

Ripples

from the Community Circle Players at Riverwalk Theatre

Season 30 • Number 1
August, 2018

228 Museum Dr. • PO Box 12249 • Lansing, MI 48901 • 517-482-5700 • Office Hours: Tues.-Fri. 10 am to 5:30 pm • e-mail: RWT@riverwalktheatre.com • web site: RiverwalkTheatre.com

Maurice is an amazing cat. He can think, he can talk... and he has an amazing Pied Piper scam going with his gang of intelligent rats and one stupid-looking kid. When they arrive in Bad Blintz, ready to trick the townsfolk, all is not as it should be. What are those resident rat-catchers up to?

This quirky comedy — adapted by Matthew Holmes from Terry Pratchett's popular novel — introduces us to rats, heroic, villainous and oppressed — and to humans, good and bad. It offers tricks and songs and dances and laughs — and also gently addresses the concept of death, which may be an opportunity for discussions with parents on the way home.

Director Sadonna Croff is enjoying her seventh

THE AMAZING MAURICE AND HIS EDUCATED RODENTS

season at the helm of the Young Artisan Workshop, this year joined for the first time by choreographer Roberta Otten of LCC as well as new-in-town music director Kait Wilson. Both are also having fun working with the kids. Young folks are involved in all aspects of the production, sets, costumes and more. Projections enhancing the set are drawn by Assistant Director/Stage Manager, Bella Croff.

The Amazing Maurice... promises to be a musical comedy the whole family can enjoy, at the bargain price of only \$8 for children and \$10 for adults age 13+. **ONE WEEKEND ONLY** 7pm Thur/Fri/Sat and 4:30 pm Sunday July 26-29. It's general seating, so arrive early for best seats and parking.

REVIEW

Spamalot - Python-tastic

SPAMALOT fulfilled the promise of extreme Monty Python silliness!

Director Bob Purosky — with trusty Stage Manager Michele Booher-Purosky and partners in crime Choreographer Karyn Perry and Music Master John Dale Smith (with his well-balanced, hidden orchestra) — launched an extravaganza of humor and imaginative, fun dances. It shook the stage and tickled our funny bones — and some of it was “inappropriate” stated my 10 year old granddaughter... True, but it was within the realm of PG and major fun for the whole family with its slapstick, silly, irreverent humor.

Purchased projections enhanced the set collaboration devised by director Bob and the Three Set Masters of Riverwalk (Leroy Cupp, Tom Ferris and Bob Nees) with scenography by Jules Purosky. (Beware the Rabbit.) The costumes were multitudinous and wonderful, collected and created by Kris Maier and Chris Kennedy, Ashley Hampton and Theresa Dunn

with a crew-of-thousands.

All the voices were impressive, especially Kathryn Mulcahy, making her Riverwalk debut as the fantastical Lady of the Lake, a hilarious diva inspiring the ever-stalwart Ben Holzhausen as King Arthur. The motley crew of Isaac Orr, Zach Riley, Boris Nikolaovski, Jeff Kennedy, Brian Farnham and Will Harrison was priceless, each a versatile gem, playing multiple roles to the hilt in this ridiculous Arthurian quest.

The “ensemble” was also excellent in a wide variety of roles, winning a Barney award for their collective performances: Aja Jenks, Kelly Lofton, Kristin Pagels, Taylor Rupp, Nicole Ryan, Amanda Tollstam, Drew Birchmeier, Tim Edinger Timothy Lawrence, Zach Whitlock, Dale Wayne Williams and Travis Williams.

This hoot of a spoof was standing-ovation-worthy all around — a grand finale to Riverwalk Season 29.

Jane Zussman



WHAT'S ON AT RIVERWALK

C July 26-29 - Thur./Fri./Sat. 7 pm; Sun. at 4:30 pm **THE AMAZING MAURICE AND HIS EDUCATED RODENTS** - musical comedy by Young Artisan Workshop, Director: Sadonna Croff

A July 29 and 30, Sun. & Mon., 7 pm, **AUDITIONS for Jitney**, African American drama, Dir.: Vanessa Cunningham Sanders

M September 6-9 & 13-16, **JEKYLL & HYDE** - musical drama - Director: Tom Ferris

■ September 27-30 & October 4-7 **THESE SHINING LIVES** - historic drama - Director: Susan Chmurny

A October 1 and 2, Monday and Tuesday, 7 pm, **AUDITIONS for Noises Off**, comedy farce, director: Michael Hays

C October 18-21 & 25-28 - **JITNEY** - African American drama, Director: Vanessa Cunningham Sanders

A October 28 & 29, Sun. & Mon., 7 pm, **AUDITIONS for Chitty Chitty Bang Bang**, musical comedy, director: Brian Farnham

C November 29-December 2 & 6-9 - **NOISES OFF** - comedy farce - Director: Michael Hays

C **PLAYS:** 7 pm Thurs.; 8 pm Fri. & Sat.; 2 pm Sun. Fri./Sat./Sun.

