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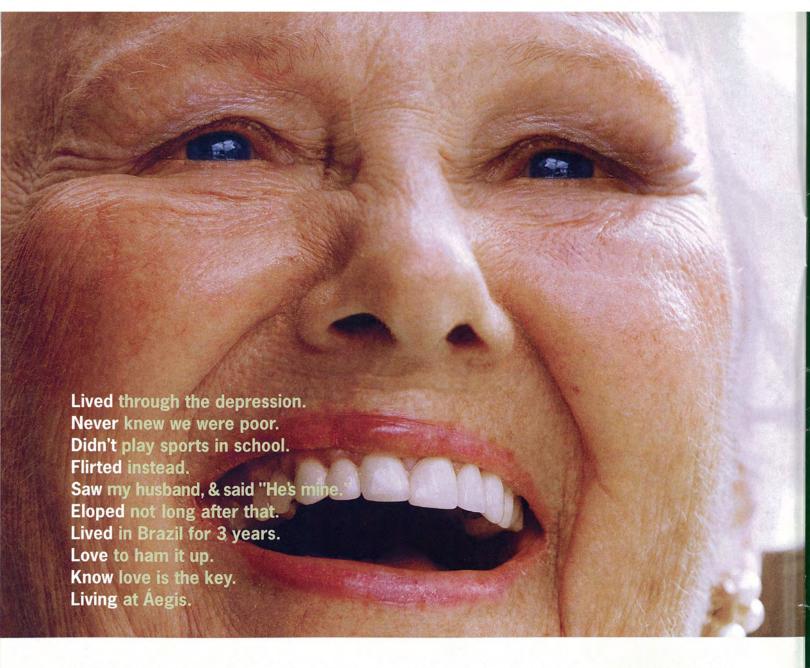


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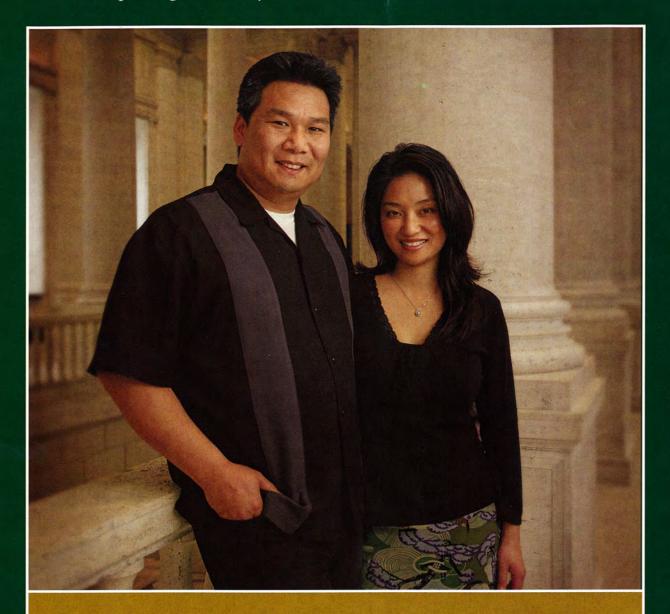
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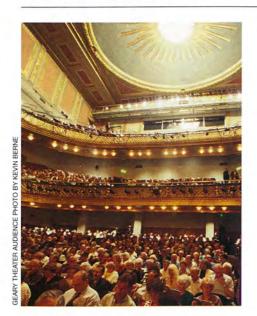
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ABOUT A.C.T.



AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATER nurtures the art of live theater through dynamic productions, intensive actor training in its conservatory, and an ongoing dialogue with its community. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Carey Perloff and Executive Director Heather Kitchen, A.C.T. embraces its responsibility to conserve, renew, and reinvent its relationship to the rich theatrical traditions and literatures that are our collective legacy, while exploring

new artistic forms and new communities. A commitment to the highest standards informs every aspect of A.C.T.'s creative

Founded in 1965 by William Ball, A.C.T. opened its first San Francisco season at the Geary Theater in 1967. In the 1970s, A.C.T. solidified its national and international reputation, winning a Tony Award for outstanding theater performance and training in 1979. During the past four decades, more than 300 A.C.T. productions have been performed to a combined audience of seven million people; today, A.C.T.'s performance, education, and outreach programs annually reach more than 270,000 people in the San Francisco Bay Area. In 1996, A.C.T.'s efforts to develop creative talent for the theater were recognized with the prestigious Jujamcyn Theaters Award. In 2001, to celebrate A.C.T.'s 35th anniversary and Perloff's 10th season, A.C.T. created a new core company of actors, who have become instrumental in every aspect of its work.

Today A.C.T. is recognized nationally for its groundbreaking productions of classical works and bold explorations

of contemporary playwriting. Since the reopening of the Geary Theater in 1996, A.C.T. has enjoyed a remarkable period of audience expansion and financial stability. In 2001, A.C.T. began producing alternative work at Zeum Theater, which now serves as a venue for student productions and exciting new plays. The company continues to produce challenging theater in the rich context of symposia, audience discussions, and community interaction.

The conservatory, led by Melissa Smith and George Thompson, now serves 3,000 students every year. It was the first actor training program in the United States not affiliated with a college or university accredited to award a master of fine arts degree. Danny Glover, Annette Bening, Denzel Washington, and Teri Hatcher are among the conservatory's distinguished former students. With its commitment to excellence in actor training and to the relationship between training, performance, and audience, the A.C.T. Master of Fine Arts Program has moved to the forefront of America's actor training programs, while serving as the creative engine of the company at large.



Carey Perloff, Artistic Director • Heather Kitchen, Executive Director

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FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

Welcome to the wonderful world of *Happy End*, which I hope will provide a truly happy ending for A.C.T's 2005–06 season.

This remarkable music-theater piece is one I have longed to do ever since we produced *The Threepenny Opera* in 2000.

The music of Kurt Weill gets under your skin and stays there unlike almost any other music—it is sexy, dangerous, surprising, inventive, and filled with sudden bursts of jazz, tango, foxtrot, and early 20th-century American dance music. Although the music of *Happy End* is at least as rich as that of *The Threepenny Opera*, *Happy End* is the far-less produced of the two musicals. After its notorious 1929 premiere in Berlin, *Happy End* all but disappeared from the repertoire; one must credit adaptor (and longtime A.C.T. collaborator) Michael Feingold with helping to resuscitate it for American audiences.

Ostensibly set in a fantasy Chicago of low-life gangsters and dutiful Salvation Army workers (neither Brecht nor Weill had yet been to America), *Happy End* is really about the chaotic and dangerous Berlin in which these two young artists found themselves before the Second World War. Nazism was already

on the rise and roving gangs of thugs repeatedly harrassed Jews, gays, and others on the city streets. Although it was expressly prohibited, everyone seemed aware that Germany was re-arming, just as it became clear that the vast disparities between rich and poor were becoming a political tinderbox. Yet Happy End functions less as a political critique than as an invitation to escape; Brecht's later Chicago plays (St. Joan of the Stockyards, Arturo Ui) confront the need for social change head on, whereas Happy End uses wit and irony to fantasize about worlds as far from the chaos of Berlin as possible.

That escape is fuelled primarily by the extraordinary music of Kurt Weill. Although at first glance the music in Happy End seems somewhat separate from the story, it actually plays a deep and integral role in the emotional journey of the piece: music is the agency for "conversion" in Happy End, both in terms of religious conversion (the music of the Salvation Army) and sexual/romantic conversion. Bill Cracker, that notoriously hardened criminal whose mantra is "if you want to be a big shot, start by learning to be tough," cries every time he hears Lillian sing. Indeed, a sense of longing, a fantasy of better times, pervades the jazz-infused songs of Happy End: "The Bilbao Song" is a gorgeous example of what happens to the down-and-out gangsters when for a moment they imagine a time when they were happy and the world was beautiful. Music consistently serves to shift the prism in Happy End; the songs allow the characters to escape to other, fantastic worlds (Bilbao, Mandalay), as yet unknown realms in which a golden moon

A.C.T. WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES



OLYMPIA DUKAKIS

A.C.T. is delighted to welcome a distinguished slate of new trustees who joined the board during the 2005–06 fiscal year: community leader Marilee K. Gardner; Kenneth W. Berryman, a partner in the West Coast office of McKinsey & Co.; Phillip E. Forrest, senior vice president of the Bank of America Automotive Group; Jonathan S. Kitchen, a senior partner in the law firm of Liner, Yankelevitz, Sunshine & Regenstreif LLP; Robert Green, chairman of Education Partners LLC; and Academy Award winner Olympia Dukakis.

The newest member of the board, Dukakis has been a member of the A.C.T. family since 1995, when she performed in the title role of *Hecuba*. A philanthropist, teacher, and activist, as well as a highly acclaimed actress, Dukakis also serves on the boards of Brandeis University, the Jewels of Charity Foundation, Voices of Earth, and Women in Film & Video.

"We are thrilled that such a talented group of individuals is willing to extend their commitment to the growth and success of this organization," says A.C.T. Artistic Director Carey Perloff. "We are tremendously thankful for their involvement, particularly as we look forward to A.C.T.'s upcoming 40th-anniversary season. I am confident that the depth of expertise they add to our already outstanding board will enable A.C.T. to thrive for many more years to come."

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, continued

shines bright and the possibility of beauty is palpable. "It was fantastic, it was fantastic, it was fantastic, beyond belief!" they sing. Yet each time the lights come up, we (and they) return to a gritty, brutal world in which the poor remain poor and the moon is made of tin.

As always with Brecht and Weill, the lyrics and the music never duplicate each other; rather, they often work in opposite directions, and this tension gives the songs great pungency: a bitter lyric will be set to a luscious melody, while a romantic lyric will often be driven by a pounding pulse. Brecht was, above all, a great urban poet. For all his theories of "alienation," he was also intensely romantic, and the collision of longing with reality drives the text of *Happy End*, just as it drives the music. "Surabaya Johnny" is one of the most bittersweet love songs ever written, and when one listens to it, one can only long for the day when once again great poets and major composers team up to write for the musical theater.

It is music, of course, that ultimately unifies the two warring factions of *Happy End*: gangsterism and religion. There is something both hilarious and horrifying about listening to

these two groups make beautiful music together at the end of the play; the relationship of organized religion to big business is a trend which continues to dominate our modern post-industrial world. Beneath the vaudeville of *Happy End* lies an "acid undercurrent," as Feingold calls it, and that undercurrent seems as potent today as it was in 1929.

It has been a great joy to work on this unusual material, and we are thrilled to share it with you. Thank you for all your support this year, and we look forward to seeing you this fall for the launch of our 40th-anniversary season!

a left

Carey Perloff

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THESE EVENTS

A.C.T. PROLOGUE

a conversation with director Carey Perloff about Happy End

Tuesday, June 13, 5:30-6 p.m.

AUDIENCE EXCHANGES

free postperformance discussions with actors and/or A.C.T. staff members, in the theater directly following Happy End Tuesday, June 20 (after the 7 p.m. performance)
Sunday, June 25 (after the 2 p.m. performance)
Wednesday, June 28 (after the 2 p.m. performance)

KURT WEILL AND THE WORLD

A Special Audience Exchange

Join us for an in-depth discussion of Kurt Weill and the music of Happy End, with special guests Dr. Stephen Hinton, professor of music at Stanford University and author of the recent book Kurt Weill's Musical Theater: Stages of Reform, and Dr. Herbert Lindenberger, founder of the Stanford University Department of Comparative Literature and Avalon Foundation Professor of Humanities, emeritus.

