

# StD Guild

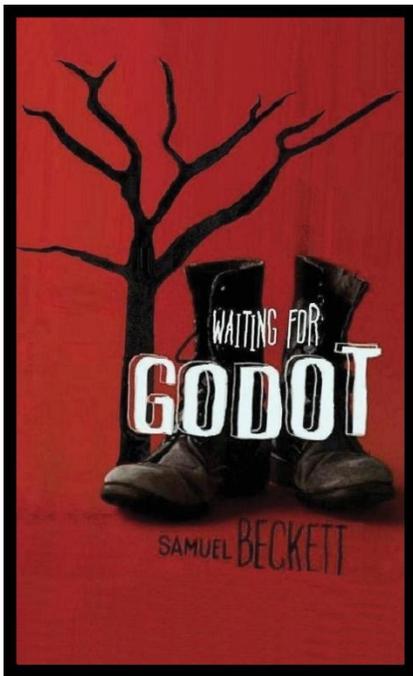
ST. DUNSTAN'S GUILD OF CRANBROOK



## AND THIS MONTH...

APRIL 2012

*Waiting for Godot* Opens Apr. 13



### MYSTERY, ENIGMA--GODOT

Critic Brooks Atkinson called *Waiting for Godot* "a mystery wrapped in an enigma," as he attempts to explain the style and the messages conveyed by the two-act play. Mixing elements of the styles of James Joyce and Jean-Paul Sartre, Irish writer, Samuel Beckett, manages to

make a very poignant piece of theatre that reveals something of the destiny of the human race, based on a stark stage setting and the idea of waiting for something that never happens.

Some say Godot stands for God, and the characters wait in vain for a salvation which never comes—but it is in the wait that the audience experiences, "an attitude toward man's experience on earth; the pathos, cruelty, comradeship, hope, corruption, filthiness and wonder of human existence."

The show opens April 13 and runs for two weekends. Don't wait...Book your tickets NOW.

### FORVM CAST PVTS THE V BACK IN FVN!!!

We are thrilled from the cacumorem of our lauri down past the praecisamentorum of our togae to the very fundorum of our sanduli to announce the most fantabulous, awesome, and super-amazingly-talented cast and crew for this June's Greek Theatre extravaganza, *A Funny Thing Happened on the*

*Way to the Forum*, the rip-roaring, toe-tapping musical farce from the stylae of Stephen Sondheim and Larry Gelbart. Per Director Andrew H. McMechan, Assistant Director Laurie Dooley, Music Director Dianne Cragg, and Choreographer Extraordinaire Miss Laura Raisch, the cast includes these phenomenal talents:

**Mitch Masters** as Pseudolus

**Anthony Marsalese** as Senex

**Sue Mancuso** as Domina

**Jeff Davison** as Hysterium

**Jim Luzenski** as Marcus Lycus

**Chris Steinmayer** as Miles Gloriosus

**Ara Basherian** as Erronius

A Trio of Protean Stooges –  
Moe – **Heather Clement**,

Larry – **Katie Kezelian**,

Curly – **Mark Walters**

A Sextet of Dancers, featuring the terrific terpsichorean talents of...

**Kendall Doman** as Gymnasia,

**Rachel Biber** and **Katherine Johnson** as dancers

And introducing, courtesy of Oakland University

**Melissa Perry** as Philia and **Michael Petrillo** as Hero

But wait! There's more....

**Roz Basherian** and **Kathie Shapero** - those Caesars of scissors, those Neros of needles, those Hercules of the hemlines - are designing the stylish and sexy costumes.

**Leslie Pilling** is designing a the perfect set for our own world-famous, historic Greek Theatre, with **Tom Edson** providing his exceptional construction talents to bring Leslie's vision to full, colorful life. **Obie Burch** returns to pull

the stars down to provide the light (what? You mean that's not how it works?). **Paul "Gogo" Dorset** and **Susan Holmes** are scouring the world's antiques markets to provide actual Roman artifacts for props; **Ruth Bennett** is in leading the anticipated Vesuvian response to ticket sales; **Molly Dorset** is in charge of getting the news out to the waiting hordes, and **Mike Brooks** is putting together the Exclusive Souvenir Program (sounds cooler that way, doesn't it?).