M **MUSICALS:** 7 pm Thursdays; 8 pm Fri./Sat.; 2 pm Sundays

■ **BLACK BOX SHOWS:** 7 pm Thursdays; 8 pm Fridays & Saturdays; 2 pm Sundays

C **CHILDREN'S SHOW:** 7pm Thur-Fri-Sat; 4:30 pm Sundays - \$8 children; \$10 adults age 13+ (general seating)

A **AUDITIONS** - More info at RiverwalkTheatre.com

Barneys 2018

Season 29 was honored Tuesday, June 26, with a festive Barneys show produced by Sarah Hayner and Matt Ottinger. Matt also served as our genial and witty host. Thanks to performers Brian Farnham, Sarah Hayner and Amanda Tollstam, accompanied by Angie Schwab on keyboard and vocals, performing samples from the three musicals in our coming season.

Sarah, Amanda and Angie kicked off the show with a rousing “Mama I’m a Big Girl Now” from *Hairspray*, with the help of Mama Matt in a wig. Brian and Angie soared on the *Jekyll and Hyde* anthem “In His Eyes” — and teamed up again, in a different mood but with similar excellence, on a medley from *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*.

BARNEYWINNERS are listed first, in **bold**; **NOMINEES** follow. (All averaging over 8 out of 10 in judges’ points are nominees.)

Choreography - *Spamalot* - Karyn Perry; *She Loves Me* - Rachael Cupples & Meghan Eldred-Woolsey

Costume Design - *Spamalot* - Kristine Maier, Chris Kennedy; *The Home Team* - Kris Maier; *She Loves Me* - Laura Croff; *Emperor’s New Clothes* - Lee Helder; *Bud, Not Buddy* - Ashley Hampton

Hair - *She Loves Me* - Laura Croff; *Spamalot* - Lori Bailey-Smith

Lighting Design - *The Home Team* - Ted Daniel

Makeup - *She Loves Me* - Lori Bailey-Smith; *The Home Team* - Abigail Grill; *Buried Child* - Adele Colson

Musical Direction - *She Loves Me* - John Dale Smith

Properties Design - *She Loves Me* - Meghan Eldred-Woolsey; *The Home Team* - Emily Clark; *Buried Child* - Erika Beck

Scenographer - *She Loves Me* - Eric Chatfield

Set Design - *She Loves Me* - Bob Nees; *The Home Team* - Leroy Cupp; *Buried Child* - Tom Ferris; *Bud, Not Buddy* - Tom Ferris

Set Dressing - *She Loves Me* - Eric Chatfield; *The Home Team* - John Delaney & Emily Clark; *Buried Child* - Jackie Payne

Sound Design - *The Home Team* - Heath Sartorius

Director - *Children’s Emperor’s New Clothes* - Lee Helder

Lead Actress - *Children’s: In Emperor’s New Clothes* as Zif - Laura Johnson; *Emperor’s New Clothes* as Miggot - Kelly Jo Garland

Supporting Actor - *Children’s: Emperor’s New Clothes* as Emperor - Lee Purdy

Supporting Actress - *Children’s - Emperor’s New Clothes* as Empress - Maribeth Robertson

Featured Actor - *Children’s - Emperor’s New Clothes* as Sorcerer - Dan Pappas

Featured Actress - *Children’s - Emperor’s New Clothes* as Cook - Sarah Schimm; *Emperor’s New Clothes* as Jester — Sandy Thomasson

Director - *Drama/Comedy - The Home Team - Emily Clark; Buried Child* - Janet Colson

Featured Actor - *Drama/Comedy - Buried Child* as Bradley - Ben Holzhausen; *The Home Team* as Duke - Heath Sartorius

Featured Actress - *Drama/Comedy - The Home Team* as Marion - Erin Hoffman

Lead Actor - *Drama/Comedy - Buried Child* as Dodge - Michael Hays; *The Home Team* as Johnny - Erik Grill; *Scotland Road* as John - Jeff Magnuson

Lead Actress - *Drama/Comedy - White Buffalo* as Carol Gelling - Emily Clark; *The Home Team* as Neva - Gini Larson; *Bud, Not Buddy* as Miss Thomas - Janelle Hall

Supporting Actor - *Drama/Comedy - Buried Child* as Tilden - Jeff Magnuson; *The Home Team* as Wayne - Joseph Dickson; *Buried Child* as Vince - Connor Kelly

Supporting Actress - *Drama/Comedy - The Home Team* as Erin - Shannon Bowen; *Scotland Road* as The Woman - Cassie Little

Director - *Musical - She Loves Me* - Meghan Eldred-Woolsey; *Spamalot* - Bob Purosky