Tuesday, June 20 (after the 7 p.m. performance)

OUT WITH A.C.T.—PRIDE CELEBRATION

A.C.T. has planned an extra-special Out with A.C.T. night to help kick off the 2006 San Francisco Pride Week celebration. The evening performance of Happy End will be followed by a gathering of gay and lesbian theatergoers featuring drinks, a DJ, and dancing. Hosted by Grey Goose Vodka and sponsored by SF Weekly and BV Vineyards.

Wednesday, June 21 (after the 8 p.m. performance)

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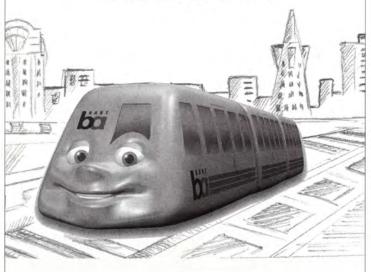
ACT One members are invited to a postshow reception honoring the close of A.C.T.'s successful 2005–06 season.
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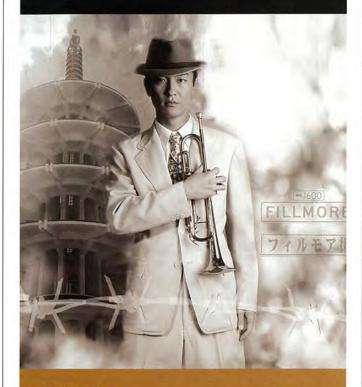
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(1929)

Lyrics by Bertolt Brecht Music by Kurt Weill Original German Play by Dorothy Lane (Elisabeth Hauptmann and Bertolt Brecht) Book and Lyrics Adapted by Michael Feingold

Directed by Carey Perloff Choreographer John Carrafa Music Director/Conductor Constantine Kitsopoulos

> Walt Spangler Scenery by Costumes by Candice Donnelly Lighting by Robert Wierzel Sound by Jeff Curtis Dramaturg Michael Paller Casting by Meryl Lind Shaw

New York Casting by Telsey + Company Assistant Director Nathan Baynard

THE CAST

Bill Cracker Peter Macon

Sam "Mammy" Wurlitzer Jack Willis

Dr. Nakamura ("The Governor") Sab Shimono

Jimmy Dexter ("The Reverend") Charles Dean

Bob Marker ("The Professor") Rod Gnapp

Johnny Flint ("Baby Face")

A Lady in Grey ("The Fly")

Miriam, the barmaid

Major Stone

Captain Hannibal Jackson

Lieutenant Lillian Holiday ("Hallelujah Lil")

Sister Mary

Ensemble

Sister Jane

Brother Ben Owens

Cops

Lianne Marie Dobbs

Steven Anthony Jones Charlotte Cohn

Jud Williford

René Augesen

Justin Leath* Linda Mugleston

Celia Shuman

Joan Harris-Gelb

Dan Hiatt, Jud Williford

Jackson Davis, Dan Hiatt, Drew Hirshfield,

Wendy James, Stephanie Saunders*, Colin Thomson

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UNDERSTUDIES

Bill Cracker—Jud Williford; Sam, Hannibal—Colin Thomson Governor, Reverend—Dan Hiatt; Professor—Jackson Davis Baby Face, Brother Ben, Cops—Drew Hirshfield The Fly—Joan Harris-Gelb; Hallelujah Lil—Lianne Marie Dobbs Miriam, Sister Mary, Sister Jane—Stephanie Saunders; Major Stone—Wendy James

STAGE MANAGEMENT STAFF

Kimberly Mark Webb, Stage Manager Dick Daley, Assistant Stage Manager Alex Marshall, Phoebe Weiss, Interns

> TIME AND PLACE Chicago, December 1919

There will be two intermissions.

ADDITIONAL CREDITS

Supertitles—Alexander V. Nichols and Fred Geffken
Dialect Coach—Deborah Sussel; Fight Coach, Fight Captain—Jud Williford
Rehearsal Accompanist—Chip Prince; Asst. to the Music Director—John Bauder
Asst. to the Sound Designer—Mary McFadden; Rehearsal Asst.—Shawn Ferreyra
Dance Captain—Wendy James

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Harmonium provided by James B. Tyler, "The Reed Organ Man" Montclair State University; San Jose Repertory Theatre; Guthrie Theater; Center Theatre Group Ellen Novack; Stephen Hinton; Leslie Martinson; Megan Larche; Jay Binder

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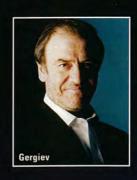
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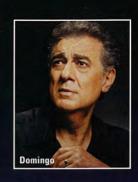
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SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS

Prologue
ACT I
Bill's Beer Hall, December 22 "The Bilbao Song"
Intermission
ACT II
The Salvation Army Mission, Canal Street, and the Beer Hall, December 23
"The Sailors' Tango" (Reprise) Lillian "Brother, Give Yourself a Shove" The Army & The Fold "Song of the Big Shot" The Governor "Don't Be Afraid" Jane, The Army & The Fold "In Our Childhood's Bright Endeavor" Hannibal "The Liquor Dealer's Dream" Hannibal, The Governor, Jane, The Army & The Fold
Intermission
ACT III
Scene 1: The Beer Hall, December 24 "The Mandalay Song". Sam & The Gang "Surabaya Johnny". Lillian "Song of the Big Shot" (Reprise) .Bill "Ballad of the Lily of Hell". The Fly
Scene 2: The Mission, later that night "Song of the Big Shot" (Reprise)
Epilogue

THE HAPPY END BAND

Conductor—Constantine Kitsopoulos
Reed 1—Gene Burkert; Reed 2—Robert Todd
Trumpet 1—Kale Cumings
Trombone/Contractor—Kevin Porter
Accordion—Ronald Sfarzo
Guitar, Banjo, Ukulele, Bass Guitar—Dave MacNab
Keyboard, Trumpet 2, Associate Conductor—Chip Prince
Percussion—Allen Biggs

*The "Ballad of the Pirates," with lyrics by Michael Feingold, derived from Bertolt Brecht's poem "Ballade von den Seeräubern," and orchestrated by Constantine Kitsopoulos, has been interpolated into the score of Happy End for this production by special permission of European American Music Corporation. Kurt Weill composed the music of the song, originally titled "Die Muschel von Margate," to a text by Felix Gasbarra in 1928 for a play called Konjunktur.

A TRUE STORY WITH A "HAPPY END"

BY MICHAEL FEINGOLD

n 1928, the young writer-composer team of Bertolt Brecht and Kurt Weill reached the height of its interwar fame. The success of The Threepenny Opera had converted Brecht, the outspoken avant-garde poet, and Weill, the intensely serious atonal musician, into Brecht-&-Weill, the clever musical comedy duo whose smash hit (within a year of its opening, Threepenny Opera had received more than 30 European productions) had the whole continent whistling its seductive pop tunes and quoting its cynical couplets.

This kind of middlebrow popular success actually sat rather awkwardly with the two men, and both were soon occupied with more serious projects. Brecht, who had recently embraced Marx's economic theories, was working on his giant capitalist tragedy, St. Joan of the Stockyards, while Weill had returned to his most ambitious theater project to date, the full-length opera Rise

and Fall of the City of Mahagonny. For the moment, they thought, they were through with commercial theater.

But the ebullient producer Ernst Josef Aufricht was eager to follow up on his huge Threepenny success. Aufricht proposed that, for the fall of 1929, Brecht and Weill write him a contemporary sequel to The Threepenny Opera (which had been based on John Gay's 18th-century Beggar's Opera), to be produced with the same cast, at the same

theater in Berlin (the cozy Schiffbauerdamm, later the home of Brecht's Berliner Ensemble), opening on the first anniversary of Threepenny's memorable opening night.

The promise of redoubled fame and fortune made Aufricht's offer hard to resist, and Brecht quickly started casting about for a suitable story to adapt. Elisabeth Hauptmann, his faithful secretary, had the answer, discovered in the course of her exhaustive English-language reading: the cornball American story of a Salvation Army girl's romance with a gangster, which she credited to an imaginary "Dorothy Lane." [See "A Note on Sources," by Michael Paller, on page 18.]

Brecht and Hauptmann embroidered freely on whatever they took from their source or sources, inventing with their politics, their complexly European vision of America, and the specific abilities of their actors in mind. A sinister Oriental modeled on the silent film roles of Sessue Hayakawa was an obvious role for Peter Lorre, who had worked well with Brecht at Munich in The Jungle of Cities; a gangster who robbed banks in women's clothes, improbably, was an amusing one for the portly Kurt Gerron, who had made a hit as

Tiger Brown in The Threepenny Opera. Carola Neher, who had given up the lead role of Polly Peachum in Threepenny at the last moment to be at her dying husband's bedside, would play the heroic Salvation Army lass, while the gang would be filled out with other Brechtian favorites such as Oscar Homolka and Theo Lingen.

Kurt Weill's wife, Lotte Lenya, whose performance as Jenny in Threepenny had made her the toast of Berlin, was not available for Happy End, but Brecht's wife definitely was. Helene Weigel, whom he had recently married and who shared both his new Communist beliefs and his aesthetic militancy, was cast as the Lady in Grey. She had regarded The Threepenny Opera (in which she played the small role of the brothel madam) as a severely compromised work from a political point of view, and was determined to see that no such compromises afflicted Happy End. Needless to say, this was not what Aufricht and his crew had in mind. The script

> of Happy End turned out to be a jolly escapist romp with a few leftist gibes along the way, its acid undercurrent getting lost in the "collaborative" bedlam that accompanied any Brecht rehearsal, and Weigel apparently grew more and more dissatisfied.

> Accounts of what actually took place on opening night of Happy End (September 2, 1929, exactly a year and two days after the opening of The Threepenny Opera) differ markedly. We know that the first

two acts passed without incident and were favorably received. Lenya remembered Weill telephoning her at intermission, to say he was sure they had a hit. In the third act, however, the audience erupted: The Lady in Grey's final speech, which seems harmless enough in the text, aroused violent booing and whistling from the expensive seats, which in turn sparked shouts and counterarguments from the gallery, precipitating a near riot. Some assert that Brecht had rewritten Weigel's speech privately with provocative intent, others that she improvised a diatribe against capitalism, still others that she pulled a notorious Communist Party broadside from the pocket of her costume and began to harangue the audience with excerpts from it. To make matters worse, Brecht and director Erich Engel had contrived to follow the speech with an ironic hymn to capitalism that called for mock stained-glass windows representing Saint Rockefeller, Saint Henry Ford, and Saint J. P. Morgan. To a German bourgeois audience with a sizeable respect for both religion and money, this was the last straw, and the first-nighters responded with yells, threats, and what one reviewer described as a "concert of whistling."

"ROBBING A BANK'S NO CRIME COMPARED TO OWNING ONE! THE WORLD BELONGS TO ALL OF US-LET'S MARCH TOGETHER AND MAKE IT OUR OWN!"

—The Fly, Happy End, Act III

The critics gave the show a thorough shellacking in the next day's papers. Brecht's arch-enemy, the staid and influential Alfred Kerr, mocked the work's derivative nature with the phrase "Happy entlehnt" ("happily borrowed"—Kerr had accused Brecht of plagiarizing François Villon in the Threepenny lyrics) and suggested that Engel would do better to write plays himself than to get them from such as Brecht. Other critics followed Kerr's lead, with even Brecht's loyal supporter Herbert Jhering complaining that the last tableau appeared to belong to an entirely different play. (He was not far wrong: its lyric, along with several other key sections of Happy End, turned up the next year in St. Joan of the Stockyards). The ticket-buying public, dismayed by the notices and fearful of riots, shunned the work, which closed ignominiously two days later.

