



# ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS

COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948!

*Presents*



Written by **Laurel Ollstein**

Directed by **Janine Longy**

**Evenings 7:30**  
**Mar 13-16 & 20-23**

**Matinees 2:00**  
**Mar 16, 17, 23, 24**

*They Promised Her the Moon is produced by special arrangement  
with Playscripts, Inc. [www.playscripts.com](http://www.playscripts.com)*

## ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT • LAUREL OLLSTEIN



Laurel Ollstein is a playwright, writer, director and educator whose plays most recently have been produced at The Old Globe and TheatreWorks Silicon Valley. Other plays produced across the county include: *They Promised Her the Moon*; *Laughter, Hope and a Sock in the Eye*; *CHEESE*; *Esther's Moustache*; *Unhappily Married in Valencia*; *OPA! the Musical*; *Dorothy Parker Is in the Bath*; *Blackwell's Corner*; *The Dark Ages*; *Bias Cut*; and *Showing Our Age*. She is also currently writing the second season of a podcast radio drama for New Conservatory Theatre Center in San Francisco

Her awards include grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and California Arts Council, as well as Ovation, Garland, and LA Weekly Theater Awards. She wrote the first draft of *They Promised Her the Moon* at The University of Oklahoma, where she was a Faith Broome Playwright-in-Residence. *They Promised Her the Moon* is also the recipient of a 2018 Social Impact Theatre Grant from The Sheri and Les Biller Family Foundation.

Laurel also directs playwriting programs, provides writing and arts education in schools and for mature adults, and creates plays on social justice themes. She serves as adjunct faculty at California Institute of the Arts, UCLA, Loyola Marymount University, University of Redlands, and Otis College of Art and Design.

Ollstein holds an MFA in playwriting from the School of Theater, Film and Television at UCLA.

## THE DIRECTOR'S NOTES



Directing this play has been an inspirational journey of discovery about a little-known story that is educationally and historically important. Educational as it tells the story of Mercury 13, the cancelled program to send women into space. Historically important, as I reflect on the role, then and now, of exceptionally talented women struggling in a man's world. I was confident, when I took on the challenge of bringing this play to SLPCT's stage, that the theatre

had a pool of amazingly talented people. I was not wrong. The minimalist set, shifts in light and sound, use of projections, and representational costumes and props are brilliant to create a drama that spans decades and follows the character's hallucinations. There are wonderful actors, some with lots of experience and some new to the stage. True community theatre! Thank you, a thousand times.

## THE CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Jerrie Cobb	Lia Collis
Dr. Randolph Lovelace	Malcolm Harvey
Mrs. White	Anastasiia Konstantynova
Child #1	Mariana Lacerte
Child #2	Polina Konstantynova
Jackie Cochran	Lindsay Anderson
Harvey Cobb	Jim Rabb
Photographer/Pilot	Paul Hawkes-Frost
Helena Cobb	Natalie McKay
Circus Bob/John Glenn	Geoffrey J. Davidson
Mayor/Congressman	John Sease
Jack Ford	Mitch Barnes
Young Woman	Stephanie Kast
Congressman	Jonathan Stoppi
Radio Announcer	Kevin Rich
Reporter #1	Beverly van Druten-Blais
Reporter #2	Deb Taylor
Reporter #3	Glen Rodger

## TIME AND SETTING

**Time:** 1960–1980

### Various Settings

**Act I:** A multitude of scenes  
back and forth in time from about 1937-1960

**Act II:** A multitude of scenes  
and the time span is 1962-1980

## THE CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE



### **JERRIE COBB** – Lia Collis

Lia is incredibly honoured to play such an influential and forgotten woman in history in *They Promised Her the Moon* for her 11th production with SLPCT. Thrilled to collaborate with a talented cast and crew, she would like to express her gratitude to everyone involved. Her previous shows include *Hilda's Yard* and *Things My Mother Taught Me* as well as various other local productions.



### **DR. RANDOLPH LOVELACE** – Malcolm Harvey

Malcolm is happy to be back on the SLPCT stage again after appearing in *The Curious Savage*, *The Trouble with Cats*, and *Prescription for Murder*. Malcolm has also had roles with Langham Court Theatre and Blue Bridge, as well as the occasional role in commercials and video productions. He is delighted with the role of Dr. Lovelace and hopes you will be too.



### **MRS. WHITE** – Anastasiia Konstantynova

Anastasiia arrived in Victoria from Ukraine in 2022. She has a bachelor's degree in physics. She is a volunteer for the Ukrainian community and helps newcomers. She previously appeared in *Christmas Eve Proposal in Ukrainian Style 2023* (Ukrainian Cultural Centre) and *The Dictionary of Emotions in War Time 2024* (LCT). Anastasiia is also a poet, singer, and mother. English is her third language.



