



ST LUKE'S PLAYERS

64th Season. No. 4

April 2013

Executive 2012-13

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..... Neville Owen
..... Kathy Macovichuk

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

President's Message

Rosalind Coleman

Dear Members:

Spring has come in all its glory. Birds are singing and the gardens are bursting with lilacs, tulips and sweet-smelling roses. Everything is full of hope and promise.

Now is the time for St Luke's final play of the season, the delightful *Cakewalk*. Written by a Canadian playwright, *Cakewalk* is as much fun today as when it was first produced in 1984. It is the perfect comedy for a summer evening. Make sure you do not miss this light-hearted comedy by getting your tickets early from our ticket outlets at ***Petals Plus Florist, Ivy's Bookshop, Russell Books and Amica at Douglas House***. Please log onto: stlukesplayers@yahoo.ca for more information.

Looking back over our 2012-2013 season. I am thrilled to report that our plays have been tremendously successful. We have attracted new Directors and our audience numbers are growing and diversifying. Our most recent play, *Castling for Murder* written by Canadian playwright, Elizabeth Elwood, drew more than 850 people. The playwright, who came over from Vancouver for the final performance, said it was one of the

best productions she had seen of her play.

We have more exciting news. A new sound system with new amplifiers and speakers is being installed which will enhance the enjoyment of our performances for our older audiences and provide more scope for creative sound effects. It should be in place for *Cakewalk*. We are expanding and strengthening our lighting capabilities as well to add to the magic of the experience.

Our new 2013-2014 season has been announced. We will kick off the season in the Fall with the hilarious, comedy/murder mystery, *Who Dunit?*, featuring a mystery writer at the "pearly gates" refusing to enter heaven until he finds out who killed him. A bad tempered nephew, a suspicious handyman and a scheming girlfriend all feature in this ingenious plot. More specific information about the other plays in our new season, plus dates and times of the performances, are on Page 5.

Wishing everyone a happy spring and a long, hot summer!

Rosalind



Cake Walk - a Canadian comedy by Colleen Curran
 Directed by Penelope Harwood

Six lucky contestants have won a lottery to submit their original cake creation for a cakewalk contest at a Canada Day celebration in the town's annual fair. Some participants will go to any length including sabotage to win the coveted prize! While waiting for their big moment, their life stories unfold and they experience a roller coaster of laughter and heartbreak. As tension mounts among the group, cakes go missing, tempers flare and love blossoms.

Colleen Curran's comedy premiered in 1984 at the Blyth Festival in Ontario and has left audiences with smiles on their faces and a sweet taste in their mouths every production.

The director, **Penelope Harwood**, is new to St. Luke's Players, and we are delighted to welcome her. She has a seasoned, enthusiastic crew with Producer **Mike Chadwick**, Stage Manager **Dave Hitchcock** and many more. On stage we welcome back **Rosalind Coleman**, **Wendy Cornock**, and welcome newcomers to St Luke's Players: **Dallas Ashby**, **Meg Banavage**, **Peter McNab**, and **Simon Guthrie**. We must make mention of the incredible cakes designed and created by **Ann Harris**, who is also responsible for props.

Tickets go on sale on **April 22**

Evenings at 8 p.m.

May 22, 23, 24, 25, 29, 30, 31 & June 1

Matinees at 2 pm:

May 25, 26 & June 1, 2 at 2 pm



St. Luke's Players
 presents
 Colleen Curran's
 comedy
CAKE WALK

Directed by Penelope Harwood

Special Free Event:
 Meet the author after June 2nd matinee
 Sponsored by Canada Council & Playwrights Guild of Canada

Colleen Curran will attend the last show (Sunday Matinee 2nd June) and remain afterwards to do a reading and talk with and answer questions from cast, crew and audience. You are all welcome to come after the show, whether you are audience or not, to meet a Canadian playwright. She will be sponsored by the Canadian Playwrights Guild and Canada Council.

Colleen has written 22 plays. Her work has been produced across Canada and the US as well as Australia. She is currently co-Artistic Director of Triumvirate Theatre Company. She has also written comedic novels about Montreal singing waitress Lenore Rutland titled *Something Drastic*, *Overnight Sensation* and *Guests of Chance*.

