

Ripples

from the Community Circle Players at

Riverwalk Theatre

Season 30 • Number 2
September, 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

Jekyll & Hyde pits good against evil

The epic struggle between good and evil comes to life in this thriller based on Robert Louis Stevenson's classic tale.

Rebuffed by the powers that be, Dr. Jekyll experiments on himself, inadvertently unleashing pure evil: Dr. Hyde. Jekyll is torn between the love of two women (played by Kelly Lofton and Sally Hecksel) as he races to find a cure for the demon he has created.

Director Tom Ferris is excited to present this musical drama which explores the dark and the light — the hidden and the revealed — what we can see and what we cannot. How close is any of us to being thrown out of control by a traumatic life event?

Tom is proud of his large cast of 28, seven of whom are making



Kameron Going makes his Riverwalk debut in the role(s) of Jekyll and Hyde.

PHOTO BY WWW.ARNIKO.COM

their Riverwalk debuts — including Kameron Going, in the demanding role of Jekyll/Hyde.

Tom is amazed by the wonderful work John Dale Smith is doing with the music. Though some of the subject matter may be ugly, the music is beautiful.

With the upcoming *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* in mind, Riverwalk has introduced a "child" ticket price for musicals: \$12 for age 12 and under. (adults \$24; seniors/students \$20) Patrons should note, however, that *Jekyll & Hyde* is scary in parts — and not appropriate for younger elementary school age audiences.

Don't miss this dramatic, musical spectacle, September 6-16!

Jane Zussman

WHAT'S ON AT RIVERWALK

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

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

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

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

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

Nov. 3 - 8 pm - **RIVERWALK SATURDAY NIGHT** - music and fun with singer songwriters Tom Heideman and Mary Koenigsnecht and friends.

January 24-27 & January 31-February 3, **CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG** - family musical comedy - Director: Brian Farnham

PLAYS: 7 pm Thurs.; 8 pm Fri. & Sat.; 2 pm Sun. Fri./Sat./Sun. \$15 (\$12 sr/stnt/military) Bargain Thursdays \$10/\$8

MUSICALS: 7 pm Thursdays; 8 pm Fri./Sat.; 2 pm Sundays \$24 (\$20 sr/stnt/military) (\$12 age 12 and under)

BLACK BOX SHOWS: 7 pm Thursdays; 8 pm Fridays & Saturdays; 2 pm Sundays \$12 (\$10 sr/stnt/military) Bargain Thursdays \$10/\$8

AUDITIONS - More info at RiverwalkTheatre.com

SPECIAL EVENT: see website

MEMBERS

...provide over a quarter of all revenue for shows and general operations!

Your membership is your vote to keep Riverwalk sustainable and available to actors and audiences for years to come!

Join or renew today — at the level that fits your budget — and you belong through June 30, 2019!

It's easy to join online at:

www.riverwalktheatre.com/get-involved.html

MEMBERS ONLY
are eligible for a **DRAWING FOR TWO FREE TICKETS**
Enter during intermission; winners are drawn at the final show of each main stage run; you need not be present to win!

Young Artisans' Amazing Maurice adds depth to the Pied Piper tale



Maurice (Simon Rebeck) accepts the accolades of Malicia (Cecelia Cody, left) and Peaches (Tauren Del Rio, right) Hamnpork (Beatrice Backhaus, over Malicia's head) and Sardines (Phineas Reed) left of Maurice) - PHOTO BY WWW.ARNIKO.COM

The Amazing Maurice and His Educated Rodents delighted audiences with a charming and insightful pied-piper-scam tale of trickery and intrigue — with some spooky magical elements as well. Matthew Holmes' script did a nice job of simplifying Terry Pratchett's relatively complex, entertaining and thought-provoking novel.

Director/Founder of the Young Artisan Workshop, Sadonna Croff, did an amazing job of managing this large cast of 29 youngsters aged 10-18, some of whom were new to the stage. Participants not only learned acting, but other aspects of stage tech work, and teamwork as well.

Music Director Katherine Wilson did a nice job of teaching the songs. The group singing/dancing numbers were a highlight of the production, thanks to the simple but expressive choreography of Roberta Otten.

Kudos to Katy Kettles (with assistants Josh Golden Camara Lewis, Brynn Sullivan and Makena Martin) for the fascinating costumes, designed to look as if they were

"created from the trash" (where the rats became magically "educated" by eating discarded magic potion that enabled them to speak and express their dreams — and motivated them to choose trash-derived names for themselves, such as Peaches, Sardines, Hamnpork — and to make creative fashion statements with the materials available.)

The costumes were wonderful when viewed from the audience and were even more amazing seen up close. Greeting the actors in the lobby receiving line gave us a chance to examine those costume details. Some were made from fabric "pages of books" on which the Young Artisans had hand-written stories. All the costumes were fashioned with fun, trash-embellishments.