Brecht subsequently repudiated the script, in his notes to St. Joan crediting it entirely to Hauptmann. When Happy End was finally revived in 1958, she followed suit, instructing the German publisher to use only the name "Dorothy Lane" on the title page. (At the request of her heirs, her name was reinstated following her death in 1977.) Indeed the original version, despite some amusing moments, is desperately makeshift, but just happens to serve as a dramatic setting for some of the greatest theater songs ever written. The present version is a free adaptation, which treats the "Dorothy Lane" script as loosely as the collaborators of 1929 treated their mysterious source(s). Only the lyrics, whose authorship Brecht never denied, have been kept in more or less literal translation.

If Happy End was a setback for Brecht, it was pure victory for Weill. The songs, as interpreted by Lenya and countless

other artists, are among the keystones of his reputation and have kept the idea of the show alive even when its script seemed totally unfeasible. Over the years, the score has served as a sort of reservoir from which people could draw music for other Kurt Weill shows: in 1956 "The Bilbao Song" was interpolated into an off-Broadway production of The Threepenny Opera, domesticated by Marc Blitzstein as "Our Bide-a-Wee in Soho." The lyric of the "Mandalay Song" was given a new setting by Weill for the "Loving" scene of Mahagonny, and several of the Salvation Army hymns turned up in Weill's Paris musical Marie Galante, four years later, as decidedly profane French dance-hall tunes. Since the present adaptation was commissioned by Robert Brustein's Yale Repertory Theatre in 1972, there have been many American productions including one on Broadway in 1977 featuring Yale Rep alumni' Meryl Streep and Christopher Lloyd, which earned three Tony and three Drama Desk award nominations. In this version, Happy End has found its way to Canada, Australia, and Wales, to British and American resident theaters and universities, and to London's West End. Despite its stormy beginnings, Happy End is now thriving, to use a word Brecht coined for the occasion, happyendlich.

Michael Feingold, author of the English-language adaptation of Happy End, has been chief theater critic for the Village Voice in New York since 1983. An earlier version of this essay is printed as an introduction to the published script (which is available for purchase in the theater lobby).



A NOTE ON SOURCES

BY MICHAEL PALLER

n 1928, Bertolt Brecht had his first major commercial success with *The Threepenny Opera*. His process for creating that work included drawing heavily on eclectic sources and adapting them, making something startlingly new out of familiar material. As Lotte Lenya, one of the stars of *Threepenny*, wrote in 1956:

This always has been Brecht's procedure. As his admirers have it: to adapt, reinterpret, re-create, magnificently add modern social significance; or, in his detractors' eyes: to pirate, plagiarize, shamefully appropriate—to borrow at will from the vanished great like Marlowe and Shakespeare and Villon, and even from his actual or near contemporaries like Kipling and Gorky and Klabund.

The method succeeded so well with *Threepenny* that he employed it again when he and his collaborator, Elisabeth Hauptmann, tried to repeat their success later that year. Officially, they credited *Happy End* as adapted from a short story by Dorothy Lane that had been published in the *J&L Weekly* of St. Louis. The *J&L Weekly*, however, wasn't located in St. Louis or anywhere else, and "Dorothy Lane" existed only as a pseudonym for Brecht and Hauptmann. Indeed, *Happy End* was largely written by Hauptmann (referred to by Lenya as Brecht's "vigilant shadow") with lyrics by Brecht. Brecht supplied Hauptmann with a general plot outline, on which she embroidered (and the English translation produced by A.C.T. has been liberally adapted from the original by Michael Feingold).

While some of the actual sources of *Happy End* are hard to identify, others are obvious. The most obvious is George Bernard Shaw's *Major Barbara* (1905), which Hauptmann and Brecht would have known through Siegfried Trebitsch's German translation, although Hauptmann knew English well and may have read it in the original. Shaw was popular in Germany and *Major Barbara* especially so. He was also one of Brecht's favorite authors. In an essay written in honor of Shaw's 70th birthday in 1926, Brecht wrote, "the reason why Shaw's own dramatic works dwarf those of his contemporaries is that they so unhesitatingly appealed to reason." This may be arguable, but nonetheless, in this tribute Brecht pays Shaw the ultimate compliment of turning him into a Brechtian.

Brecht had already borrowed a scene from *Major Barbara* in his first play with a Chicago setting, *In the Jungle*, in 1922–23, as well as for lyrics for the second act finale of *The Threepenny Opera*. For *Happy End*, Hauptmann and Brecht apparently adapted from *Barbara* the cockney roughneck Bill Walker's name and turned him into Bill Cracker, a beer house proprietor and criminal. Further, they adapted Shaw's Act II situation, in which Major Barbara, a young Salvation Army worker, takes the gospel into the city's worst neighborhoods. She succeeds with some of the downtrodden, although not as well with Bill Walker as *Happy End*'s Sister Lillian Holiday does with Bill Cracker. Both Barbara and Lillian walk unafraid into dens of vice; both are unafraid to confront their respective fearsome adversaries named Bill.

Another source may have been Edward Sheldon's 1908 melodrama Salvation Nell, which starred the American actress





LEFT TO RIGHT U.S. SALVATION ARMY NATIONAL COMMANDER EVANGELINE CORY BOOTH GIVING TOYS TO CHILDREN; GANGSTERS IN A CHICAGO POLICE LINEUP DURING A GANG WAR IN 1927 ("ALL HAVE LONG CRIMINAL RECORDS, AND POLICE ORDERS ARE NOW TO KILL THEM IF THEY RESIST ONE BIT"); MISS KIRBY, A SALVATIONIST.

Minnie Maddern Fiske. It features "Hallelujah Maggie," a Salvation Army girl who ventures into one of New York City's most dangerous slums. On Christmas Eve, Maggie converts the hard-working but not entirely virtuous Nell Sanders to the gospel. In the subsequent acts, Nell becomes a "hallelujah lass" herself and brings her reprobate, violent lover, Jim Platt, to the Lord, saving him from a further life of crime. Certainly, one thing Hauptmann picked up from her reading, and also might have seen firsthand in Berlin, was the breathtaking bravery of these Salvation Army women, who moved into the worst neighborhoods in cities like London, New York, and Berlin, entering the lowest slums and roughest saloons with nothing to protect them but an unshakable belief in their mission.

By 1928, Brecht had long rejected Expressionism, the style perfected in Germany before World War I that emphasized characters' emotions above most other theatrical values. Still, he was influenced by it early in his career. Hauptmann and Brecht certainly knew From Morn to Midnight, one of the most famous Expressionist plays by the most successful Expressionist playwright, Georg Kaiser. In this 1918 work, a bank teller embezzles 60,000 marks. After being rejected by the woman for whom he impulsively stole the money, he embarks on a daylong journey throughout a nightmarish Berlin, each stop representing a station of the cross on the modern man's torturous road to Golgotha. Finally, he arrives at a Salvation Army meeting, where several witnesses testify to the ways in which the Army has saved their souls. Inspired by their stories, the clerk rises to his feet and proclaims that he has learned from the others' examples how, "Free from dross [the soul] mounts in praise, purified in these two continued on page 41



OF POOR B.B.

Bertolt Brecht

I, Bertolt Brecht, came out of the black forest. My mother moved me into the cities as I lay Inside her body. And the coldness of the forests Will be inside me till my dying day.

In the asphalt city I'm at home. From the very start Provided with every last sacrament: With newspapers. And tobacco. And brandy. To the end mistrustful, lazy and content.

I am polite and friendly to people. I put on A hard hat because that's what they do. I say they are animals with a quite peculiar smell And I say: does it matter? I am too.

Before noon on my empty rocking chairs I'll sit a woman or two, and with an untroubled eye Look at them steadily and say to them: Here you have someone on whom you can't rely.

Towards evening it's men that I gather round me And then we address one another as "gentlemen." They're resting their feet on my table tops And say: things will get better for us. And I don't ask when.

In the grey light before morning the pine trees piss And their vermin, the birds raise their twitter and cheep. At that hour in the city I drain my glass, then throw The cigar butt away and worriedly go to sleep.

We have sat, an easy generation In houses held to be indestructible (Thus we built those boxes on the island of Manhattan And those thin aerials that amuse the Atlantic swell).

Of those cities will remain what pass through them, the wind! The house makes glad, die the eater: clears it out. We know that we're only tenants, provisional ones And after us there will come: nothing worth talking about.

In the earthquakes to come, I very much hope I shall keep my cigar alight, embittered or no I, Bertolt Brecht, carried off to the asphalt cities From the black forests inside my mother long ago.

From *Bertolt Brecht: Poems 1913–1956*, edited by John Willett and Ralph Manheim with the cooperation of Erich Fried (New York: Methuen, 1976)

A COMPOSITION OF OPPOSITES

An Interview with Happy End Music Director/Conductor Constantine Kitsopoulos

BY JESSICA WERNER

On the centennial of Kurt Weill's birth in March 2000, Happy End adaptor Michael Feingold wrote in the Village Voice, "Wherever you go in music theater, from mass spectacle to surrealist caprice, Weill was there ahead of you." Described by Feingold as "the quintessential modern composer," Weill is an inspiration to Constantine Kitsopoulos, music director and conductor of A.C.T.'s production of Happy End. Kitsopoulos hears in Weill's enigmatic, ear-catching style a composer adroitly (and courageously for his day) integrating a diverse range of compositional styles—jazz, ragtime, tango, and classical orchestration—in a way they had never before been combined and performed in the popular theater. "His style is a hybrid," says Kitsopoulos. "He created the unexpected, so his music doesn't always go where you expect it to go." Kitsopoulos spoke with us during the first week of Happy End rehearsals at A.C.T.



KURT WEILL

WHAT DO YOU FIND COMPELLING ABOUT HAPPY END MUSICALLY, AND ABOUT WEILL'S MUSIC GENERALLY?

I come from an operatic background, but I have done a ton of musical theater work, on and off Broadway. The thing that attracts me to Kurt Weill's music is that his style of composition is really hybrid. He was a classically trained composer, and actually had written several orchestral works, but he also was very

affected by jazz and ragtime, and those American influences are very apparent in his theatrical works with Brecht. Later, when he came to the United States [in 1935], he accentuated those influences, and other jazz-based techniques, becoming what you might even call an American composer. His music, in *Happy End* and over the course of his career, is incredibly varied, with many different coherent styles. Yet, the way he applies those styles to his own work was always unique. He would do things like, where there would conventionally be a four-bar phrase, he would write a three-and-a-half-bar phrase. That creates the unexpected; his music doesn't always go where you expect it to go.

IT'S INTERESTING HOW MUCH AMERICAN MUSIC HAD ALREADY FILTERED INTO WEIMAR GERMANY BY THE LATE 1920S. THERE'S A PASSAGE IN A WEILL BIOGRAPHY IN WHICH HIS ASSOCIATES DESCRIBE HIM GOING TO HEAR AMERICAN JAZZ BANDS IN BERLIN. HIS FRIEND FELIX JACKSON SAYS, "WE ALL WENT TO HEAR PAUL WHITEMAN AT THE GROSSES SCHAUSPIELHAUS IN 1926, AND WE

HEARD GERSHWIN'S RHAPSODY IN BLUE—THRILLING, A TERRIFIC EXPERIENCE, BECAUSE NOBODY HAD EVER HEARD THIS KIND OF THING: A SYMPHONY USING JAZZ." AND WEILL'S PUBLISHER HANS HEINSHEIMER SAYS, "WE WENT TO NIGHTCLUBS WHERE SOME AMERICAN JAZZ BANDS—NEGROES, COLORED PEOPLE—PLAYED SOMETHING WE HAD NEVER HEARD; IT WAS LIKE SOMEBODY IN AMERICA HEARING A TUNE FROM THE ESKIMOS."