### **CHILD #1** – Mariana Lacerte

Mariana is half Chilean on her dad's side and of mixed heritage on her mom's side. She is proud of her Indigenous heritage as a member of the Nadleh Whut'en First Nation. This is her first time on stage and she is grateful to the SLPCT for the opportunity.

## THE CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE



### **CHILD #2** – Polina Konstantynova

Polly is a newcomer from Ukraine. Having been a year and a half in Canada she continues her active lifestyle: sings in the choir, attends Ukrainian dance and loves being on the stage. She had the role of a mouse in *The Nutcracker* and is very proud of it. Polly is grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful play.



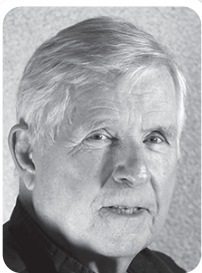
### **JACKIE COCHRAN** – Lindsay Anderson

Lindsay was last seen as Daria Chase in SLPCT's production of *The Game's Afoot*, and is profoundly grateful for the opportunity to play the formidable Jackie Cochran. She would like to thank Janine and her incredible crew for their passion, creative vision, and unwavering kindness in bringing this extraordinary play to life.



### **HARVEY COBB** – Jim Rabb

Jim played Paul in Margaret Hollingsworth's *Ever Loving*, and Florizel in Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale*. He still cannot fathom how he managed through nearly 30 Calgary winters. He thanks the cast and crew at SLPCT for the warm welcome. Jim lives in Fairfield with his partner Karmen.



### **PILOT/PHOTOGRAPHER** – Paul Hawkes-Frost

Paul is stepping onto the stage for the first time, following several years behind the scenes at SLPCT where he has built sets and been ASM for several productions. Who knows what this will lead to!

## THE CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE



### **Helena Cobb** – Natalie McKay

Natalie is happy to be returning to the SLPCT stage after over 20 years away. She previously performed in *Harvey* during the 50th season, *The Man Who Came to Dinner* in the 52nd season and *The Hound of the Baskervilles* in the 54th season.



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### **Circus Bob/John Glenn**

– Geoffrey J. Davidson

Geoff has been involved with SLPCT for several years. Past performances include Lamp in the recent *Beauty and the Beast* Panto, Jeff in *The Curious Savage*, and Shelby in *Laura*. Geoff would like to thank Janine for this wonderful opportunity.



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### **Mayor/Congressman** – John Sease

John is pleased to be reunited with the cast and crew for this production. John appeared in *The Curious Savage* and several Christmas Pantos with SLPCT, as well as *Until the Flood* with Attitude Theatre. John's last "role" was behind the scenes—the hide-away bar in *The Game's Afoot*.



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### **Jack Ford** – Mitch Barnes

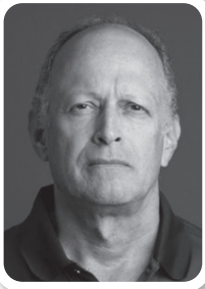
Mitch is delighted to be back with SLPCT where he has performed in many shows over the years, most recently in *The Unexpected Guest*. He has thoroughly enjoyed working with the talented cast and crew of this production. Special thanks to Janine for the opportunity to be a part of this show, and to Jo, his leading lady off stage, for her love and support.

## THE CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE



### **Young Woman/Reporter** – Stephanie Kast

Stephanie is thrilled to portray the Young Woman in Act Two. Marking her debut with SLPCT and second overall production, she embraces the world of theatre with enthusiasm. Eager to engage with the SLPCT community, she looks forward to this exciting journey and the opportunity.



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### **N.Y. Congressman Alfuso**

– Jonathan Stoppi

Since 2018, Jonathan has appeared in several community theatre productions of SLPCT, and more recently in the indie film *Sandcastles* by 29 Takes Productions. Prior to that, he portrayed a soldier, kibbutz farmer, a computer specialist, translator, and editor at the Theatre of Real Life.



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### **Radio Announcer** – Kevin Rich

Kevin is a media veteran having spent more than 30 years with CTV and Chorus Radio. He has reported for the BBC, CNN and many other news networks. This is his second performance for SLPCT. He has also acted in more than 30 other stage productions and a number of films.



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### **Reporter #1** – Beverly van Druten-Blais

Beverly found her bliss performing onstage with SLPCT in *Goldilocks and the Three Bears Panto* in 2012. Since then, she's joyously performed in 16 plays with various troupes, 2 Gilbert & Sullivan Operettas and 8 Pantos. Malabelle, the evil witch in SLPCT's *Beauty and the Beast Panto* was her latest very fun role. This story is seriously different! My, how far women have come...