Featured Actor - *Musical - She Loves Me* as Head Waiter - Edric Haleen; *She Loves Me* as Mr. Maracek - Bill Henson

Lead Actor - *Musical - She Loves Me* as Goerg Nowak - Adam Woolsey; *Spamalot* as King Arthur - Ben Holzhausen

Lead Actress - *Musical - She Loves Me* as Amalia Balash - Kelley Lofton; *Spamalot* as Lady of the Lake - Kathryn Mulcahy

Supporting Actor - *Musical - She Loves Me* as Ladislav Sipos - Kyle Harwood; *She Loves Me* as Steven Kodaly - Alex Quinlan; *She Loves Me* as Arpad Laszlo - Isaac Orr; *Spamalot* for Multiple Roles - Isaac Orr; *Spamalot* for Multiple Roles - Zach Riley; *Spamalot* for Multiple Roles - Brian Farham

Supporting Actress - *Musical - She Loves Me* as Ilona Ritter - Sarah Hayner

BACKSTAGE BARNEYS recognize an outstanding behind-the-scenes asset from each show:

- **She Loves Me** - Michele Booher Purosky
- **Master Harold & the Boys** - Randy & Arlena Craven
- **The Home Team** - Cody Skalmowski
- **Emperor’s New Clothes** - Susan Chmurynsky
- **Buried Child** - Morgan & Marina Villanueva
- **White Buffalo** - Diane Cooke
- **Lily the Felon’s Daughter** - Anna Maier
- **Bud, Not Buddy** - Ashley Hampton
- **Scotland Road** - Susan Chmurynsky
- **Spamalot** - Michele Booher Purosky

Howard Lancour Newcomer Barney - *Bud, Not Buddy* as Bud - KaVares Luckett-Brown; *White Buffalo* as First Girl - Savannah Cardwell

Bob Gras Black Box Award - Marnee Rutledge Wolf - boss of the Black-Box box office

President’s Award - Jane Zussman - with 18+ years of newsletter and program interaction with each show

Marilyn Steegstra You-Take-the-Cake Award - Gretchen Ferguson, over 20 years of ushering; always the first to arrive.

Member’s Choice Award: *Spamalot* was the favorite show - with Runners Up *She Loves Me* and *Bud, Not Buddy*

Michael Schacherbauer — our recently departed board member, director, actor and friend — was honored with a memorial tribute at the Barneys. His partner posted on Facebook: “ ‘Wonderful’ inadequately describes the tribute that Riverwalk Theater paid to Michael Schacherbauer last evening during the Annual Barney Awards.... Thank you to Erin Hoffman and Shannon Bowen who presented and produced the tribute, replete with a finale of disco dancers (Michael was a dance instructor and performer as well). A stirring and much appreciated personal message from Riverwalk Theatre Board President Jeff Magnuson to us increased our respect for all that Riverwalk Theater stands for in our community.” **Don Savolainen**

Thanks to Choreographer **Karyn Perry** for help with the disco surprise enabling Zach Riley, Isaac Orr, Timothy Lawrence, Kelley Lofton, Kristin Pagels, and Sarah Hayner to truly light up the dance floor. Thanks also to Judges Chair **Miranda Sue Hartmann** and judges: Tim Donal, Diane Gardin, William Kennedy, Cassie Little, Bob Purosky and Ralph Sims.



Drama by August Wilson
Directed by
Vanessa Cunningham Sanders

Auditions: Sun. & Mon., July 29 & 30, 7 pm.
(Show Dates: October 18-28)

Regular taxi cabs will not travel to their neighborhoods in the 1970's, so residents turn to jitneys (unofficial, unlicensed taxi cabs) that operate in their community. The play portrays the lives of jitney drivers at the station owned by Jim Becker.

This is an all African-American Cast

- Youngblood:** Jitney driver and Vietnam Veteran – mid-late twenties
- Turnbo:** Jitney driver who is always interested in the business of others
- Fielding:** Jitney driver and former tailor, with a dependency on alcohol
- Doub:** Longtime Jitney driver and Korean War veteran
- Shealy:** Numbers taker who often used the jitney station as his base
- Philmore:** Local hotel doorman, recurring jitney passenger
- Becker:** Well-respected man who runs the jitney station – in his sixties.
- Booster:** Becker's son, recently released from prison – in his early 40's
- Rena:** Youngblood's girlfriend and mother of their young son.

CREW VOLUNTEERS - are also invited to help out building and moving sets and other backstage duties. Come to auditions or contact the director at (517) 213-5235 - vanonly@aol.com

Come prepared to read from the script. Perusal scripts are available at the Riverwalk Theatre Office, Tuesday-Friday, 10 am-5:30 pm.