This exportation of jazz is so interesting. Jazz is music that came out of the cotton fields, essentially, and we have to remember those are its origins in the American South. If you think about the way black people were treated in the United States in the early 1900s, you have to imagine what some of their experiences would have been if and when they made that journey to Europe, where Europeans tended to be a little more open and tolerant. It's a fascinating aspect of this story. To think that at home these black artists couldn't sit at the same restaurants as white people, and there were segregated black theaters and white theaters...

AND LITTLE DID KURT WEILL KNOW THAT WITHIN A FEW YEARS [IN 1933], HE WOULD HAVE TO FLEE EUROPE HIMSELF BECAUSE OF ANOTHER VIRULENT KIND OF INTOLERANCE AND HEAD WEST, TO AMERICA.

It's a fascinating subject.

THE HYBRID STYLE YOU DESCRIBE IN WEILL'S WORK CAN MAKE SOME PEOPLE THINK OF HIS MUSIC AS DIFFICULT, BOTH TO LISTEN TO AND TO PERFORM, BECAUSE OF ITS CONTRADICTIONS AND COMPLEXITIES.

This is true, and one thing I find very interesting about approaching Kurt Weill's music in 2006 is that we have had over the course of so many years the benefit-I think it's largely a benefit, but there are also some downsides to it-of an extensive catalog of various artists recording Weill's music. Weill is dead now, so it is hard to say how he would have wanted things performed, other than to look at the printed page and get it directly from the source. That is my approach—to actually look at what he wrote in the score, in the tempo markings and dynamics and breaks, and do my very best to follow those very specifically. Because one of the downsides of this incredible recording history is that there have been an awful lot of people who have recorded his music and distorted it. People tend to play and sing his music much more slowly than it's written. It's the same thing that happens with Puccini, whose music gets stretched out because it sounds like it should be romantic, so the slower the better, right? One of the major challenges of performing Weill's work is having the courage to do just what he wrote. He was very specific.

WHAT ABOUT THE POINT THAT CAME UP IN THE FIRST REHEARSAL ABOUT THE MUSIC BEING SO "PUNISHINGLY HIGH"? IS THAT HOW WEILL WROTE IT?

Indeed, the whole score is really high, and it is very difficult for performers. When I say high, I'm not talking about high Cs, but it is scored in a relatively high range of the human voice. It's what we call the second break of the female human voice, around Es and Fs and Gs, which is where the female voice usually becomes a little bit unstable. To be able to sit up there in that range the whole night is a real challenge for performers.

WHY DO YOU THINK WEILL MADE THAT DECISION? WHAT DOES IT GIVE US?

The sound of the voice is certainly brighter [in that range]. And it certainly gets your attention. There may also be an element of influence from the actual way *Happy End* was written—Weill and Brecht didn't even speak to each other much about it as they worked, and they wrote it separately while living in different places [Weill in the south of France; Brecht in Berlin]. So we don't know if Brecht's idea of a "theater of alienation" influenced Weill in his decision to work at a higher pitch. Or maybe it was simply the fact that when Weill wrote the piece, he wrote parts for specific people he had in mind for the premiere production. It could be something as simple as that, and we never know these things. Musicologists and performers, we all can make a big deal out of historical decisions and [dramaturgical] details that in their inception could have been rather simplistic and benign.

ONE INTERESTING CHARACTERISTIC OF HAPPY END IS THAT THE MUSIC AND THE LYRICS CAN SEEM CONTRADICTORY AND

BE AT ODDS WITH EACH OTHER, THAT VIOLENT LYRICS CAN HAVE A LYRICAL ACCOMPANIMENT, AND VICE VERSA.

Yes, it's wonderful, and unique to *Happy End*. It's a composition of opposites. So a love song can have a more jarring accompaniment, which is not what a listener (or performer) expects. In the middle of "The Sailors' Tango," there is a gorgeous lyric melody, and yet the accompaniment underneath it is almost angular. You have these contrasts throughout.

IT'S AN INTERESTING STRATEGY TO KEEP OUR ATTENTION. YOU CAN'T GET LOST IN THE MUSIC WHEN IT'S FILLED WITH THOSE

INCONGRUITIES, THE WAY YOU CAN WITH SOME EASIER, MORE TRANSPORTING MUSIC.

That's the thing! When you take a conventional four-bar phrase and make it into a three-and-a-half-bar phrase, it becomes something that holds your interest. The other distinctive thing is the orchestration, which was written for a very odd combination of instruments. Weill scored *Happy End* for the same kind of band as in *The Threepenny Opera*, and it's an unusual band. It has trumpet, trombone, and two saxophones. That's conventional enough, but then you add piano and harmonium, which is an odd reed organ instrument. To include it in an orchestration is an odd choice, an odd sound. And the percussionist plays conventional instruments, but at some point in the show he's also required to play trumpet. There are a lot of *really* strange instrumental doublings.

ARE THERE PARTICULAR CHALLENGES TO WORKING WITH ACTORS AS WELL AS SINGERS?

It is a challenge, but in fact I always approach singers and singing from the point of view of the text—because if the text is clear, it technically helps your voice come out clearer. I do a lot of work with breathing, no matter who the performers are. To me, singing is learning to do two things: to move air and to make clear vowel sounds. There are a combination of techniques to use, but I always start from the breathing and the text.

If I'm working with an actor who's not an expert singer, we might break things down and have the actor speak the lyrics as if they are lines in a play. Then I'll underscore them with just an outline of the accompaniment. And then gradually we integrate the parts, and I'll say, "Let's add some pitch to this." It's a more continued on page 41



THE CREATORS

BERTOLT BRECHT

(1898-1956)

Born in Augsburg, Bavaria, Bertolt Brecht was publishing poems in a local newspaper by the age of 16. His first produced play, Drums in the Night, was performed at the Munich

Kammerspiele in 1922.

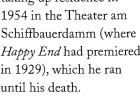
In 1924 he moved to Berlin, where he worked as a theater critic and as Max Reinhardt's assistant and dramaturg at the Deutsches Theater while writing a number of plays. His early works include In the Jungle (1923) and Life of Edward II of England (1924), but his first real success came with The Threepenny Opera in 1928, followed a year later by Happy End. He began reading Marx's Das Kapital in the mid 1920s; the influence of this work is already noticeable in his first collaboration with Kurt Weill, the song cycle Mahagonny (1927; also the full-length opera The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny, 1930). Marxism did not become a driving force in his work, however, until the late 1920s/early 1930s, when he wrote Saint Joan of the Stockyards (1929) and a number of short didactic plays.

Brecht was forced to flee Germany in 1933 with his wife, Helene

Weigel, and their two children, and after living in Switzerland, Denmark, and Finland he settled in California in 1941, where he remained during the war. During these years, he wrote what are generally considered his most important plays: Mother Courage and Her Children (1939), The Good Woman of Setzuan (1940), The Life of Galileo (1943), and The Caucasian Chalk Circle (1944).

In 1947, having been called before the House Un-American Activities Committee, Brecht left the United States for Switzerland, and in 1949 he was asked by the government of East Germany to form a state-financed theater company. He moved to East Berlin and founded the Berliner Ensemble, taking up residence in 1954 in the Theater am Schiffbauerdamm (where

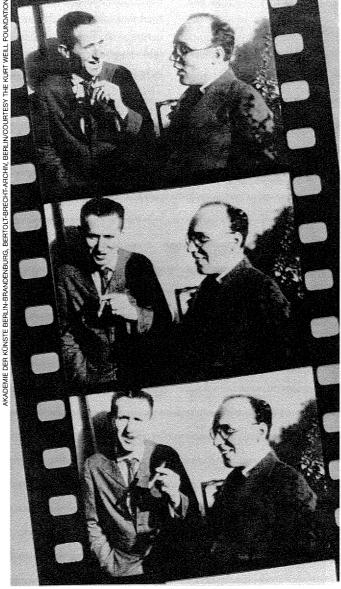
Happy End had premiered in 1929), which he ran until his death.



KURT WEILL

(1900-1950)

Born in Dessau, Kurt Weill began his earliest attempts at composition at the age of 10, and by 11 had written his first opera, based on a play by Karl Theodor Körner. He soon became an official accompanist of the Dessau Court Theater, and by 15 was already employed in the craft of the theater. Weill moved to Berlin in 1918, where he studied under Engelbert Humperdinck. Stifled by the academic atmosphere, however, Weill left Berlin in 1919 to work as a chorus master in Dessau and as director of the municipal theater in Lüdenscheid. In 1920 he returned to Berlin and devoted himself to composition as a student of Ferruccio Busoni. Weill first became known with the production of two



BERTOLT BRECHT (LEFT) AND KURT WEILL IN CONVERSATION AT THE THEATER AM SCHIFFBAUERDAMM DURING REHEARSALS OF THE THREEPENNY OPERA

short, satirical surrealist operas with texts by Georg Kaiser, The Protagonist (1926) and The Czar Has Himself Photographed (1928). He began his famous collaboration with Brecht in 1927 with a Songspiel titled Mahagonny, followed by The Threepenny Opera (1928), Happy End (1929), Man Is Man (1931), the ballet The Seven Deadly Sins (1933), and the radio cantatas The Berlin Requiem (1929) and Lindbergh's Flight (1929).

Who's Who in $H_{APPY}E_{ND}$



RENÉ AUGESEN* (Sister Mary), an A.C.T. associate artist and core acting company member, made her A.C.T. debut in The Misanthrope; she has

appeared in recent seasons in Celebration and The Room, The Beard of Avon, Blithe Spirit, Buried Child, Night and Day, The Dazzle, The Three Sisters, A Doll's House, A Mother, The Real Thing, The Gamester, The Voysey Inheritance (also at Kansas City Repertory Theatre), Cat on a Hot Tin Roof and, most recently, The Rivals. New York credits include Spinning into Butter (Lincoln Center Theater), Macbeth (with Alec Baldwin and Angela Bassett, Public Theater), It's My Party ... (with F. Murray Abraham and Joyce Van Patten, Arc Light Theater), and Overruled (Drama League). Regional theater credits include Mary Stuart (dir. Carey Perloff, Huntington Theatre Company); several productions, including the world premieres of The Beard of Avon and The Hollow Lands, at South Coast Repertory; and productions at the Great Lakes Theatre Festival, Baltimore's Center Stage, the Los Angeles Shakespeare Festival, Yale Repertory Theatre, and Stage West. Film and television credits include The Battle Studies, "Law & Order," "Guiding Light," "Another World," and Hallmark Hall of Fame's Saint Maybe. Augesen is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama.



CHARLOTTE COHN* (Hallelujah Lil) makes her A.C.T. debut with this production of Happy End. She was most recently seen in the American

premiere of The Murder of Isaac at

*Member of Actors Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States

Centerstage (dir. Irene Lewis). Last year, Cohn performed the role of Musetta in Baz Luhrmann's Broadway production of La Bohème. Off-Broadway credits include Cheri at The Actors Studio (dir. Carlin Glynn), One Hundred Gates with Elliott Gould, and Ambivalence at Ensemble Studio Theatre. Her regional credits include Stephanie Necrophorus in Nine at North Shore Music Theatre. She has appeared on "Guiding Light" and in the award-winning films Little Kings, The Danish Play, and God in the Machine. Cohn is a founding producer of the New York Music Theatre Festival and a member of The Actors Studio.



JACKSON DAVIS* (Ensemble) first worked with A.C.T. on Frank Loesser's Hans Christian Andersen. He has worked closely with

TheatreWorks in Palo Alto for many years, most recently appearing as The Baker in Into the Woods and Mr. Marks in Intimate Apparel. He also performed in the world premiere of the musical Josephine, with Della Reese. Other Bay Area credits include Mizlansky/Zilinsky at San Jose Repertory Theatre, Neena Beeber's Tomorrowland with Signal Theater Company in San Francisco, Pipe Dream at 42nd Street Moon, and new play workshops with the Magic Theatre and PlayGround. Regionally he has worked with the Villanova Shakespeare Festival, Missouri Summer Repertory Theatre, Philadelphia Actors Theater, and Moving Target in New York.