## THE CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE



### REPORTER #2 – Deb Taylor

Deb is glad to be working with great people on such an engaging, provocative story. It's left her wondering how much have society's values actually changed? Her most recent shows at SLPCT are *The Unexpected Guest*, *Play On*, and *Sherlock Holmes and the Spinsters of Blackmead*. All enjoyable. Hope you enjoy this one too.



### REPORTER #3 – Glen Rodger

Glen is new to SLPCT and happy to be learning theatre arts, as both an actor and set constructor, with some wise, wonderful people. His mother Linda was a member of SLPCT in the 60s/70s. He looks forward to playing villains in the future as that suits his personality.



*The dedicated cast; unfortunately missing Jonathan Stoppi :(*



## PRODUCTION TEAM

Director .....	Janine Longy
Producer .....	Bronwyn Taylor
Stage Manager .....	Kathy Macovichuk
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Gerry Thompson
Set Design/Construction.....	Dave Hitchcock
Lighting Design .....	Max Terpstra
Projections Design .....	Kevin Stinson
Lighting Crew .....	Jennifer Illingworth, Nahlia Meyer, Carol-Anne Moore, Maggie Rogers
Sound Design .....	Mitch Barnes
Sound Tech/Operator.....	Phil Letourneau
Sound Engineer .....	Kevin Stinson
Set Décor & Props .....	Merry Hallsor and Ann Harris
Costume Design.....	Wendy Henderson
Building Crew .....	Gordon Alexander, Jim Grant, Julie Gray, Paul Hawkes-Frost, Dave Hitchcock, Glen Rodger, Simon Skey, Bill Tolson
Set Painters.....	Gloria Gillingham, Merry Hallsor, Ann Harris
Front of House Manager.....	Bronwyn Taylor
Concession Manager .....	Linda Troke
Publicity.....	Janine Longy
Executive Liaison .....	Sheila McKenzie
Graphic Design by Saltchuck Studios – Beverly van Druten-Blais (posters, programme, lobby presentation, photography, website)	

## GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We acknowledge and thank Stan Brygadyr and Norm Dressler, two retired pilots who helped us to understand the world of aviation, and taught Lia how to fly. Also thank the BC Museum of Aviation for the loan of props and costumes. Thanks to Clayton Jevne, Theatre Inconnu, for lending us the screens for projections. A thank you to Sylvia Hosie for giving the cast and crew an intimacy workshop; and a thank you to Sylvia and her daughter Sara-Jeanne Hosie for choreographing the 'face slap' scene. We are very grateful to Allan MacKenzie for kindly lending us some microphones, and Colin Evans of Kellco Custom Painting for his help with painting supplies.

## PRODUCTION TEAM



### **Janine Longy** – Director

Janine began her involvement with community theatre after retiring in 2009. Her first acting role was with the Nanaimo Theatre Group. After moving to Victoria in 2010, she has continued her theatre involvement: acting, taking courses, workshops, and individual coaching. She has directed five shows: a mystery, comedy, Panto and two dramas.



### **KATHY MACOVICHUK** – Stage Manager

Kathy's previous experience at SLPCT was in the role of Madge Geisel in *The Game's Afoot or Holmes for the Holiday*. She's back as SM wrangling all the light, sound, and projection cues for this show.

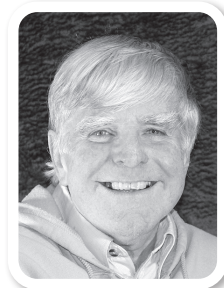
"Remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet." ~ Stephen Hawking



Bronwyn Taylor  
Producer



Gerry Thompson  
Assistant Stage Mgr



Dave Hitchcock  
Set Design/Construction

We at St. Luke's Players Community Theatre respectfully acknowledge that we work, create and perform on the traditional territories of the Lekwungen Peoples, also known as the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.

## PRODUCTION TEAM



Kevin Stinson  
*Projection Design  
and Sound Engineer*



Max Terptrsra  
*Lighting Design*



Mitch Barnes  
*Sound Design*



Phil Latourneau  
*Sound Technician*



Wendy Henderson  
*Costume Design*



Ann Harris & Merry Hallsor  
*Set Décor & Props*



*Some of the set building and lighting crews at work*



# ST. LUKE'S PLAYERS

COMMUNITY THEATRE SINCE 1948!

*Presents our final play of the season. You won't want to miss this hilarious comedy:*

Evenings:

**June 12–15 &  
19–22**

Matinees:

**June 15, 16,  
22, 23**

*Tickets \$18 available on Eventbrite and at the door.*



*Written by Paul Slade Smith*

*Directed by Tony Cain*

## Theatre **INCONNU**

### **VISION DISTURBANCE** by Christina Masciotti



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*New York Times*



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