<http://www.playwrightsquid.ca/playwright/colleen-curran>

Discussing sound effects with the director at rehearsal.

The Season of Canadian Content

Spring 2013 has developed into the season of Canadian plays for St. Luke's Players. Coming up in May we will present *Cake Walk* by Canadian playwright Colleen Curran. Colleen will be coming to Victoria to see the show and give us a talk on June 2. See the details on Page 2.

And last month we presented *Casting for Murder* by BC playwright Elizabeth Elwood. Elizabeth came to Victoria to see the show, and we hosted her to an informal reception after the performance. The cast and crew had the chance to meet and talk with her about the play, and to hear her favorable comments about our production. There was lots of laughter, and it seemed appropriate and right that a Canadian theatre group should support a Canadian playwright.

Here is an excerpt from Elizabeth's thank you letter to us ...

"Just a note to thank you again for inviting us to the show and throwing such a lovely reception for me. The production was excellent and we really enjoyed meeting you all. Congratulations to your wonderful team of cast, crew and volunteers who made it all possible! We'll definitely keep an eye on your schedule so that we can come to see one of your future productions if we're over on the island.

Thanks again for picking my play and giving it such tender loving care."

For more information on the playwright Elizabeth Elwood and to read what else she had to say about our production of *Casting for Murder* please visit her blog at www.elihuentertainment.com/?p=2588

Elaine Lewis

Casting for Murder - a murder mystery by Elizabeth Elwood

Directed by Tony Cain



Elizabeth Elwood with Director Tony Cain and the cast

Our latest play *Casting for Murder* was a resounding success. Set in the Gulf Islands, the play unfolded as a clever, intriguing mystery, and built to a tense climax when all was revealed and the killer was unmasked.

The stage set was spectacular thanks to the design by **Don Keith** and our creative set construction team who seem to outdo themselves with each production. The acting was well-received and our audience numbers were high - just over 850. In creating the magical setting, the Director **Tony Cain** developed an elaborate set of sound cues and lighting, evocative of a stormy night by the sea.

Rosalind Coleman,
Co-Producer

<p>Blair Moro and Amy Culliford started up their own Singles Awareness Theatre Company.</p>	<p>Monica Ogden is in Paper Street Theatre Company's production of <i>Yes and Yesteryear: An Improvised Jane Austen</i>.</p>	<p>Catriona Black is performing in <i>The Golden Dragon</i> at Theatre Inconnu at the Fernwood Little Hall from May 3 - 8.</p>
<p>Peninsula Players & Muse Winery are presenting their summer musical <i>One Flew Over the Cabernet</i>, written by Sasha Moriarty-Schieven and directed by Gerald Schieven. Shows are Saturday evenings July 20, August 10 & 17 and Sunday afternoons July 21 and August 11.</p>	<p>WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN</p>	<p>Michael King is directing and Drew Waveryn, Elizabeth Whitmarsh and Vicky Etechells are performing in <i>Calendar Girls</i> at Langham Court from April 25 - May 11. Pearl Arden and Quinn McTavish are doing props.</p>
<p>Winners of Langham Court tickets for <i>39 Steps</i> Ken Urquhart Joan Thomas Jane Guy</p>	 <p>Amica at Douglas House is pleased to sponsor St. Luke's Players' 2012/2013 season. For more information: www.amica.ca</p>	<p>Winners of Langham Court tickets for <i>Better Living</i>: Joanne Frappell Martha McNeely Perry Burton</p>

SAVE THESE DATES!

June 14

St Luke's Church Pub Night starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Hall. All members are invited.

July 14

St Luke's Players' AGM & BBQ starting at 3:00 p.m. at Jane Guy's house 1741 Barrie Road in Gordon Head.

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW NEARER THE TIME

PENINSULAR PLAYERS AUDITIONS

One Flew Over the Cabernet

Fri May 3, 7 - 10 pm & Sun May 5, 12 - 3 p.m.
Saanichton Learning Centre, 1649 Mount Newton Cross Road, Saanichton

E-mail: gh_ms@yahoo.com to arrange for an audition.