CHARLES DEAN* (The Reverend) has appeared at A.C.T. in The Rivals, The Constant Wife, The Beard of Avon, The

DOROTHY LANE

Dorothy Lane was the pen name of writer/translator Elisabeth Hauptmann (1897-1973), who was Bertolt Brecht's longtime editorial assistant and sometime mistress before his exile from Germany. She risked her life to smuggle most of his manuscripts out of the country before she herself emigrated to America, where they continued their collaborative relationship. In 1946 Hauptmann married German-Jewish composer Paul Dessau, who had succeeded Weill as Brecht's main musical collaborator, and in 1948 she returned with Dessau to East Berlin and the Berliner Ensemble, where she worked as a translator and dramaturg and later oversaw the publication of Brecht's collected works.

With the increasing persecution

of the Jews and the condemnation of

his work as "degenerate" by the Nazis,

Weill left Germany in 1933; he settled

with Lotte Lenya in the United States

sophisticated stage musicals, including

(written with Maxwell Anderson, 1938),

Lady in the Dark (with Moss Hart and

Ira Gershwin, 1941), One Touch of Venus

(with S. J. Perelman and Ogden Nash,

1943), Street Scene (Weill's "American

opera," written with Elmer Rice and

Langston Hughes, 1947), Love Life

(with Alan Jay Lerner, 1948), Lost in

the Stars (based on Alan Paton's novel

opera The Eternal Road (1937). Weill's

chamber music, and a violin concerto.

Maxwell Anderson were working on a

new musical of Huckleberry Finn.

instrumental works include choral music,

Weill died of a heart attack while he and

Cry, the Beloved Country, 1949), as

well as the Old Testament pageant

in 1935. During his 15 years in this

country, he collaborated on several

Johnny Johnson (with lyrics by Paul

Green, 1936), Knickerbocker Holiday

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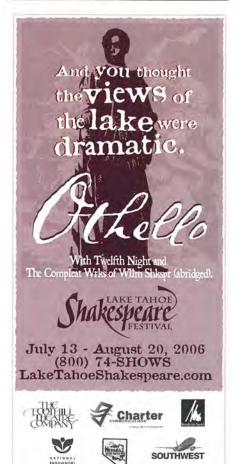
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Who's Who

House of Mirth, The Invention of Love, Juno and the Paycock, Travels with My Aunt, and The Rose Tattoo. As a 20-year company member and associate artist of Berkeley Repertory Theatre, he has acted in more than 80 productions, including Menocchio and The Magic Fire (both directed by Lillian Groag), The Norman Conquests, The Tooth of Crime, The Caucasian Chalk Circle, Tartuffe, Speedthe-Plow, The Illusion, Serious Money, Mad Forest, The Night of the Iguana, Dancing at Lughnasa, and Hydriotaphia. Other regional theater credits include leading and supporting roles at the Alley Theatre, the Alliance Theatre Company, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Seattle Repertory Theatre, the Dallas Theater Center, the Guthrie Theater, The Old Globe, Center Stage, California Shakespeare Theater, San Jose Repertory Theatre, Marin Theatre Company, the Magic Theatre, and Aurora Theatre Company. He has received numerous Bay Area Theatre Critics' Circle and Drama-Logue awards.



LIANNE MARIE
DOBBS* (Sister
Jane) has appeared
at A.C.T. in The
Gamester, James
Joyce's The Dead,
The Difficulty of
Crossing a Field,

and The New Americans (at Zeum). Last year, she joined the Boston company of Irving Berlin's White Christmas (as Tessie) and sang with the San Francisco Symphony in a concert production of Gershwin's Of Thee I Sing (as Miss Benson), opposite Jason Danieley. Dobbs recently brought several characters to life in workshops/recordings of new musicals for composers Paul Gordon (Emma and The Circle), David Azarow (No More Waiting!), Polly Pen (Her Lightness), Doug Katsaros (Orphan Train), and

*Member of Actors Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States Scott Alan (*Piece: The Musical*). Dobbs has also appeared in productions at TheatreWorks (*A Little Princess, My Antonia, A Little Night Music, Jane Eyre*), American Musical Theatre of San Jose (*Evita*), San Jose Stage Company, NYCFringe, the Magic Theatre, Center REPertory Company, Woman's Will, and 42nd Street Moon. She is a graduate of San Francisco State University.



ROD GNAPP*

(The Professor) most recently appeared at A.C.T. in Cat on a Hot Tin Roof. He has been acting in theaters around the Bay Area for the

last 16 years. He has also been seen at A.C.T. in The Time of Your Life (also at Seattle Repertory Theatre), Glengarry Glen Ross, Juno and the Paycock, The Royal Family, and Dark Rapture and in numerous productions at Berkeley Repertory Theatre. He appeared as Neil Cassidy in Visions of Kerouac at Marin Theatre Company, where he also played John Proctor in The Crucible. Gnapp appeared in the world premiere production of Sam Shepard's The Late Henry Moss. He most recently performed with San Jose Stage Company as Austin in Shepard's True West.



JOAN HARRIS-GELB* (Major Stone) has performed at A.C.T. in The Time of Your Life, A Doll's House, Blithe Spirit, and A Christmas

Carol and appeared in the recent First Look presentations of Paul Webb's Warsaw and Carey Perloff's Waiting for the Flood. Recent credits include the American premiere of Edna O'Brien's Family Butchers (dir. Paul Whitworth) at the Magic Theatre and Heartbreak

House (dir. Beth Craven) at Porchlight Theater. Other stage credits include Miranda in the world premiere of David Hirson's Wrong Mountain at A.C.T. and on Broadway, Eleanor Widener in the original Broadway company of Titanic, and Mrs. Walker and others in the original Broadway company of The Who's Tommy. She also performed in Big River on Broadway. Gelb has performed her solo show, Mother, Where Were You When I Woke Up Screaming and My Bed Was on Fire in the Middle of the Night? all over New York City. Her television credits include The Last Day in the Life of Brian Darling for HBO, Women Aloud, and "Law & Order."



DAN HIATT*

(Cop, Ensemble) has been seen at A.C.T. as Bob Acres in The Rivals, Rosencrantz in Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, Cornelius

Hackl in The Matchmaker, Yepikhodov in The Cherry Orchard, Roderigo in Othello, Mell in The Play's the Thing, and Smith in The Threepenny Opera. Other Bay Area credits include Dinner with Friends and Menocchio at Berkeley Repertory Theatre; The Life and Times of Nicholas Nickleby and many others at California Shakespeare Theater; Enchanted April, The Immigrant, and A Flea in Her Ear at San Jose Repertory Theatre; Spinning into Butter at TheatreWorks; Picasso at the Lapin Agile at Theatre on the Square; Noises Off at Marine's Memorial Theatre; and The Real Thing and Lifex3 at Marin Theatre Company. Regional theater credits include work with Seattle Repertory Theatre, Arizona Theatre Company, the Huntington Theatre Company, Pasadena Playhouse, Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C., Studio Arena Theatre, the Idaho Shakespeare Festival, and Stage West in Toronto.



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Who's Who



DREW
HIRSHFIELD*
(Ensemble) is a
Bay Area native.
He appeared most recently in Nero
(Another Golden

Rome) at the Magic

Theatre. He also was seen last year at A.C.T. in the world premiere production of Carey Perloff and Paul Walsh's new adaptation of A Christmas Carol and in the A.C.T. Master of Fine Arts Program production of The Caucasian Chalk Circle at Zeum Theater. His credits also include work at Marin Shakespeare Company, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival, Sacramento Theatre Company, and Summer Repertory Theatre. He holds a B.A. from UC Davis and an M.F.A. from A.C.T.



WENDY JAMES*
(Ensemble) is making her A.C.T. debut in Happy End.
Regional theater credits include White Christmas (Count Your Blessings),

Pippin (San Francisco Music Theater Company), Hair (Liberty Theatre Company), and The Three Musketeers, Victor/Victoria, Me and My Girl, Will Roger's Follies, The Who's Tommy, Singin' in the Rain, and Anything Goes for American Musical Theatre of San Jose. She also performed in Steve Silver's Beach Blanket Babylon and as Dottie in Show Boat in London's West End. She won an Emmy Award in 2001 for her portrayal of Tilde, TechTV's virtual host.



ANTHONY
JONES* (Captain
Hannibal Jackson),
an A.C.T. associate
artist and core acting
company member,
has been seen at

A.C.T. in Gem of the Ocean, Female Transport, Levee James, Waiting for Godot, Yohen, The Three Sisters, The Dazzle, Night and Day, Buried Child, A Christmas Carol (Ebenezer Scrooge), Celebration and The Room, "Master Harold"... and the boys, The Misanthrope, The Invention of Love, The Threepenny Opera, Tartuffe, Indian Ink, Hecuba, Insurrection: Holding History, Seven Guitars, Othello (title role), Antigone, Miss Evers' Boys, Clara, Joe Turner's Come and Gone, Saint Joan, King Lear, Golden Boy, and Feathers. Other local theater credits include Fuente Ovejuna and McTeague (Berkeley Repertory Theatre); As You Like It (San Francisco Shakespeare Festival); The Cherry Orchard, Every Moment, and The Island (Eureka Theatre); Sideman (San Jose Repertory Theatre); and Division Street (Oakland Ensemble Theatre). He originated the role of Private James Wilkie in the original production of A Soldier's Play at the Negro Ensemble Company in New York. His many film and television credits include two seasons of "Midnight Caller."



JUSTIN LEATH
(Baby Face) is a

member of the A.C.T. Master of Fine Arts Program class of 2007. He has performed in A.C.T. M.F.A.

Program productions of Much Ado about Nothing (Friar), The Love of the Nightingale (Hippolytus), The Virtuous Burglar (Burglar), and The Lady from Dubuque (Oscar). Regional theater credits include Romeo and Juliet, Richard III, Henry IV, Part 1, My Fair Lady, 1776,

*Member of Actors Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States

Born Yesterday, and Camelot, all with the Utah Shakespearean Festival (where he was awarded the Michael and Jan Finlayson Memorial Acting Award), and Chicago, Ragtime, and The King and I with Maine State Music Theatre.



PETER MACON*

(Bill Cracker) made his Broadway debut as Yak in Drowning Crow with Manhattan Theatre Club. Off-Broadway credits include The

Trial of One Short-Sighted Black Woman vs. Mammy Louise and Safreeta Mae at the New Federal Theatre. Regional credits include Miss Julie and Medeal Macbeth/Cinderella (Yale Repertory Theatre); Dream on Monkey Mountain, Blue/Orange, and Oedipus (Guthrie Theater); Macbeth (Berkeley Repertory Theatre); Hecuba (A.C.T.); Fences and Romeo and Juliet (TheatreWorks); King John (Shakespeare & Company); and many roles with California Shakespeare Theater, where he was a company member 1995-98. Film and television credits include "Animated Tales of the World" (Emmy Award, HBO), "Law & Order," "Chapelle's Show," "Without a Trace," Just One Night (Sony Pictures), "Nash Bridges," and King of the Bingo Game. Macon graduated with an M.F.A. from the Yale School of Drama.



