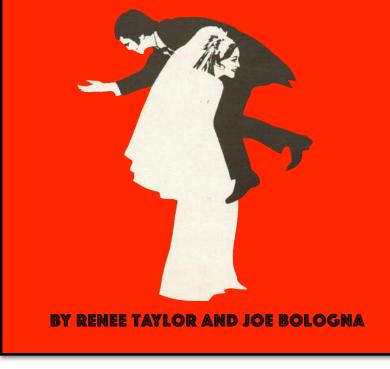
MBCC THEATER Y PLAYBILL

LOVERS & OTHER STRANGERS

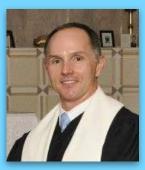


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Greetings From MBCC

Hello and welcome to the Manhattan Beach Community Church Theater production of "Lovers and other Strangers." It is my great pleasure to welcome you on behalf of our congregation here at MBCC!

There is an awful lot of talk about love in the Christian faith. We understand it as the foundation of our relationship with God, and what is supposed to motivate our relationship with one another. We know that it is not always easy, but it is always worth aspiring to achieve and share.



Our show is testimony to that idea, and we hope that it entertains and inspires you.

Thank you for joining us, and for being a part of our rich Manhattan Beach Community Church Theater tradition.

Shalom,

REV MARK PETTIS - LARSON



REV. ERIN WYMA

Manhattan Beach Community Church has a long, rich and inspiring history in the performing arts! We honor a diversity of artistic expressions because creativity is a reminder that we come from a Creator God. Theater gives both young and old the opportunity to expand their experiences, get to know new

people and work in a group towards a common goal. I am thrilled that our church has shone a spotlight on so many of our children, youth and adults within our community, and keeps deepening year after year our expansive and talented cast bench. I wanted to send a personal note of "thanks" to you who have bought a ticket today for supporting theater at our church. I also wanted to invite you to attend Worship Service here at 10am on Sunday Mornings as well as encourage you to check out our many children & youth ministries which happen weekly. We truly are a church where "ALL are welcome." I hope you have been entertained and blessed by this performance. The MBCC Theater entertains, challenges and inspires multi-generational performers interested in the theater arts. We have a 60 year history of staging excellent productions and building great relationships as we pursue our spirituality on the stage.

Thank you for coming to this special and intimate performance of the hit **Lover and Other Strangers**. While we continue to do our large scale productions bi-annually, we've transformed our space into a more personable environment for this show about exploration, passion, insecurities, obligation — all components of that crazy emotion LOVE. The artists here tonight are contributing their talents in the spirit of love for the theater. These smaller showcase/experimental pieces allow for us to encourage more people to have a role in the excitement and feel free to stretch their creativity in the theater within a safe and welcoming environment. We hope you have as much fun watching as we are having on stage!



James Jeffery Caldwell

Theater Ministry Chairperson

"I regard the theatre as the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being.

> - OSCAR WILDE (1854 - 1900)

A hit on Broadway and later on film, this edition includes the popular sequence Hal and Cathy created for the film and played by Gig Young and Anne Jackson. The other stories include Brenda and Jerry in a planned seduction gone wrong. With Mike and Susan, on the eve their wedding, he's getting cold feet and she must gently talk him down the aisle. In the last, Bea, Frank, Richie and Joan, a long-married couple who have fought for over thirty years try to save their son's marriage by confessing to their own failures.



RACHEL BAUMSTEIN

Brenda

Rachel is excited to make her M B C C d e b u t along side one of her favorite actors,

Gary Kresca who keeps her laughing on and off the stage. Rachel is most often found at the Torrance Theatre Company where she keeps busy as stage manager and box office manager. She also runs her own non profit theatre company, The Collaboratory, which performs original works at schools, libraries, and senior centers across Southern California. Thanks to Jeff for bringing her into the fold and her folks for instilling in her a love and appreciation for all things theatrical.

> Jerry + Brenda

GARY KRESCA

JERRY & DIRECTOR

Gary is happy to be back among friends here at MBCC. He was last seen on this stage as Fagin in Oliver!