Four Seasons Musical Theatre New Logo Design Contest

You are invited to design and submit your idea for a new logo for Four Seasons Musical Theatre. Our current logo and details about our family community theatre can be found on our website: www.fourseasonsmusicaltheatre.com

Deadline: May 15, 2013

Format: All design formats are welcome (drawings, digital, etc.)

Submit to Four Seasons Musical Theatre by:

Email: info@fourseasonsmusicaltheatre.com

Mail: PO Box 47090
772 Goldstream Avenue
Victoria, BC V9B 5T2

Prize: Family Season Tickets to Four Seasons Musical Theatre Shows

We look forward to receiving your creations!

Presenting our 2013-14 Season

Who Dunit? Comedy/Mystery

by C.B. Gilford (1956)

Director: Geoffrey J. Davidson

One of the most original comedy-mystery plots of all time. It first ran as a short story in Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine, and was later a hit on "Alfred Hitchcock Presents", translated into a dozen foreign languages, reprinted in several anthologies.

What happens when a famous mystery writer is murdered, goes to Heaven and discovers that not even Saint Michael knows who murdered him? There's only one answer: Saint Michael sends him back to earth to relive the past twenty-four hours of his life in order to solve the murder before it is committed. The writer discovers everybody he knows has a good reason to kill him! And then - is he just going to sit there and let it happen a second time? So the writer must outwit both the murderer and the Archangel Michael.

October 16 - 19 & October 23 - 26 at 8 pm
Matinees: October 19, 20, 26, & 27 at 2 pm

Puss in Boots Traditional panto

by Damian Trasler, David Lovesy and Steve Clark (*TLC Creative*) (2007)

Director: Dave Hitchcock

Jack, the miller's son has been left with just the family cat in his father's will and although he has great ambitions it is unlikely he will amount to much! Things soon change with the arrival of his Auntie Hettie and the revelation that Puss can talk (and look pretty fetching in a pair of boots)! Soon Jack, Auntie and Puss are embroiled in a complex scheme to persuade the King and Queen that Jack (masquerading as the Marquis of Carabas) is suitable husband material for the beautiful Princess. But first they will have to contend with a jealous noble suitor, a pair of dastardly henchmen, and a hideous shape-shifting Ogre!

December 19, 20, 21, 23, 27, 28, 30 at 8 pm
Matinees: Dec 21, 22, 26, 28, 29 & Jan 1 at 2 pm

Welfarewell Comedy/Drama

by Cat Delaney (2009)

Director: Michael King

Winner of 2009 Samuel French Canadian Playwriting Competition

This witty satire is a show that must be seen! Unable to live on her meager pension (and down to her last can of cat food), elderly Esmerelda Quipp, a retired Shakespearian actress, is arrested for burying her cat in the front yard, because she has no money for a proper cremation. After spending a night in jail, she discovers that this is one place where she can be guaranteed food, shelter, and good company. She devises a clever plan to be arrested again. However, all does not go as planned, and when the perfectly lucid senior citizen finds her young and naive public defender trying to get her off with an insanity plea, the courtroom becomes the stage for her finest performance

Dates March 12 - 15 & March 19 - 22 at 8 pm
Matinees: March 15, 16, 22 & 23 at 2 pm

Prepare to Meet Thy Tomb

Comedy/Thriller

by Norman Robbins (2010)

Director: Jon Scheer

Third and final play in Tomb trilogy

As night falls and fog descends on Monument House Hotel and Alternative Health Spa, Hecuba Tomb and her niece Drusilla receive a series of unexpected visitors. Novelist Philippa and her assistant Daphne are seeking refuge from a mysterious follower they fear may be the notorious "Norfolk Strangler". Hot on their heels come TV historian Quentin Danesworth and vacuous honeymooners Robert and Miranda. The uninvited guests are soon snooping around the secret passages of the creepy old mansion and asking too many questions for comfort. Sure enough, one by one they fall victim to violent deaths by devious techniques.

May 21 - 24 & May 28 - 31 at 8 pm
Matinees: May 24, 25, 31 & June 1 at 2 pm