LINDA MUGLESTON*

(The Fly) recently appeared in the revival of Wonderful Town on Broadway, where she played Violet and covered

the part of Ruth Sherwood, which she performed more than 100 times. Other Broadway credits include the original cast of the Broadway revival of Nine with Antonio Banderas and Chita Rivera, Into the Woods (where she replaced Vanessa Williams as The Witch), Kiss Me, Kate, and On the Town. Off-Broadway credits include roles for The Public Theater, the New York Shakespeare Festival, and New York City Center Encores! Regional credits include Falsettos (Huntington Theatre Company), Tintypes (Hartford Stage/The Old Globe), The Mystery of Edwin Drood (City Repertory), Song of Singapore and A Nightingale Sang (Old Lyric Repertory), and the title role in Annie Get Your Gun (Pink Garter Theatre). This is her first performance for A.C.T.



STEPHANIE **SAUNDERS**

(Ensemble) is a member of the A.C.T. Master of Fine Arts Program class of 2007. She has

appeared in a number of A.C.T. M.F.A. Program productions, including The Virtuous Burglar (Julia), Three Tall Women (Woman A), and Confessional (Violet). Last summer she performed at the Eureka Theatre in Goin' Dot Com (Gladys). Regional theater credits (San Diego) include Jesus Christ Superstar (Mary Magdalene), A Chorus Line (Bebe), Betty's Summer Vacation (Trudy), and The Taming of the Shrew (Lucentio). Saunders hails from Manchester, New Hampshire.



SAB SHIMONO*

(The Governor) debuted on Broadway playing the role of Ito in the original cast of Mame, with Angela Lansbury.

Other Broadway credits include Manjiro in the original cast of Stephen Sondheim's Pacific Overtures, as well as the 2005 revival of Pacific Overtures, in which he appeared as Lord Abe.



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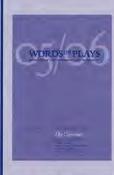
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His collaborations with writer/director Philip Kan Gotanda span more than 25 years; he earned a 1990-91 New York Drama Desk Award nomination for outstanding actor in Gotanda's staging of The Wash. Other projects with Gotanda include productions of Yankee Dawg, You Die and Ballad of Yachiyo. Regional stage productions with Gotanda include Avocado Kid, The Wind Cries Mary, and Manzanar. Shimono also starred in the feature film Life Tastes Good. Other films include Gung Ho, The Wash, Presumed Innocent, Come See the Paradise, Waterworld, The Big Hit, Paradise Road, The Shadow, Suture, Americanese (which premiered at the 2006 Asian American Film Festival in San Francisco), and Southland Tales, which opens July 4.



CELIA
SHUMAN*
(Miriam) was
recently seen in
Center REP's
Noel & Gertie

recently seen in Center REP's Noel & Gertie, directed by Barbara Damashek. She

also appeared in Damashek's Code Blue at the Genome Zoo at the Exploratorium and at Berkeley Rep's Theatre for Young Audiences. Other credits include The Threepenny Opera at A.C.T. and the Magic Theatre's premiere productions of Joe Goode's Body Familiar, Michelle Carter's Ted Kaczynski Killed People with Bombs, Charles Mee's Summertime, and Wendy MacLeod's The House of Yes (Bay Area Theatre Critics' Circle Award). Other credits include work with the Goldie Award-winning Fifth Floor Productions, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, San Jose Repertory Theatre, and Marin Theatre Company. Oncamera credits include "Midnight Caller," "Nash Bridges," and the CD-ROM Top Gun: Fire at Will. She can be heard on the DVD of PIXAR's Academy

*Member of Actors Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States Award—winning *The Incredibles*. Shuman teaches at the San Francisco School of Digital Filmmaking. She holds a B.F.A. with high honors from Pennsylvania State University.



COLIN
THOMSON*
(Ensemble)
has performed
throughout the
Bay Area and

throughout the Bay Area and beyond. He recently appeared

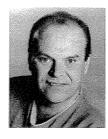
in West Side Story as Officer Krupke for Americal Musical Theatre of San Jose. He was featured in I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change at the Marines Memorial Theatre, which followed Arthur Miller's All My Sons at TheatreWorks in Palo Alto. Favorite performances include Dirty Blonde with Portland Center Stage in Oregon, as well as The Odd Couple, A Flea in Her Ear, and Enter the Guardsman with San Jose Repertory Theatre and the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival's production of The Boys from Syracuse. His many Marin Theatre Company engagements include Me and My Girl, Wonderful Town, Lady in the Dark, As Thousands Cheer, and Company. He has also appeared in several national television commercials. He makes his A.C.T. debut in Happy End.



JUD WILLIFORD*
(Brother Ben, Cop) was seen most recently at A.C.T. as David in The Rivals. He has also appeared at

A.C.T. in *The Time of Your Life* and in four seasons of *A Christmas Carol*. A graduate of the A.C.T. Master of Fine Arts Program, he performed in M.F.A. Program productions as The Master in *The Master and Margarita*, Snug

in A Midsummer Night's Dream, and Mercutio in Romeo and Juliet at Zeum Theater. Other theater credits include All's Well That Ends Well, The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby, and Trinculo in The Tempest at California Shakespeare Theater, Sergius in Arms and the Man at Chautauqua Theatre, and Rufus Oakwood in Saturn: The Musical. Film credits include Wrong Time, Rite Spot, with Olympia Dukakis, and the upcoming feature The Tripper, directed by David Arquette. Williford received his B.F.A. degree in theater from the University of Evansville.



JACK WILLIS*

(Sam) has appeared in more than 150 productions throughout the United States, including recent appearances at

A.C.T. in Cat on a Hot Tin Roof and The Black Rider. He is an associate artist at Arena Stage in Washington, D.C., and has been a company member of the American Repertory Theatre, Trinity Repertory Company, and the Dallas Theater Center. On Broadway, Willis has appeared in Julius Caesar, The Crucible, Art, and The Old Neighborhood. His off-Broadway credits include The Irresistible Rise of Arturo Ui, The Iphigenia Cycle, and New York Theatre Workshop's Valhalla. Film and television credits include *The* Talented Mr. Ripley, The Cradle Will Rock, The Out-of-Towners, Love Hurts, I Come in Peace, Problem Child, "Law & Order," "Ed," and "Dallas." Willis is a cofounder of Aruba Repertory.

MICHAEL FEINGOLD (Translator/ Adaptor) previously collaborated with Carey Perloff on Mary Stuart and The Threepenny Opera at A.C.T. and on Dumas's Tower of Evil at New York's Classic Stage Company. His numerous other translations include

plays by Ibsen and Molière and all of the Brecht-Weill works. Feingold has also translated and adapted numerous operas, including Donizetti's Viva la mamma and Offenbach's La Périchole, both premiered by San Francisco Opera. A graduate of the Yale School of Drama, he served as literary manager of Yale Repertory Theatre, the Guthrie Theater, and the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Currently serving as literary advisor to New York's Theatre for a New Audience, he is best known as chief theater critic of the Village Voice.

JOHN CARRAFA (Choreographer) created the musical staging for A.C.T.'s production of Urinetown, The Musical. Carrafa has worked on Broadway on Into the Woods (Tony Award nomination), Urinetown (Tony Award nomination, OBIE Award, Lucille Lortel Award, Drama Desk Award nomination), Dirty Blonde, Dance of Death, and Love! Valour! Compassion! He has choreographed more than 20 feature films, including The Thomas Crown Affair, The Last Days of Disco, Earthly Possessions, Love! Valour! Compassion! and The Polar Express. For television he has been director/ choreographer for Thou Swell, Thou Witty: The Songs of Rodgers and Hart (PBS's "Great Performances") and was choreographer for "Sex and the City" (HBO). He has worked off Broadway at Lincoln Center Theater, Manhattan Theatre Club, Drama Dept., The Public Theater, New York Theatre Workshop, and Playwrights Horizons. His work with the New York City Center Encores! series includes The Pajama Game, Out of This World, and On a Clear Day You Can See Forever. He choreographed A Little Night Music as part of the Sondheim celebration at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. Carrafa has also served as Creative Director of Entertainment for the National Basketball Association.

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CONSTANTINE KITSOPOULOS

(Music Director/Conductor) is the general director of Chatham Opera. He has served as music director/conductor on Broadway productions of Baz Luhrmann's La Bohème, Les Misérables, Dracula, Swan Lake, An Inspector Calls, and Cyrano. National tours include La Bohème (Curran Theatre, Ahmanson Theatre), Big, Sunset Boulevard, Miss Saigon, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and The Secret Garden. He has worked with orchestras including the National Symphony, Brooklyn Philharmonic, New Jersey Symphony, Queens Symphony, Calgary Philharmonic, Annapolis Symphony, Hong Kong Philharmonic, and New York Chamber Orchestra. Opera credits include productions with New York City Opera, Hong Kong Opera, Sarasota Opera, and DiCapo Opera Theatre. As arranger/orchestrator, he has worked on Camille Claudel, Fanny Hill, and Cather County. Upcoming engagements include performances with

the Blossom Festival Orchestra, Hartford Symphony, Santa Barbara Symphony, and National Arts Centre Orchestra and serving as the 2007 Pallas Lecturer at University of Michigan. He studied conducting with Vincent LaSelva.

WALT SPANGLER (Scenic Designer) includes among his upcoming projects a revival of Mame at The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, King Lear at the Goodman Theatre, Carmen for Boston Ballet, Much Ado about Nothing at the Alley Theatre, and the English national tour of Me and My Girl. In New York, he designed Hollywood Arms on Broadway and The Public Theater's acclaimed Twelfth Night in Central Park, as well as numerous projects for theaters including Atlantic Theater Company, Playwrights Horizons, Manhattan Theatre Club, and others. Regional theater credits also include productions at the Ahmanson Theatre, the Shakespeare Theatre Company, Centerstage, Long

Wharf Theatre, Hartford Stage, Dallas Theater Center, Yale Repertory Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, and Seattle Repertory Theatre. Spangler is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama.

CANDICE DONNELLY (Costume

Designer) has worked as a costume designer on the Broadway productions of Our Country's Good, Fences, Search and Destroy, and Mastergate. Off Broadway, her work has appeared at The Public Theater, Manhattan Theatre Club, Playwrights Horizons, Classic Stage Company, and Second Stage Theatre. She has also designed for numerous operas and ballets and for film and television. She is on the faculty of the Theater Arts Department at Brandeis University. Donnelly received her M.F.A. in design from the Yale School of Drama.

ROBERT WIERZEL (Lighting Designer) has worked as a lighting designer on productions with opera companies in Paris, Tokyo, Toronto, Boston, San Diego, San Francisco, Houston, Washington, Seattle, Virginia, and Chicago (Lyric Opera and Chicago Opera Theatre), as well as Glimmerglass and New York City Opera, among others. He has collaborated with artists from diverse disciplines, including choreographer Bill T. Jones and the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company, composer Philip Glass, and visual artists Paul Kaiser, Lesley Dill, and Robert Longo, among others. Regional theater work includes productions at Arena Stage, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, the Shakespeare Theatre Company in Washington, D.C., Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Hartford Stage, Long Wharf Theatre, Goodman Theatre, the Guthrie Theater, the Mark Taper Forum, and Berkeley Repertory Theatre, among others. In New York, his work has been seen on and off Broadway,

"Member of Actors Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States including productions at the New York Shakespeare Festival/Public Theater, Signature Theatre, MCC, Roundabout Theatre Company, Playwrights Horizons, INTAR, Brooklyn Academy of Music, and Circle Repertory Theatre. Wierzel is on the faculty of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts.

JEFF CURTIS (Sound Designer) was the sound designer for the A.C.T. productions of Urinetown, The Musical and James Joyce's The Dead. He was also the sound designer for the Broadway, off-Broadway, and national touring productions of Urinetown and the associate sound designer for the touring company of Tallulah. Curtis was the resident sound designer for the Burt Reynolds Theatre and has designed numerous theatrical and corporate events. Previous production sound engineer work includes the international tours of Camelot, West Side Story, and Chicago and for the Broadway productions of James Joyce's The Dead and Chicago.

