "ehs" to "aiyes" and "tomaytoes to tomahtoos". And thus a group of modest, pleasant, sociable Canadians were transformed into upper crust, self opinionated, snobby Brits.

They were supported by beautiful costumes and a spectacular set. A key item of furniture was the so called chaise (a term used in the absence of any suitable other),

made from a few bits of wood, a lump of foamy stuff and some curtain material turned by a hardworking set builder into a thing of beauty, now to be stored in perpetuity should anyone ever again need to grace their stage drawing room. All the cast were dressed and made up as perfect examples of 1920s flappers and flappees, with shiny shoes and nicely gelled hair. Lights and sound were less of a challenge than the actors and largely a matter of turning on at the beginning and off at the end of each act, and ably handled by a single operator. A notable lighting feature were the new "zip strips" donated to us by Langham Court. We had a minimal backstage crew - with actors stumbling over each other in the dark backstage to change costumes and find props, and set changes carried out by the actor with the least lines to say.

And last but not least thanks to the audience, who occasionally laughed, and mostly enjoyed our production. They continued the upward trend in the concession by eating and drinking more than has been the average - though it must be said that few took advantage of the new service to provide preshow cups of tea and cookies - perhaps an apprehensive fear of bladder pressure before the intermission.

So all in all a great success and the first of what we hope will be a very successful season.

Mike Chadwick
Producer aka Bentley the Butler

<p>Zoe Brimacombe and Laura Rincon are appearing in Kaleidosope's <i>Pan</i> from Nov 24 at the McPherson Theatre.</p>	<p>Tim Gosley is directing <i>A Child's Christmas in Wales</i> (Theatre Inconnu Youth Program with Merlin's Sun Inc.) in November/December.</p>	<p>Jon Scheer is directing the Four Seasons Musical Theatre's <i>Honk! The Musical</i> from Nov 16 to 24 at the Isabelle Reader Theatre.</p>
<p>George Morfitt is rehearsing with the Victoria Gilbert & Sullivan Society for its production of <i>Ruddigore</i> in March/April 2013.</p>	<p>Lynneve Stewart will be appearing in Peninsula Players' panto <i>Cinderella</i> in December.</p>	<p>Joy Kruger, Richard Gauthier and Matt Mathiason are in the VOS production of <i>The Sound of Music</i> in December.</p>
<p>Involved in Langham Court's <i>Lady Windermere's Fan</i> are: Angela Henry (Director), Geoffrey Davidson (SM), Janine Longy, Julie Gray, Jo Barnes, Mitch Barnes, Ralph Sketchley and Pearl Arden (acting & set décor).</p>	<p>WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN</p>	<p>Elaine Lewis won honorable mention and George Morfitt won best male actor for their performance in <i>Dinner for One</i> at the recent Vancouver Island One-Act Play Festival in Qualicum Beach, hosted by E.C.H.O. Players.</p>
<p>Winners of Langham Court tickets for <i>84 Charing Cross Road</i>:</p> <p>Joy Kruger Jan Manchur Richard Gauthier</p>	<p>Were you involved in something and don't see your name here? Then please make sure that next time you let us know so I can include your news. E-mail the details to jane-guy@shaw.ca</p>	<p>Mike Chadwick is bemoaning being abandoned by his wife Vinnie who is touring Hong Kong and India for 6 weeks, leaving him to survive on about 35 small baggies of brown rice and lentils left in the freezer.</p>



PUB NIGHT
at St. Luke's Hall

Friday November 16
6:30pm - 9:30?pm

Beer & Wine
(reasonable)

Soft Drinks

Snacks

Games, Music

Come and relax with your friends!

To help us prepare, let us know how many will be in your party. Please call the office, 477-6741.

All SLP members are welcome - come and see Elaine and George perform *Dinner for One* at 8 pm

OPEN AUDITIONS

for

"CASTING FOR MURDER"
Directed by Tony Cain

will be held at St. Luke's Hall,
3821 Cedar Hill Cross Road

Saturday Dec 1 from 1 - 4 pm
Monday Dec 3 from 7 - 9 pm
Call backs: Wed Dec 5 from 7:30 - 10 pm

Plot:
Angela Benson inherits a fortune when her aunt is murdered. But the killer is never found. Angela's acting career flourishes but suspicion continues to cloud her life even after her marriage to mystery writer, John Rutherford. A young journalist uncovers some startling new evidence about the 3 year old murder and John and Angela find themselves embroiled in a sinister plot.

Performances: March 13-16 and 20-23 at 8 pm
Matinees: March 16, 17, 23 & 24 at 2 pm

Contact: Rosalind Coleman r.k.c@telus.net or 250-665-6414