This time, he gets to act/direct with his much better half, Rachel Baumsten...and we are still talking so this might just work out.

Thanks to Jeff Caldwell for this project, the Chastains for their warmth and commitment, Dennis Taylor for his devotion, the Baumsten family for putting up with him, this great cast and especially YOU for supporting



local theatre.

His performance, as always, is dedicated to his late parents Bob and Sharon whom he carries with him on and off stage until we meet again.

MARIA O'CONNER - CATHY

Maria O'connor is thrilled to be back at Manhattan Beach Theater under the direction Bob Manning and this wonderful cast and crew. Maria was last seen at MBCC in Moon Over Buffalo as Eileen. Her stage credits include Julie in Perfect Wedding, Sister Woman in Cat On A Hot Tin Roof, Suzanne in Don't Dress For Dinner, Irene Adler in Sherlock Holmes, Barbara in Caught In The Net, Mrs. Margolin in Forty Carats, Miranda in The Tempest and Julia in 1984. Film and TV include' 2 Broke Girls , and PBS art film Rudolf Florence. She has studied theater at South Coast Repertory, has done Masterclass with Marni Nixon, is a student of The Alexander Technique for voice, and has studied film acting at Film Industry Workshops. Maria is



thankful for her wonderful friends and family - having loving people in your life is what It's all about. Here's to a fun filled evening!! Cheers and enjoy the show!!



DAN ADAMS - HAL

Dan is delighted to be back at the MBCC Theater. You may remember him from our 2013 production of Moon Over Buffalo. He has been active with several local theatres.

appearing in: Noises Off, Over the River and Thru the Woods, Old Love, Escanaba in da Moonlight and many more.

Dan would like to dedicate tonight's performance to the Russian director C. Stanislavsky who once remarked, "There are

BOB MANNING - DIRECTOR

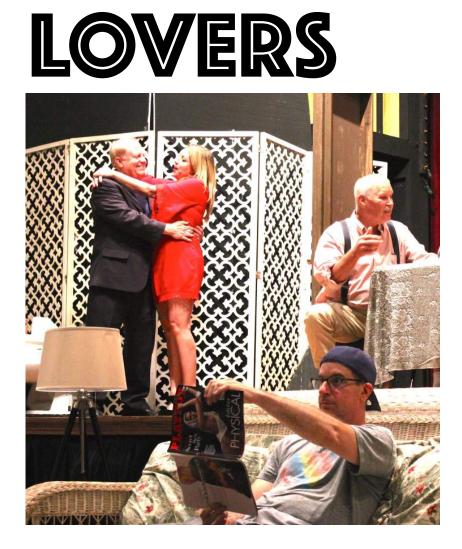
Bob began his acting hobby back when his parents did local theatre and he was their child actor. Since then, he has been in various movies, TV shows, commercials and even doubled for an extra once. In local theatre he has held most positions in the theatre including tech director and president of Actor's Repertory Theatre, Director, Assistant Director, props, stage manager, set building and set foreman as well as various roles on stage.

He hopes you enjoy tonight's performance and all the humor and laughs both intentionally and unintentionally. "Who prologue-like your humble patience pray, Gently to hear, kindly to judge, our play."



and

no small parts-- only small actors", and to American actor Billy Barty who later retorted, "There are too small actors!".









STRANGERS



Colleen Okida - Susan

Colleen is delighted to return to MBCC after a 5-year hiatus. She is usually found playing violin and flute in the orchestra and has been assistant Music Director for Mame and Promises, Promises. She has ventured onto the MBCC stage for State Fair, Hello Dolly, and Night of January 16. When "Mike" asked her to be his "Susan" she couldn't turn him down!! Much love to her husband, daughter, and mother-in-law-to-be Denise.



JOHN STEHNEY - MIKE

Jonathan is happy to return to the MBCC stage in this production. He would not be doing it without the help of "Susan" and his mom. His recent and favorite credits include performing on the Kennedy Center stages, Shrek (Pinocchio), Xanadu (Terpsichore), and Oedipus (Servant). Thanks to family and friends and all of you for coming.