MICHAEL PALLER (Dramaturg) joined A.C.T. as resident dramaturg and director of humanities in August 2005. He began his professional career as literary manager at Center Repertory Theatre (Cleveland), then worked as a play reader and script consultant for Manhattan Theatre Club, and has since been a dramaturg for George Street Playhouse, the Berkshire Theatre Festival, Barrington Stage Company, Long Wharf Theatre, Roundabout Theatre Company, and others. He dramaturged the Russian premiere of Tennessee Williams's Small Craft Warnings at the Sovremennik Theater in Moscow. Paller is the author of Gentlemen Callers: Tennessee Williams, Homosexuality, and Mid-Twentieth-Century Drama (Palgrave Macmillan, 2005) and has written theater and book reviews for the Washington Post, Village Voice, Newsday, and Mirabella magazine. Before his arrival at A.C.T., he taught

at Columbia University and the State University of New York at Purchase.

TELSEY + COMPANY's (New York Casting) Broadway casting credits include Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me, Tarzan, The Drowsy Chaperone, The Wedding Singer, Three Days of Rain, The Color Purple, Sweeny Todd, The Odd Couple, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, Wicked, Hairspray, Rent, Glengarry Glen Ross, Frozen, Long Day's Journey into Night, La Bohème, and The Goat. Off-Broadway credits include plays at Atlantic, MCC, and Signature. Film credits include Across the Universe, Ira and Abby, Rent, Pieces of April, Camp, The Grey Zone, Finding Forrester, and The Bone Collector. Television credits include "Whoopi," HBO's "Undefeated," various pilots, and more than 1,000 commercials.

Telsey + Company, C.S.A.:
Bernie Telsey, Will Cantler,
David Vaccari, Bethany Knox,
Craig Burns, Tiffany Little Canfield,
Stephanie Yankwitt, Carrie Rosson,
Justin Huff, Joe Langworth

MERYL LIND SHAW (Casting Director) joined the A.C.T. artistic staff as casting director in 1993. She has cast roles for the Huntington Theatre Company, Arizona Theatre Company, the San Francisco Symphony and Opera, and the San Francisco productions of White Christmas, Jitney, and Picasso at the Lapin Agile, as well as the first workshop of The Count of Monte Cristo and the CD-ROM game Obsidian. Before joining A.C.T. as casting director, she stage-managed more than 60 productions in theaters throughout the Bay Area, including A.C.T.'s Creditors and Bon Appétit! She was resident stage manager at Berkeley Repertory Theatre for twelve years and production stage manager at the Berkeley Shakespeare Festival for three seasons. She has served on the Bay Area advisory committee of Actors' Equity Association, the negotiating committee for the LORT

contract (1992 and 1993), and the board of trustees of the California Shakespeare Festival.

KIMBERLY MARK WEBB* (Stage Manager) is in his 12th season at A.C.T., where he worked most recently on Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, The Goat or, Who is Sylvia?, The Voysey Inheritance, The Gamester, The Real Thing, A Mother, and A Doll's House. A long association with Berkeley Repertory Theatre includes the recent production of Culture Clash's Zorro in Hell. Other credits include Picasso at the Lapin Agile in San Francisco, The Woman Warrior for Center Theatre Group in Los Angeles, Mary Stuart and The Lady from the Sea at Boston's Huntington Theatre Company, Hecuba at the Williamstown Theatre Festival, and The Master Builder and The Philanderer at Aurora Theatre Company. Webb served as production stage manager at Theatre Three in Dallas for six years.

DICK DALEY*'s (Assistant Stage Manager) previous works include the world premiere of The Opposite of Sex: The Musical and Dr. Faustus, written and directed by David Mamet (Magic Theatre); Gem of the Ocean, A Christmas Carol, A Moon for the Misbegotten, and Waiting for Godot (A.C.T.); River's End, Bus Stop, Communicating Doors, The Last Schwartz, and Visions of Kerouac (Marin Theatre Company); Macbeth and Henry V (Commonwealth Shakespeare Company); Golda's Balcony and Twelfth Night (L.A. Women's Shakespeare Company); The Santaland Diaries (The Theatre Offensive); Tongues of Fire, King Lear, and Henry V (The Company of Women); Romeo and Juliet, Duet for One, and Julius Caesar (Shakespeare & Company); and The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui, Ain't Misbehavin', The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me, and A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline. He also had a seven-year run as the production manager at Emerson College in Boston.

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After studying fine art at the School of Applied Arts in Vienna and the California College of Arts and Crafts, Jermann spent 20 years as a graphic designer and illustrator in Los Angeles and San Francisco. His design and illustration clients have included Walt Disney Pictures, Warner Bros., Miramax, Paramount Pictures, Touchstone Pictures, Sprint, Pacific Bell, the L.A. Zoo, Portal Publications, and the *Boston Globe*. His work has won awards from Print, Creativity, The Art Directors Club of Los Angeles, and The Art Directors Club of San Diego.

Jermann now lives in San Francisco and has focused during the last five years on his fine art, particularly his colorful, energetic acrylic paintings and dynamic collages.

Each Gallery at the Geary artwork purchase benefits A.C.T. For more information about Paul Jermann, please visit www.galleryatthegeary.com or www.PaulJermann.com or contact Kevin Simmers at 415.474.1066 / krscreativeoptns@aol.com. ■



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A.C.T. Profiles



CAREY PERLOFF (Artistic Director) is celebrating her 14th season as artistic director of A.C.T., where she most recently directed A.C.T.'s acclaimed productions of A

Christmas Carol (a new adaptation by Perloff with dramaturg Paul Walsh), David Mamet's new adaptation of Granville-Barker's The Voysey Inheritance, Tom Stoppard's The Real Thing, Constance Congdon's A Mother (an A.C.T.-commissioned adaptation of Gorky's Vassa Zheleznova), Ibsen's A Doll's House, Beckett's Waiting for Godot, Stoppard's Night and Day, and Chekhov's The Three Sisters. Her production of Maria Ndiaye's visionary new work Hilda, coproduced at A.C.T.'s second space (Zeum) with Laura Pels Productions, traveled to Washington D.C.'s Studio Theater and then to New York's 59E59Theater last fall. She was recently awarded France's Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.

Known for directing innovative productions of classics and championing new writing for the theater, Perloff has directed for A.C.T. the American premieres of Stoppard's The Invention of Love and Indian Ink and Pinter's Celebration and The Room; A.C.T.-commissioned translations of Hecuba, The Misanthrope, Enrico IV, Mary Stuart, and Uncle Vanya; the world premiere of Leslie Ayvazian's Singer's Boy; and acclaimed productions of The Threepenny Opera, Old Times, Arcadia, The Rose Tattoo, Antigone, Creditors, Home, and The Tempest. Her work at A.C.T. also includes the world premieres of Marc Blitzstein's No for an Answer, David Lang/Mac Wellman's The Difficulty of Crossing a Field, and the West Coast premiere of her own play The Colossus of Rhodes (a finalist for the Susan Smith Blackburn Award). Her play Luminescence Dating was developed under a grant from The Ensemble Studio Theatre/Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Science & Technology Project, was workshopped at New York Stage and Film, premiered in New York in April 2005 as the mainstage offering of the First Light Festival at the Ensemble Studio Theatre, and will be published by Dramatists Play Service this fall. Her new play, Waiting for the Flood, was directed by Judith Ivey as part of A.C.T.s First Look festival in January. She has collaborated with many notable contemporary writers, most recently Philip

Kan Gotanda on his new play After the War (an A.C.T. commission) at the Sundance Institute in July 2004 and Robert O'Hara on Antebellum for the 2005 O'Neill Playwrights Conference.

Before joining A.C.T., Perloff was artistic director of Classic Stage Company in New York, where she directed the world premiere of Ezra Pound's *Elektra*, the American premiere of Pinter's *Mountain Language* and *The Birthday Party*, and many classic works. Under Perloff's leadership, Classic Stage won numerous OBIE Awards for acting, direction, and design, as well as the 1988 OBIE for artistic excellence. In 1993, she directed the world premiere of Steve Reich and Beryl Korot's opera *The Cave* at the Vienna Festival and Brooklyn Academy of Music.

Perloff received a B.A. in classics and comparative literature from Stanford University and was a Fulbright Fellow at Oxford. She was on the faculty of the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University for seven years and teaches and directs in the A.C.T. Master of Fine Arts Program. She is the proud mother of Lexie and Nicholas.



HEATHER
KITCHEN (Executive Director), since joining
A.C.T. in 1996,
has strengthened
the organization's
infrastructure and
overseen the company's
expansion to include

the development and performance of new work and the addition of a third year to A.C.T.'s acclaimed Master of Fine Arts Program. Her decision to undertake an M.B.A. degree from the Richard Ivey School of Business at The University of Western Ontario followed a 15-year career in stage, tour, and production management ranging across Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom. Credits include the Stratford Festival, Canadian Stage Company, Charlottetown Festival, Theatre New Brunswick, New Play Centre, Vancouver, and Neptune Theatre in Halifax. As general manager of The Citadel Theatre, Kitchen managed a five-theater performing arts complex and school that annually produced 16 productions, an International Children's Festival, and a Teen Festival. As a member of the executive committee of the Edmonton Performing Arts Consortium, Kitchen authored the benchmark study Economic Impact of the Nonprofit Arts in Edmonton. An

active community member, Kitchen serves on the boards and executive committees of the Commonwealth Club of California, as well as the board of the National Corporate Theatre Fund in New York. She is a past member of the San Francisco Leadership Board of the American Red Cross, the board of Big Brothers/Big Sisters, San Francisco and the Peninsula, and the Salvation Army Auxiliary in Edmonton and has served three terms on the executive committee of the League of Resident Theatres. She has also participated on peer review panels for Theatre Communications Group, Canada Council of the Arts, and Forbes magazine's Business and the Arts Awards. The San Francisco Business Times recently named Kitchen one of the 15 most influential women in the Bay Area nonprofit arena.

MELISSA SMITH (Conservatory Director) oversees the administration of the A.C.T. Conservatory's Master of Fine Arts Program, Young Conservatory, Summer Training Congress, and Studio A.C.T., in addition to serving as the master acting teacher of the M.F.A. Program. Before joining A.C.T., Smith served as director of the program in theater and dance at Princeton University, where she taught acting for six years. She has worked with people of all ages in venues around the country, including teaching in Hawaii and in Florence, Italy. Also a professional actor, she has performed in numerous off-off Broadway plays and at regional theaters, including A.C.T. In 2004 she toured London and Birmingham (U.K.) in Berkeley Repertory Theatre's production of Continental Divide. Smith holds a B.A. in English and theater from Yale College and an M.F.A. in acting from the Yale School of Drama.

JAMES HAIRE (Producing Director) began his career on Broadway with Eva Le Gallienne's National Repertory Theater. He also stage-managed the Broadway productions of And Miss Reardon Drinks a Little and Georgy (a musical by Carole Bayer Sager), as well as the national tour of Woody Allen's Don't Drink the Water. Off Broadway he produced Ibsen's Little Evolf (directed by Marshall W. Mason) and Shaw's Arms and the Man. Haire joined A.C.T. in 1971. He and his department were awarded Theater Crafts International's award for excellence in the theater in 1989, and in 1992 Haire was awarded a lifetime achievement award by the Bay Area Theatre Critics' Circle.

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This season, with the commitment of our corporate and in-kind supporters (please see full listing on page 36) we can truly celebrate a "Happy End" and look forward to A.C.T.'s upcoming 40th-anniversary season with great excitement and the promise of rewarding collaborations to come.