All this, under the watchful eyes of the GREATEST PRODUCER TEAM EVER, **Mairo Towle**, **Nat Towle**, and **Dianne Blasciuc**.

### Where were you in 1985?

St. Dunstan's presented *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* for the first time in June 1985. From Andrew McMechan's pen, here's what was happening at that time—complete with his commentary!

#### **January**

--VH – 1 channel launches  
--Ronald Reagan sworn in for 2<sup>nd</sup> term  
--"We Are The World" recorded by the greatest stars of the day: Boy George, Duran Duran, and Cyndi Lauper all lend their timeless talents  
--"Material Girl" released by Madonna

#### **February**

--"Dukes of Hazzard" ends its 6-year run on CBS, along with other classics "The Jeffersons", "Alice" and "Fat Albert and the Cosby Kids". Western culture breathes a sigh of relief.  
--"The Breakfast Club" released. Civilization doomed yet again.

#### **March**

--The FDA approves the first blood test for AIDs  
--"Amadeus" by Peter Shaffer wins best film Oscar, paving the way for St Dunstan's vastly superior version  
--"Purple Rose of Cairo" released, Jeff Daniels becomes star, opens Chelsea theatre, pens Yooper comedy "Escanaba in Love" – all for us to present in 2012. Thanks, Woody Allen!  
--"Moonlighting" debuts on ABC, giving the world Bruce Willis. (The world has been looking for a way to return him ever since.)

#### **April**

--New Coke introduced  
David Lee Roth bids good bye to Van Halen. Or, Van Halen bids good bye to David Lee Roth. Does it really matter?  
--South Africa ends its ban on interracial marriage  
--Patrick Brooks joins St Dunstan's for the first time  
--Madonna begins her first national tour, "The Virgin Tour." Truth in advertising dies a lonely death in a back alley somewhere.

#### **May**

--"Biloxi Blues" by Neil Simon wins Tony for Best Play  
--"Big River" wins for Musical June  
--Route 66 is officially de-commissioned from US Highway system  
--"Prizzi's Honor" released – Angelica Huston stars. Angelica Huston is a goddess. 'Nuff said.

#### **July**

--"Back to the Future" released  
--Live AID concerts in both London and Philadelphia

### HEALING CORNER

Connie McEwan remains in Beaumont Hospital where she underwent her third back surgery on Mar. 29. We do not know yet whether that will enable her to regain the use of her legs. Your energy and prayers are needed. Ian is giving us the updates, and will let us know when she is ready to receive more than our prayers.

Mary Jolliffe, after 7 ½ weeks of rehabilitation at Woodward Hills, is now home and doing quite well, she says. The ongoing therapy on her arm will continue for some time. She would love to hear from her St. D's friends!

## **LET'S GO KROGERING!**

As a non profit organization, St. Dunstan's relies on donations and fundraising for much of its expense.

An easy way for you to support St. D's is to link your Kroger Plus card to St. Dunstan's. It costs you nothing except a moment's time and Kroger will donate a percentage of your grocery purchases to St. D's

**Every April, Kroger requires that patrons and shoppers (re)link their card to St. Dunstan's** so please **renew** or **extend** your commitment to St. Dunstan's today by following the instructions below.

If you have questions, please reply to this email and I will be happy to help you!

## **Raise Money for St. D's Using Your Kroger Plus Card And Kroger's Community Rewards Program**

The Kroger Company is giving non profit organizations in our community \$2,000,000 this year. Kroger will pay up to \$500,000 on a quarterly basis to participating organizations based on their percentage of spending as it relates to the total spending of all participating Kroger Community Rewards organizations. The more people we have on board, the more we earn! It only takes a few moments to (re)register and start earning. It's as easy as that!

Register your Kroger Plus Card with our issued NPO (Non-Profit Organization) number: 90023. Here's how:

- Register online at krogercommunityrewards.com
- Have your Kroger Plus card handy and register your card with your organization after you sign up.
- If you don't have a Kroger Plus card, visit the customer service desk at any Kroger.
- Click on Sign In/Register
- Most participants are new online customers, so you must click on SIGN UP TODAY in the 'New Customer?' box.
- Sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account by entering zip code, clicking on favorite store, entering your email address and creating a password, agreeing to the terms and conditions
- You will then get a message to check your email inbox and click on the link within the body of the email.
- Click on My Account and use your email address & password to proceed to the next step.
- Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information & input your Kroger Plus card #.
- Update or confirm your information.
- Enter NPO number (90023) or name of organization, select organization from list and click on confirm. Note: there are two St. Dunstan's participating. Make sure you have the correct one!
- To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see your organization's name on the right side of your information page.
- REMEMBER, purchases will not count for your group until after you register your card.
- Use your phone number at the register? Call 877-576-7587 to get your Kroger Plus card #
- Members must swipe their registered Kroger Plus card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Kroger Plus card

when shopping for each purchase to count.