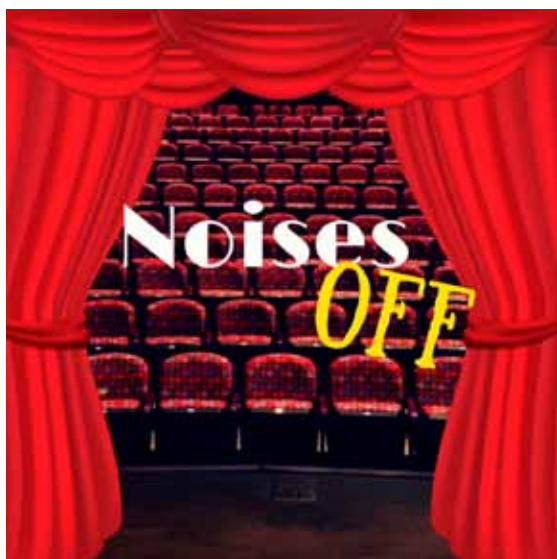
Another impressive aspect of the set was Bella Croff's projections, which set many scenes and were the real "scenography" of the show, even though they were not painted on actual flats or set pieces. Combined with Tom Ferris's practical, versatile set, these projections created a variety of locations

that could be changed quickly, so as not to slow down the pace of the show.

Outstanding performers included "The Amazing Maurice" played with swagger, energy and attitude by Simon Rebeck. Steven Wulfekuhler scared everyone as "The Rat King," a spooky symbol of the spirit of revenge. Phineas Reed was outstanding as "Sardines" the show-biz dancer rat, who maintained focus and energy even when not doing his adorable tap dance. Cecelia Cody was "Malicia," our narrator, ably spinning the story and inviting us into the tale. Francis Melinn was cute and sassy "the Kid" who outpiped the overpriced professional "Rat Piper" (Rachel Wilkes). Josie Croff was the strong leader "Darktan," who rallied the troops when it counted.

This show continues the impressive evolution of the Young Artisan productions. They are creative learning experiences, priming young actors to enter the world of Community Theatre — and providing fun entertainment for the whole family.

Jane Zussman



Comedy/Farce by Michael Frayn
Directed by Michael Hays
AUDITIONS: Mon. & Tue., Oct. 1 & 2, 7 pm

Production Dates: Nov. 29 - Dec. 9, 2018

Actors (you) performing as actors (in *Noises Off*), who are performing as actors (in *Nothing On*)! This zany romp/farce pokes hilarious fun at British Theatre! Slapstick, major physical humor! "Laugh-a-minute"! Great roles!

All ages are flexible, depending on the audition turnout. Please do not eliminate yourself because you think you might be the wrong age! Come one, come all! (The following ages are nothing more than reference points.)

Dotty Otley: middle-aged to elderly. Plays "Mrs. Clackett," the housekeeper for the Brent's home in England, in *Nothing On*.

Lloyd Dallas: 30+. The director of the play-within-the play, called *Nothing On*.

Garry LeJeune: 30+. A stuttering actor, easily fired up. Plays "Roger," the real estate agent looking to let the Brent's house, in *Nothing On*.

Brooke Ashton: early 20s+. A young inexperienced actress from London. Plays "Vicki," who works for the tax authorities, and is trying to woo "Roger," in *Nothing On*.

Poppy Norton-Taylor: 25+. Assistant Stage Manager, for *Nothing On*.

Frederick Fellowes: 35+. Has a serious fear of violence and blood. Plays "Phillip Brent," who lives out of the country with his wife, "Flavia," to avoid paying taxes and is on a secret visit, in *Nothing On*.

Belinda Blair: 28+. Cheerful and sensible, a reliable actress. Plays "Flavia," Phillip Brent's wife, who is dependable, though not one for household duties, in *Nothing On*.

Tim Allgood: 25+. An over-worked Stage Manager, for *Nothing On*.

Selsdon Mowbray: 45+. With actorly mannerisms, plays "Selsdon," a burglar and an old man in his seventies, breaking into the Brents' house, in *Nothing On*.

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

Future AUDITIONS at Riverwalk

Details will be posted at www.riverwalktheatre.com/auditions

Riverwalk Theatre welcomes auditioners as diverse as our community. Specific role descriptions, show details and audition forms are available at www.riverwalktheatre.com/auditions.

If you are interested in auditioning for any show you can print and fill out the Audition Form online — or obtain one when you arrive at auditions.