DENISE STEHNEY - DIRECTOR

Denise is pleased to be directing "Mike & Susan" for Lovers & Other Strangers, and would like to thank Jon and Colleen for their hard work and commitment to the project! I couldn't imagine this endeavor without your participation.

Past credits include Assistant Director at MBCC for Rose Bowl Queens, How2Succeed, Moon Over Buffalo, and the role of Jocasta, the Queen in MBCC's production of Oedipus, the King.



STEVE NORRIS - DIRECTOR



Steve has written, directed and produced two dozen adapted plays. Favorite shows he has directed include A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, The Producers, How to Succeed In Business without Really Trying, Romeo and Juliet, and Promises, Promises. He is the current president of the Torrance Arts Council, and is Technical and Stage Director for See there in the distance, a one-woman show performed by internationally-acclaimed opera singer Ruby Hinds as a tribute to Marian Anderson. Other favorite projects include producing Lady Patriot, Washington's Boy and Let Freedom Ring with Torrance playwright and actor Ted Lange.

DIANA MANN - BEA

This show marks Diana's debut with MBCC and first time on stage with Chuck, Erin and Matt, who are a hoot to work with. Most of Diana's work in theater over the past 15 years has been in costuming (over 60 shows and counting), however, she is no stranger to the boards. Most recently she was seen as Mrs. Patty in The Curious Savage, Suzanna in Til Beth Do Us Part and the Narrator in The Laramie Project at Torrance Theater Co. Other roles include Sheree in The Dixie Swim Club (Little Fish Theater); Charlotte in Little

in The Dixie Swim harlotte in Little Footsteps (Long Beach Playhouse); M'Lynne in Steel Magnolias; Millie in To Forgive Divine; and Pamela in Out of Order at the Bellflower Theater. Diana thanks Chuck and Steve for this



opportunity, John for his patience, and her Italian family for the loud memories, good laughs, and great food.

Erin thanks Steve and his lovely wife for this

awesome opportunity, her cast for never

letting a night end without some real

enthusiastic conversation, her mom and dad

- the best role models for family and

marriage she could ever ask for - and her

hubby, Jose - nothing is easier in my life than



ERIN BECK ACAIN - JOAN

Erin is thrilled to be making her MBCC debut with Lovers! Favorite credits include penguind an c in g th e Shipoopi as Ethel

in Music Man, towering with Gymnasia's spear in Forum, and lamenting as Joy in Cinderella.

MATT GARBER - RICHIE

Although Matt is frequently seen on stage in musical productions, this is one of his first nonmusical and more serious roles, and he is up for the challenge! Favorite roles include Marcellus in The Music Man, The Cat in the Hat in Seussical! The Musical, Nicely Nicely Johnson in Guys and Dolls, and The Artful Dodger in Oliver!. When not on stage, Matt teaches special education, jams in an acoustic duet with Erin Acain, and cuddles his pug Walter. Enjoy the show!

loving you every day.



CHUCK CHASTAIN - FRANK



When not onstage, Chuck usually builds the stage. With too many credits to list, you may remember him specifically from MBCC's production of Night of January 16th. Chuck thanks the cast and Crew for all their fine work and help!

Bea, Frank, Richie & Joan CREW & UPCOMING EVENTS

KAREN HILL - HAIR AND MAKE - UP

PATTY JARVIS - HAIR AND MAKE - UP

SUSAN NORRIS - ASSOCIATE PRODUCER

Dennis Taylor - Sound and Light Design

MIKE NEARY - LIGHTS

BOB MANNING - PRODUCER AND SET CONSTRUCTION

JEFF CALDWELL - PROGRAMS AND PRODUCER

Upcoming Events

"the end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the Beloved Community. It is this type of spirit and this type of love that can transform opponents into friends. It is this type of understanding goodwill that will transform the deep gloom of the old age into the exuberant gladness of the new age. It is this love which will bring about miracles in the hearts of all."

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Coming in September and October

For 5 Sundays in the coming months the sermons will focus on the theme of The Beloved Community.



