

Kelsey Theatre & MPOnStage Present

SCENERY

By Ed Dixon

With



Laurie Hardy



Thom Carroll

Directed By
Judi Parrish

February 4, 5, 11, 12, 2022 at 8pm

February 6, 13, 2022 at 2pm

Tickets (609) 570-3333

www.kelseytheatre.org

**KELSEY
THEATRE**
AT MERCER
1200 Old Trenton Road
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Maurer Productions OnStage

presents

Scenery

By Ed Dixon

**Directed by
Judi Parrish**

**Produced by
John M. Maurer and Diana Gilman Maurer**

❧ THE CAST ❧

Marion Crain Laurie Hardy
Richard Crain Thom Carroll

SETTING

Present Day
The Crain's Dressing Room at the Belasco Theatre, New York

THERE WILL BE ONE FIFTEEN MINUTE INTERMISSION.

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∞ THE PRODUCTION STAFF ∞

Director..... Judi Parrish
Producers John M. Maurer & Diana Gilman Maurer
Stage Manager Jennifer Boutros
Set Design John M. Maurer
Master Carpenter Jeff Cantor
Lighting Design Judi Parrish
Props & Set Dressing Jill Katz
Sound Design Evan Paine
Costume Design Ruth Schanbacher
Hair & Make-up Erin Leder
Marketing John M. Maurer and Kelsey Theatre
Assistant Sound Engineer Camryn LeCain
Light Board Operator Dayley Katz
Scenic Artists Hayley Schmalbach, John M. Maurer
Set Construction ... John M. Maurer, Jeff Cantor, Judi Parrish,
..... Hunter Maurer, Thom Carroll, Laurie Hardy,
..... Alan Hardy, Amanda Maurer, Chris Schmalbach

∞ Special Thanks ∞

*Kitty Getlik, Amy Bessellieu, Kate Pinner,
the staff & volunteers at the Kelsey Theatre,
Langhorne Players, Jenna Moschella,
Ruth Rittmann—Rittzy Productions,
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Out of courtesy to the actors and other audience members,
Please turn **OFF** all electronic devices such as cell phones,
tablets, etc.

Flash photography and the videotaping or other video or
audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

❧CAST BIOS❧



Laurie Hardy (Marion Crain) is overjoyed to be on stage again, especially working once more with Thom. Despite art imitating life somewhat here (aging actors always looking for the next show) this is yet another challenging role. Some past roles include Maria Callas (**Master Class**) M'Lynn (**Steel Magnolias**) Clairee (**Steel Magnolias**) Dotty Otley (**Noises Off!**) Mrs. Peachum (**Threepenny Opera**) Ethel Thayer (**On Golden Pond**)...are you seeing the pattern here? Before the enforced hiatus, Laurie had been performing on area stages almost continuously for 15ish years. When not rehearsing, performing and/or studying lines she supports her husband's barbershop chorus habit, and sometimes pretends to be a responsible adult. None of this could happen without the aiding and abetting from family and friends, whom I thank from the bottom of my voluminous makeup kit. As always, Papa, this curtain call is for you!



Thom Carroll (Richard Crain) is making his first appearance on the Kelsey Theatre stage and with Maurer Productions. Thom was born in Boston, MA and spent a good portion of his 20's as an actor in that city. After a 34 year theatrical sabbatical to attend to family and career, he returned to theatre in 2018 at Somerset Valley Players appearing as John in **Calendar Girls**, David in **Rehearsal for Murder**, Mike in **Legally Grey** (opposite the amazing Laurie Hardy), and most recently as Judge Gaffney in **Harvey**. He has also been seen as Efram in **The Nance** (Circle Players), and Tom in **Dinner with Friends** (Center Players). Thom thanks his wonderful director Judi Parrish for the opportunity; Jennifer Boutros and our terrific crew for their hard work and professionalism. And a very special thank you to Laurie for being the greatest stage wife, and, once again, putting up with his nonsense. Thom is the very proud father of Rachel and Emily. And he shares the remainder of his time with the beautiful and brilliant Mary Jane Carroll, who has earned a special place in Heaven for that duty.