October 28 and 29, Sunday and Monday, 7 pm,

CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG, family musical comedy, director: Brian Farnham; music director Angie Schwab (performs January 24 - February 3, 2019)

December 6 & 7, **Thursday and Friday**, 6:30-8:30, **WIZARD OF OZ**, at

Hannah Community Center, directed by Tom Ferris and produced in cooperation with All-of-us Express Children's Theatre; **all ages 9 through adults are welcome** for cast and crew; optional Audition Workshop December 5 at 6:30; more information at cityofeastlansing.com/allofus OR e-mail ecooke@cityofeastlansing.com (performs in spring, 2019, AT THE HANNAH COMMUNITY CENTER - specific dates TBA)

December 16 and 17, Sunday and Monday, 7 pm,

ELEPHANT MAN, director: Amy Rickett (performs March 14-24, 2019)

March 17 and 18, Sunday and Monday, 7 pm,

HAIRSPRAY musical comedy, director: Sarah Hayner; music director Angie Schwab (performs June 6-16, 2019)

Each Riverwalk MEMBER is a part of the FOUNDATION that supports Riverwalk for the benefit of all theatre lovers!

Our fiscal/member-ship 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!

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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

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In the past, Season Tickets have only been available for Rotary Main Stage shows. Now we offer an All-Access Season Ticket that *also* includes the four Dart Black Box shows.

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We are in the process of choosing and implementing an online ticketing system where you will be able to select your own seats online and print out your own tickets, so prices may rise slightly to accommodate this service, making SEASON TICKETS an even better deal!

Even at today's prices of \$24 (\$20) for musicals \$15 (\$12) for plays and \$12 (\$10) for Black Box, you will save 20% over individual ticket prices.


EARLY BIRD DEAL:

It's your last chance for \$10 discount off the Season Ticket prices above, if you purchase yours AT THE BOX OFFICE when you attend *Jekyll and Hyde*.


REMEMBER, all season ticket coupons are INTERCHANGEABLE for shows of the same type: musical, play, black box.

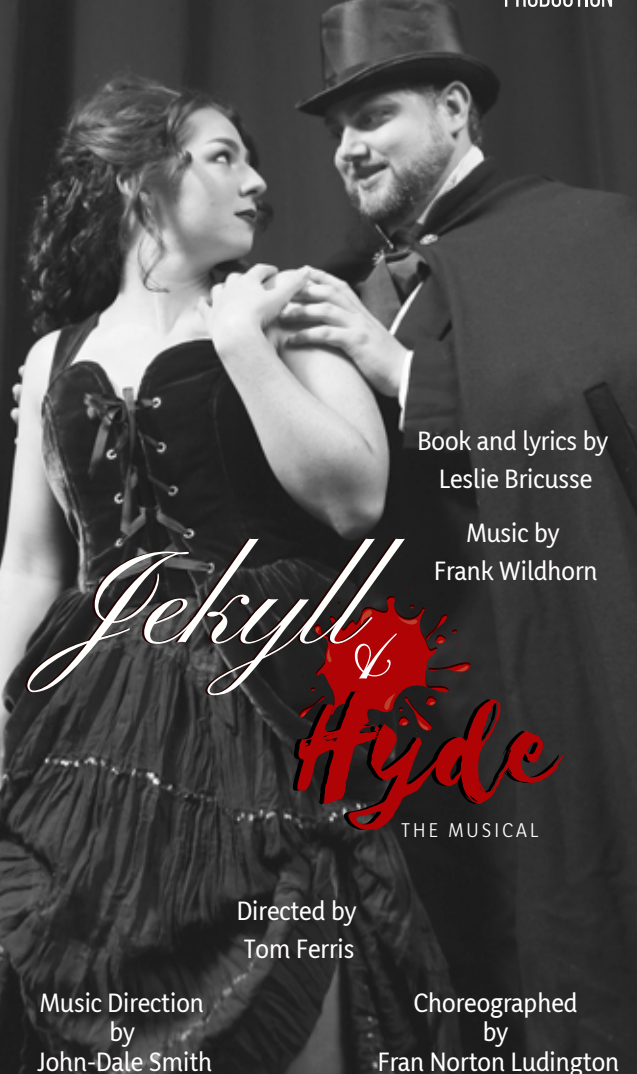
SEPTEMBER

6-9 AND 13-16, 2018



30 Years in Lansing!

ROTARY MAIN STAGE
PRODUCTION



Jekyll & Hyde

THE MUSICAL

Book and lyrics by
Leslie Bricusse

Music by
Frank Wildhorn

Directed by
Tom Ferris

Music Direction
by
John-Dale Smith

Choreographed
by
Fran Norton Ludington

Thursdays: 7pm Fri/Saturdays: 8pm Sundays: 2pm

Tickets:

Adult: \$24

Military/Senior/Student: \$20

Box Office: (517)482-5700

www.RiverwalkTheatre.com



Jekyll & Hyde is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIshows.com



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