The following profiles offer a glimpse at the core business and community focus of just a few of A.C.T's many valued corporate sponsors and in-kind supporters:



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Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman is an international law firm with more than 900 attorneys in 16 offices, including San Francisco, New York, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, and London. Pillsbury's practice focuses on capital markets and finance, energy, global sourcing, litigation, real estate, technology, life sciences, and communications.



Trefethen Vineyards is proud to support American Conservatory Theater. A.C.T.'s unwavering commitment to quality, pure expression of the art form, and community involvement share natural synergies with our winery mission, and we are pleased to be associated with the organization.

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A NOTE ON SOURCES

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red-hot crucibles: confession and penance." Money, he declares, is the worst of all evils, and the Salvation Army hall "is the hot furnace heated by your contempt for all mean things." He hurls the money into the air and it flutters to the feet of the stunned audience. A mad panic for the 60,000 ensues, as the audience of the purified scrambles for whatever it can get, and salvation be damned. One can hear, in a different key, this scene replayed near the end of Happy End.

Other source material was drawn from newspapers and fieldwork, some of which had been collected previously for other work. Brecht and Hauptmann were inveterate newspaper readers, and Hauptmann, according to the Brecht scholar John Willet, "gathered news cuttings and other reports of crime, commerce, and natural disaster [and] herself went out to report on Salvation Army meetings." Brecht also read up on the lives of famously wealthy businessmen.

Finally, Europeans were very familiar with American popular culture—music, films, and plays flooded Europe during the 1920s. Hauptmann and Brecht imbibed these imports as eagerly as other Europeans, sifted them through their own sensibilities, and wove these strands together for the text and lyrics of Happy End.

A COMPOSITION OF OPPOSITES

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natural way for the actors to sing without being quite so aware of singing, so to speak. It's great to start with what they're familiar with, and build on their strengths.

HOW IS THE HAPPY END BAND INVOLVED THROUGHOUT THE SHOW? IT LOOKS FROM THE SCENIC DESIGN LIKE AN UNUSUAL INTEGRATION OF MUSICIANS AND CAST, SINCE THE BAND WON'T BE IN AN ORCHESTRA PIT.

Yes, we're going to be on a platform upstage. It does present some challenges. If the band were just in the pit, I would have direct eye contact with the stage and with all the singers, and there's a great advantage to that. In this case, the cast is going to be watching me on monitors on the balcony rail. They will be able to see me, but I won't be able to prompt them if anything goes wrong [laugh]. But I do think that actually having the band integrated into the set provides many more advantages than disadvantages. It was something Carey wanted to do from the beginning, to have us up there and visible. I think it's a great choice because the music is such an integral part of this production. The band is not just a separate musical entity, but is very wrapped up in everything that makes it Happy End.

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Mary Baird, Voice Bonita Bradley, Character Embodiment Leslie Felbain, Clown and Mask Gregory Hoffman, Combat/Weapons Warren David Keith, Acting Debra Lambert, Singing Domenique Lozano, Acting Peter Maleitzke, Singing Karl Ramsey, Combat/Weapons

Studio A.C.T.

Letitia Bartlett, Dynamic Movement/Physical Acting/Clowning Mike Carroll, Acting Frances Epsen Devlin, Singing
Jeffrey Draper, Voice & Speech Acting
Paul Finocchiaro, Acting
Dawn-Elin Fraser, Acting Marvin Greene, Acting Christopher Herold, Acting Andrew Hurteau, Acting
Rose Adams Kelly, Alexander Technique
Drew Khalouf, Voice & Speech/Acting Francine Landes, Acting Domenique Lozano, Acting Trina Oliver, Acting Regina Saisi, Improvisation
Naomi Sanchez, Singing
Barbara Scott, Improvisation
Lynne Soffer, Speech, Acting Ava Victoria, Singing
Bruce Williams, Audition Techniques, Acting

Young Conservatory

Glenn Canin, Alexander Technique Melissa Carey, Acting, Voice & Speech Kevin Crook, Acting, Improvisation Christin Davis, Acting Ann Farrar, Acting, Auditions Anthony Fusco, Acting Nancy Gold, Physical Character, Acting Jane Hammett, Musical Theater Greg Hubbard, On-Camera Acting
W.D. Keith, Director
Domenique Lozano, Director
Christine Mattison, Dance, Choreographer Michael Mohammed, Musical Theater Kari Prindl, Alexander Technique Pamela Ricard, Acting
Vivian Sam, Musical Theater, Dance
Joie Seldon, On-Camera Acting Craig Slaight, Director, Acting Brian Stevens, Acting, Physical Character James Wagner, Acting Krista Wigle, Musical Theater

New Plays Program

Constance Congdon, Timothy Mason Resident Playwrights

Accompanists

John Conway Robert Rutt

Library Staff

Jean Wilcox, Library Coordinator Volunteer G. David Anderson, Elena Balashova, Joan Cahill, Barbara Cohrssen, Elaine Foreman, Martha Kessler, Barbara Kornstein, Ines Lewandowitz, Franco Mancini, Ann Morales, Roy Ortopan, Dana Rees, Beverly Saba, Roger Silver, Sam Thal, Sylvia Coe Tolk, Nancy Zinn, *Library Volunteers*

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

A.C.T.'s administrative and conservatory offices are located at 30 Grant Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94108, 415.834.3200. On the Web: www.act-sf.org.

BOX OFFICE AND TICKET INFORMATION

Geary Theater Box Office

Visit us at 405 Geary Street at Mason, next to the Geary Theater, one block west of Union Square. Box office hours are 12-8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and 12-6 p.m. Sunday and Monday. During nonperformance weeks, business hours are 12-6 p.m. daily. Call 415.749.2ACT and use your Visa, MasterCard, or American Express card. Or fax your ticket request with credit card information to 415.749.2291. Tickets are also available 24 hours/day on our Web site at www.act-sf.org. All sales are final, and there are no refunds. Only current subscribers enjoy performance rescheduling privileges and lostticket insurance. Subscriptions available by calling 415.749.2250. A.C.T. gift certificates can be purchased in any amount online, by phone or fax, or in person at the box office.

Discounts

Half-price tickets are sometimes available on the day of performance at TIX on Union Square. Half-price student and senior rush tickets are available at the box office two hours before curtain. Matinee senior rush tickets are available at noon on the day of the performance for \$10. All rush tickets are subject to availability, one ticket per valid ID. Student and senior citizen subscriptions are also available. A.C.T. offers one Pay What You Wish performance during the regular run of each production.

Group Discounts

For groups of 15 or more, call Edward Budworth at 415.439.2473.

AT THE THEATER

The Geary Theater is located at 415 Geary Street. The auditorium opens 30 minutes before curtain. The lobby opens one hour before curtain. Bar service and refreshments are available one hour prior to curtain.

A.C.T. Merchandise

A.C.T.-branded souvenirs—clothing, jewelry, DVDs, music, and other novelty items—as well as books, scripts and Words on Plays, are on sale at the souvenir desk in the main lobby and at the Geary Theater Box Office.

Refreshments

Full bar service, sweets, and savory items are available one hour before the performance in Fred's Columbia Room on the lower level and the Sky Bar on the third level. There is also a mini-bar in the main lobby. You can avoid the long lines at intermission by preordering food and beverages in the lowerand third-level bars. Food and drink are not permitted in the auditorium.

Beepers!

If you carry a pager, beeper, cellular phone, or watch with alarm, please make sure that it is set to the "off" position while you are in the theater. Text messaging during the performance is very disruptive and not allowed.

Perfumes

The chemicals found in perfumes, colognes, and scented after-shave lotions, even in small amounts, can cause severe physical reactions in some individuals. As a courtesy to fellow patrons, please avoid the use of these products when you attend the theater.

Emergency Telephone

Leave your seat location with those who may need to reach you and have them call 415.439.2396 in an emergency.

Latecomers

A.C.T. performances begin on time. Latecomers will be seated before the first intermission only if there is an appropriate interval.

Listening Systems

Headsets designed to provide clear, amplified sound anywhere in the auditorium are available free of charge in the lobby before performance. Please turn off your hearing aid when using an A.C.T. headset, as it will react to the sound system and make a disruptive noise.

Photographs and recordings of A.C.T. performances are strictly forbidden.

Rest rooms are located in Fred's Columbia Room on the lower lobby level, the Balcony Lobby, and the Garret on the uppermost lobby level.

Wheelchair seating is available levels of the Geary Theater. Please call 415.749.2ACT in advance to notify the house staff of any special needs.

A.C.T. is pleased to announce that an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) is now available on site.

AFFILIATIONS

A.C.T. operates under an agreement between the League of Resident Theaters and Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States. A.C.T. is a constituent of Theatre Communications Group, the national organization for the nonprofit professional theater. A.C.T. is a member of the League of Resident Theaters, Theatre Bay Area, Union Square Association, San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, and San Francisco Convention & Visitors Bureau. A.C.T. is a participant in the National Theatre Artist Residency Program, administered by Theatre Communications Group and funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts.



The director is a member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, Inc., an independent national labor union.



The scenic, costume, lighting, and sound designers in LORT theaters are represented by United Scenic Artists, Local USA-829 of the IATSE.

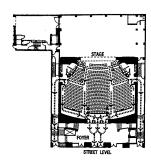


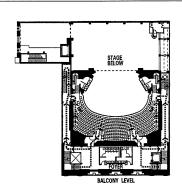
A.C.T. is supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

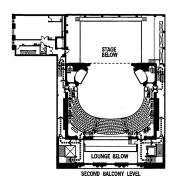


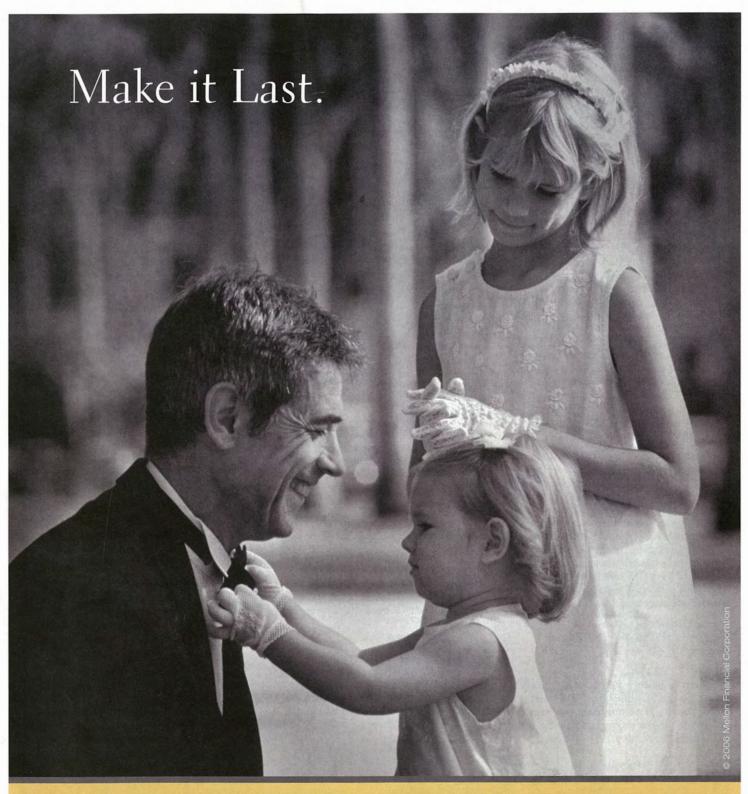
A.C.T. is supported in part by a grant from the Grants for the Arts/ San Francisco Hotel Tax Fund.

GEARY THEATER EXITS









Across market cycles. Over generations. Beyond expectations. The Practice of Wealth Management.®