PERUSAL SCRIPTS for all shows are available at the Riverwalk office, Tuesday - Friday, 10 am - 5:30 pm. Call 517-482-5700 to check availability: rwt@RiverwalkTheatre.com

Lobby Artist July-August - Jackie Borsich



Jackie attended Lansing Community College and Spring Arbor University and graduated in 1976 with a BA degree with a major in art. She has participated in countless art shows, Expos, Gallery Exhibits, and Art Festivals in the greater Lansing area for over 30 years. She has had personal exhibits with the East Lansing Older Person's Programs, East Lansing Public

Library, People's Church of East Lansing, The Lansing Public Library, Holt United Methodist Church, Keystone Bakery, Pistachio's Restaurant, Coral Gables Restaurant, Riverwalk Theatre, Independence Village, Okemos Library and Commissioned Works.

Jackie has been a member of the Mid-Michigan Art guild since 1988 and served on several committees. She was President from 1993-1994, and Treasurer from 2003-2005. She is also a member of the Shiawassee Arts Council, in Owosso, Michigan. When not quilting, she is painting, mostly watercolor, reading, traveling, visiting museums, or doing concessions work here at Riverwalk Theatre.



Spring Renewal by Jackie Borsich

Each Riverwalk MEMBER is a part of the FOUNDATION that supports Riverwalk for the benefit of all theatre lovers!
Our fiscal/membership year runs July-June. JOIN NOW AND YOU BE-LONG THROUGH JUNE 2019!

Actor — \$15-24, Ripples, voting on board members & Members Choice favorite show award.

Technician — \$25-49, Ripples, voting, program listing

Stage Manager — \$50-99, Ripples, voting, program listing, and one comp ticket

Director — \$100-249, Ripples, voting, program listing, two comp tickets

Producer — \$250-499, Ripples, voting, program listing, four comp tickets

Star — \$500-999, Ripples, voting, program listing, six comps, name on theatre seat

Angel — \$1000+, Ripples, voting, program listing, 12 comp tickets, name on a theatre seat and on the donor board in the lobby

Go to riverwalktheatre.com. Click "more" then "get involved" to join online. Or just mail/ give a check to Mike at the office. We're 501c3 tax deductible. If you're already a member, recruit a NEW member today!

RIVERWALK THEATRE

2017-2018 Officers (18-19 officers to be elected and/or re-elected at July Board Meeting)
President, Jeff Magnuson
Administrative VP, Darrin Fowler
Production VP, Rita Deibler
Treasurer, Michele Booher-Purosky
Secretary, Jane Shipley Zussman

2018-2019 Board of Directors

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Ripples is published by Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr., P.O. Box 12249, Lansing, MI 48901. Submit info to Editor Jane Zussman (jszussman@gmail.com) or Riverwalk Manager Mike Siracuse (rwt@riverwalktheatre.com) office hours: Tuesdays thru Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Reservations and info at: 517-482-5700 or RiverwalkTheatre.com



Riverwalk Theatre

P.O. Box 12249 • Lansing MI 48901

Next to Impression 5,
228 Museum Drive, south off
Michigan Avenue, across from
the Lansing Center

Want to DIRECT at Riverwalk?

Directors are invited to submit scripts between August 1 and August 31.

One committee chooses Main Stage; another chooses Black Box, selecting shows based on marketability, availability, season balance, and community engagement.

Main Stage features full sized productions and requires open auditions; Black Box features minimal set/staging and may be precast.

Choose any script OR submit one of these the committee suggests:

Musicals:

Disaster
You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown
The Drowsy Chaperone
Once On This Island

Dramas:

Doubt
Sweat
The Miracle Worker

Comedies:

Five Women Wearing the Same Dress
The Front Page
Unnecessary Farce.

Download or get forms at the office; complete a form for EACH script - up to 3 per venue (NOT the same script to multiple venues.) Include one script copy, electronic scans preferred. Directors submitting will be contacted for an interview.

Email to RWT@RiverwalkTheatre.com - OR - deliver to the office, 228 Museum Drive - OR Mail to Riverwalk P.O. Box 12249, Lansing MI 48901

More info and forms at <http://www.riverwalktheatre.com/submit-a-play.html>

Riverwalk Theatre's



youngartisanworkshop presents...



This show is produced by a free workshop for youth actors and backstage crew



Adapted by author Matthew Holmes
from the book by Sir Terry Pratchett

Directed by
Sadonna Croff
with Music Director
Katherine Wilson
and Choreographer
Roberta Otten

Maurice is an amazing cat. He can think, he can talk... and he has an amazing scam going with his gang of intelligent rats and one stupid-looking kid. When they arrive in Bad Blintz, all is not as it should be. What are those resident rat-catchers up to?

July 26-29, 2018

**ONE
WEEKEND
ONLY!**

7 pm Thurs., Fri., Sat., and 4:30 pm Sun.
General Seating • \$10 adults age 13+; \$8 children

228 Museum Drive, across from the Lansing Center
next to Impression 5 Science Center



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