DRACCEA

OCTOBER 16, 17, 18, 23, 24

Dracula is a 1924 stage play adapted by Hamilton Deane from the novel of the same name by Bram Stoker, and substantially revised by John L. Balderston in 1927. It was the first adaptation of the novel authorised by Stoker's widow, and has influenced many subsequent adaptations.

The original production starred Raymond Huntley as Dracula; Deane had originally intended to play the title role himself, but in the event opted for the role of Van Helsing. This production toured England for three years before settling in London.

In 1927 the play was brought to Broadway by Horace Liveright, who

hired John L. Balderston to revise the script for American audiences. The American production starred Bela Lugosi in his first major English-speaking role, with Edward Van Sloan as Van Helsing; both actors reprised their roles in the 1931 film version, which drew on the Deane-Balderston play.Dracula is a 1924 stage play adapted by Hamilton Deane from the novel of the same name by Bram Stoker, and substantially revised by John L. Balderston in 1927. It was the first adaptation of the novel authorised by Stoker's widow, and has influenced many subsequent adaptations.

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April 2016

Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn is a musical with a book by William Hauptman and music and lyrics by Roger Miller.

Based on Mark Twain's classic 1884 novel, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, it features music in the bluegrass and country styles in keeping with the setting of the novel. The 1985 Broadway production ran for more than 1,000 performances and it remained one of the few very successful American musicals in the mid-1980s among the emerging successes coming from Great Britain. *Wikipedia Aug 2015*



Come be a part of the team on stage or behind the scenes! We are always looking for creative people and artists to contribute to the fun! Audition info available at mbcctheater.com

MBCC PRODUCTIONS

THANKS YOU IN CELEBRATING NEARLY 60 YEARS OF THEATRICAL Lovers and Other PRODUCTIONS IN THE SOUTHBAY! Strangers

CULA— This Fall 2015 The Dixie Swim Club – 2015 The Rose Bowl Queens - 2014 How To Succeed in Business (Without Really Trying) - 2014 Moon Over Buffalo — 2013 Much Ado About Nothing - 2013 Oliver! - 2013 Barefoot in the Park — 2012 Don't Drink the Water — 2012 Bill W. & Dr. Bob - 2012 Oedipus The King – 2011 Little Women — 2011 You Can't Take it With You — 2010 Mame — 2010 Night of January 16th - 2009 Hello Dolly - 2009 Accidental President - 2008 Promises, Promises – 2008 The Most Happy Fella — 2007 Rock, Paper, Scissors - 2007 Plaza Suite — 2006 Damn Yankees — 2006 State Fair — 2005 Pirates of Penzance — 2004 Brigadoon - 2003 Jesus Christ Superstar — 2002 My Fair Lady — 2000 The Odd Couple — 1999 Follies - 1999 Steel Magnolias — 1998 Working - 1997 The Nerd — 1997 Twelve Angry Men - 1995 The First Broadcast — 1995 Bells are Ringing-1995 Godspell - 1994 Sound of Music – 1993 Quilters - 1993 The Foreigner — 1992 The King & I — 1991 1776 — 1991

Sugar — 1990 Anything Goes - 1989 Harvey - 1989 Alice in Wonderland - 1988 Ten Little Indians — 1988 Pajama Game — 1987 Oliver! - 1987 Music Man — 1986 No Time for Sergeants - 1986 Guys & Dolls - 1985 You Can't Take it With You — 1985 Never Say Goodbye - 1984 Carnival — 1984 Applause - 1983 Godspell - 1983 | Do, | Do! — 1982 Dear Phoebe — 1982 Damn Yankees - 1981 Arsenic and Old Lace - 1981 Delegate Applegate - 1980 Sound of Music - 1979 Man of La Mancha — 1977 Curious Savage — 1976 Geo. Washington Slept Here — 1975 The Man Who Came to Dinner -1974 Night of January 16th - 1973 How to Succeed in Business (Without Really Trying) - 1968 Pajama Game — 1966 Bye Bye Birdie - 1964 Music Man — 1963 Kismet — 1961 Out of the Trunk - 1960 Delegate Applegate - 1959 Cinnamon Buns-1958 International Geophysical Year -1957 Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter -1956