❧ PRODUCTION STAFF BIOS ❧

Judi Parrish (Director/Lighting Design) With over 50 years in community theatre, Judi has credits as a director, musical director, producer, stage manager, set designer, lighting designer, sound designer and actress. She has 2 NJACT Perry awards with MPO, one for acting (Superintendent in **The Drowsy Chaperone**), and one for scenic design (**NOISES OFF!**) Other directing credits include: **Steel Magnolias**, **The Miracle Worker**, **Agnes of God**, **The Musical of Musicals: The Musical**, **A Streetcar Named Desire**, **Master Class**, **The Glass Menagerie**, **Proof**, and **Doubt**, **A Parable**. Her next directing project will be **Olive & The Bitter Herbs** for Langhorne Players in April. When not doing theatre she spends her time with her cat, Filbert, going for long canal walks, and planning trips with her son and son-in-law!

John Maurer (Producer/Marketing/Set Design) John founded MPO with his wife, Diana, and his brother, Dan, in 2004. John has directed over 22 plays and musicals, including **Around the World in 80 Days** (Perry Award for Outstanding Production of a Play) and **City of Angels**. He is an accomplished set designer, costume designer, make-up artist, and prop master. He holds 25 of the company's 67 NJACT Perry Award nominations, having won seven times. John started in theater at the age of 10 and ever since then has been an actor, magician, clown, juggler, balloon sculptor, stilt-walker, and mime and has specialized in comedy and improvisational theater. John and Diana are internationally produced playwrights, having written three interactive plays that have been produced in England, New Zealand, and US.

Diana Gilman Maurer (Producer) Diana is a mom, actress, producer, and director. She founded Maurer Productions OnStage with her husband, John, and brother-in-law, Dan. MPO has won numerous Kelsey & Perry Awards, including Outstanding Production of a Musical (**AIDA**) and Outstanding Production of a Play (**Driving Miss Daisy** and **Around the World in 80 Days**). Diana was nominated for Kelsey Awards for directing **A Little Murder Never Hurt Anybody** and **Jake's Women**. She was nominated for a Perry Award and won the Kelsey Award for Outstanding Director of a Play (**Sleuth**) in 2018. Her next project will be directing the children's show **Nick Tickle, Fairy Tale Detective** for the Kelsey Players this March.

❧ PRODUCTION STAFF BIOS ❧

Jennifer Boutros (Stage Manager) Jennifer is beyond thrilled to be back at Kelsey Theater and honored to work with Maurer Productions OnStage for the very first time. After far too long of a hiatus, she returned to the theater in the winter of 2020 and performed in **Journey to Broadway** (Ensemble), **Inherit the Wind** (Mrs. Blair), and **The Sound of Music** (Nun). Eager to participate behind the scenes as well, Jennifer also served as stage manager for **12 Angry Men**, backstage crew for **Cabaret**, and lighting board operator for **Frozen Jr.** Jennifer would like to thank MPO, Judi, Laurie, Thom, and the remarkable crew for working to create such an incredible experience, and she looks forward to joining them again—both on stage and behind the scenes.

Jeff Cantor (Master Carpenter) Jeff started his theater work assisting with set construction on a 2003 Pierrot Productions production of **Noises Off!** at Kelsey Theater and got hooked. In 2006 while helping with a production of **You're a Good Man Charlie Brown**, Jeff joined the board of directors of Maurer Productions OnStage (MPO) as Master Carpenter. In the ensuing years, he has worked on over fifty productions for MPO as well as various other community theater and school drama groups with over forty-five master carpenter credits and over fifteen set design credits. In addition, Jeff has stage managed four shows including MPO's production of **Aida** and worked on running crew or as effects coordinator on over a dozen more. His work has been nominated for three Perry Awards in set design (one win for MPO's **Noises Off!** in (2019) and six other Perry Award nominations for Outstanding Production including three winners: **Around the World in 80 Days** (2016), **Aida** (2012), and **Driving Miss Daisy** (2008); all with Maurer Productions. Jeff would like to thank John Maurer of Maurer Productions OnStage for his mentorship in set design and construction; Marilyn Stoddard and the rest of the drama program staff at West Windsor Plainsboro High School South for their support and dedication to theater; and his wife Michelle for her love, patience, and understanding.