This program is open to all St. Dunstan's members, family, friends and supporters. Please pass this on to your family and friends.

You will have been successful if St. Dunstan's is mentioned at the bottom of your receipts thereafter.

## **SPIFFIN' IN DA STORAGE UNIT**

It was an impromptu party and a great time was had by all. Wardrobe Mistress Janie Minchella and former Wardrobe Mistress Roz Basherian and one lowly Guilder editor (Pam Richards) met not so secretly in the storage unit that houses the much-prized St. Dunstan costume collection. Bins, bags, boxes and rack after rack of gorgeous vintage clothes were just waiting to be fondled and folded as the "oh, do you remember so and so wore this in \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in the blank). The bottom line is, we just can't keep it all, so there is ongoing triage to squirrel away that which is so unique it cannot be replaced, and to trade in or sell those pieces that we probably won't use any time in the next decade. Thank goodness for the costume ladies. And thank you, Costume Ladies. It is a huge job to keep everything clean and in order. If we only had a climate-controlled pole barn a couple miles from the theatre, we could keep everything...

## **FROM 39 STEPS TO BAD SEED**

Kathleen Lietz, who directed *The 39 Steps*, wrote to say that Julie Spittle, who played the female roles in that production, has been cast as the psycho little girl, Rhoda in the "campy" version of *The Bad Seed* at Stagecrafters. Also cast is John Tonkovich who was in *She Loves Me* and just finished a role in *Escanaba in Love*. Show runs June 1-3, 7-10 and 14-17.

## **PRESIDENT'S NOTES**

When one show closes and two more are in rehearsal, the symbiotic relationship gets so wrapped in itself that some things just don't get on the radar for the right date. Mark Walters, *Escanaba* director par excellence, Yooper real or wannabe and the Protean Stooge Curly in the currently in rehearsal *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, usually writes his own President's Notes. This month is an exception. *Escanaba in Love* just closed Mar. 31, to great reviews including much merriment and gaseous punctuation! A very funny, touching show. Thanks abound to all cast and crew who made it happen!

Since becoming our President, Mark has worked sound boards, introduced shows, cleaned floors, had personal experience with the local economic downturn, married his beloved Mary, directed two *Escanaba* shows, and now he is in rehearsal for *Forum*. Perhaps that is the plateful of most St. Dunstan presidents—but it is also a tough job trying to herd all the “cats” in



our Guild. Each of us has an idea what needs to be done. We know what we would like to see happen, and so we call the President or some other Board member and state our case. Maybe we even vent. For all our past presidents and for all those who accept Board positions in the future, we thank you and salute you! You do a great job for the Guild and shoulder the welfare of the rest of us. A lot of responsibility! BRAVO!

Now, make your reservations to see *Godot*, and offer to help in some capacity, if you can! We miss seeing you at the theatre, and there is always plenty to do! Applause, applause to you for offering your helping hands.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING, THURSDAY, MAY 17.**

**(DON'T MISS THE BIG NEWS!)**

### **Contributors:**

Paul Gillin  
Kathleen Lietz  
Andrew McMechan  
Mark Walters

*Circle June 17  
week for  
Pavilion clean  
up. There's  
something for  
everyone to do!*

## **DANCING COMES UP ROSIE**

Al Rosie's acting career has taxed many a St. D's choreographer--among them:

Laura Raisch, Roberta Campion, Debbie Cragin Broder (who fled to Baltimore after her fifth attempt to control Al), Alice Flis Hall and Dee-Dee Johns Charlton. Imagine their collective shock to see him dancing on television. It's his 2 seconds of twinkle toes in a commercial for Health Alliance Plan.

**VISIT ST. DUNSTAN'S WEB SITE**

**[www.stdunstanstheatre.com](http://www.stdunstanstheatre.com)**

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