❧ PRODUCTION STAFF BIOS ❧

Jill Katz (Props & Set Dressing) is so excited to be back at Kelsey Theater doing props for this funny and delightful show! It was a long hiatus but thankful for Judi and MPO for bringing her back. She was introduced to the magical world of backstage theater by her two kids Makenna and Dayley. Although you won't find Jill on stage, she has been involved in over 20 shows here at Kelsey. As always, she is excited to be working with the cast and crew (especially her daughter Dayley running the lighting board) and hope you enjoy the show and being back for live theater!

Erin Leder (Hair & Make-up) Having been involved in all aspects of theatre since adolescence, Erin's favorite past credits include hair and make-up for the MPO productions of **Hollywood Arms** and **The Glass Menagerie**, playing Maggie in **Jakes Women**, Belinda in **NOISES OFF!** (NJACT Perry Nomination), and Meg in **Leading Ladies**, all with MPO; Lily in **The Twentieth Century** with Theater to Go, Cora in **Calendar Girls** with Pennington Players, Cunningham in **The Last Days of Judas Iscariot** at ActorsNet, and Annelle in **Steel Magnolias** at Somerset Valley Playhouse. She directed **It's Only a Play** for Langhorne Plays and will be directing there again with **Third** in August 2022.

Ruth Schanbacher (Costume Design) Combining a love of history and fashion into a love of theater behind the scenes, specializing in period works, Ruth's goal is for her costumed performer to see their character when they look into the mirror. A knack for organizing both costumes and people, Ruth has enjoyed working with community theatre in PA and NJ. Recent Costume Design work include **Journey Into Broadway**, **Sound of Music**, and **33 Variations at the Kelsey Theatre**; **Mame!**, **Damn Yankees**, and **Oliver!** for Newtown Arts Company; **Betrayal** for Langhorne Players; **The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance**, **Witness for the Prosecution**, **Red Velvet**, **An Inspector Calls**, **A Murder is Announced**, and a slew of shows for The Actors' NET, where Ruth also served as the company Wardrobe Manager.

🌀 ABOUT THE PLAY 🌀

This broadsided salute to the triumphs and heartbreaks of working in the theater is a sweet homage to backstage life and Broadway itself. It delivers laughs when we need them the most, as well as nuggets of Broadway history! The characters and their lives are fictional, but the Belasco Theatre IS a real Broadway house with a rich history of productions, including **Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown**, **Dracula the Musical**, and revivals of **Follies** and **The Rocky Horror Show**. And yes, John Barrymore DID have one of his comebacks at the Belasco. In fact, it was his last Broadway production. We invite you to relax, put your cares away, and listen for those nuggets of Broadway history! Oh...and no animals or actors were harmed in the making of this play!

🌀 Welcome to the Kelsey Theatre 🌀

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR M. Kitty Getlik
ACADEMIC THEATRE
& DANCE COORDINATOR Jody Gazenbeek-Person
SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST Amy Bessellieu
TECHNICAL COORDINATOR Kate Pinner
ENTERTAINMENT TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST Robert Terrano
BOX OFFICE MANAGER Diana Maurer
BOX OFFICE CLERK Martha DiBartolo
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT Michael Almstedt
HOUSE MANAGER Sheron Williams
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JAMES HINDMAN

DIRECTED BY

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