

Guild Board of Directors 2017-2018



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Play Readers Vice-Chair

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President's Message



Pat Anderson

What a lovely surprise Guild members received with the offer of free tickets to a performance of **Rhinoceros**! The tickets were offered on a 'first come - first served' basis and at least forty early callers attended the absurdist spectacle of a little French country town being overwhelmed by beasts - as more and more residents joined the bellowing herd. Highlights included Matt De Caro transforming himself from a stuffy, buttoned down French businessman into a rampaging rhino and Matt McGee channeling Edith Piaf as he sings 'Je ne regrette rien'. He opened the second act with an English version of the same song and in a totally different persona. Three stellar performances. Many thanks to Asolo Rep for recognizing Theatre Guild members with this special treat!

Here's some more good news. We welcomed 25 new members to the Guild last year! The Guild Board will be hosting a reception for the new members on March 26th on the Mezzanine of the Asolo Theatre. The event will run from 5:00 to 7:00 PM and will include wine, hors d'oeuvres and all of the important desserts.

All members of the Guild are welcome to help us mix and mingle with our newcomers - especially if you are the member who brought them in. See you then...

Pat

Membership



by June Aloia

Please Join Me In Welcoming
Our Newest Members:

PAUL FIRESTONE

KAREN AND DENNIS NEE

JUDITH YAEGER

Coming up on March 26th is our annual New Member reception hosted by our Board. The party will be held in the Mezzanine Lobby from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The reception is free to new members, whom we encourage to attend. All Guild members are invited, admission is in the form of finger food to share. The last New Member reception was an outstanding event, so you're not going to want to miss it!

Please see the membership form included in this issue for membership dues amounts. I hope you'll consider supporting Asolo Rep even further by upgrading your membership to Angel level; either as a Sustaining or Patron Member.

The new Guild Directory is now available!

Want a Guild badge? They are available for \$10. Contact me!

June Aloia - 561/351-8109 - Jgabby5@gmail.com

Play Readers' Corner



by Kathryn Chesley

In February, Play Readers had wonderful treat with the reading of **Key for Two**, directed by **Dianne Brin**, who led a delightful cast of characters through the uproarious challenges of “servicing” two men. A big thank you to the cast and the director who brought us laughs galore.

A large, happy audience was on-hand for **Key For Two**.



Dianne Brin

Our next Play Readers' meeting will be on **Monday, March 12**. We will meet at 9:30 AM for



photographs by Susan Michaels



David Coe, Nancy Hanks and Jack Mansbach

coffee and conversation in the theatre lobby, and adjourn to the Cook Theatre. The short meeting will be followed by a reading of several short plays, directed by **Dick Pell**. There should be lots of opportunities to be a part of a play reading at this popular event.



Gary Lee, Carol O'Donovan, Ray Crucet (seated) and Susan Mauntel

We are beginning the process of selecting plays to be read at our meetings next season and selecting plays for our outreach program as well. If you are interested in being on the selection committee, please contact **David Coe** at acid666dove@gmail.com to indicate your interest.

For those of you who are looking to fill up your “fifteen minutes of fame,” here is our offer get you at least

to five of those fifteen minutes. It comes in the form of our last gathering of the season. Our May 14th gathering will feature our **Potpourri** performances. This event gives Guild members a chance to show off their talents. Members are given five minutes to do the performance of their choice: a song, a monologue (from an original or a

Ray Crucet (standing) and Alice Cotman





Steve Cooper and Barb Alexander

published work), or ten minutes for a two person scene. A pizza party and fun follow this event. You will need to sign up for a time slot and advance \$5.00 for the pizza lunch. So, dust off those tap shoes or grab a partner to perform your favorite scene and sign yourself up for some fun (and at least five minutes of fame). Email **Nancy Hanks** at glanceatnance@outlook.com to sign up.

This is the 15th year that the Sarasota County Library System has participated in the *One Book One Community* program which started in 1996 in Seattle to help foster the expression of ideas within the community through the shared love of reading. We're very excited that we are, for the third year in a row, working in cooperation with Sarasota Libraries' *One Book One Community* to perform theatrical readings from the selected work.

Last year we performed readings of *Boys in the Boat* and the previous year we helped celebrate the 100th birthday of Sarasota author John D. MacDonald. This year's selection is a book entitled *Sing for Your Life: A Story of Race, Family and Music* by Daniel Bergner. The book focuses on the life of a young African-American, Ryan Speedo Green, and his "suspenseful, intricate journey from solitary confinement to stardom."

We will be performing hour-long theatrical readings selected from the book. Directed by **Dianne Brin**, these are dramatic readings performed by four Play Readers. We hope you can fit one of these library dates into your schedule:

Our March line up of *Sing For Your Life* theatrical stage readings is as follows:

March 13th	Shannon Staub Library	4675 Career Lane, North Port	at 11:00 AM
March 14th	Gulfgate Library	7112 Curtiss Avenue, Sarasota	at 1:00 PM
March 27th	Fruitville Public Library	100 Coburn Road, Sarasota	at 2:00 PM
March 30th	Selby Library	1331 First Street, Sarasota	at 10:30 AM
March 30th	Jacaranda Public Library	4143 Woodmere Park Blvd, Venice	at 2:30 PM

If you would like to get more information about booking a Play Readers Outreach program performance for a group that you belong to, email Jan Zipper at janlzipper@yahoo.com.

See you at the theater!

Upcoming Play Readers Meetings

<i>date</i>	<i>title</i>	<i>leader</i>
March 12	A collection of short plays	Dick Pell
April 9	<i>A Doll's House</i>	Dianne Brin
May 14	Annual Potpourri	

THE TIME IS NOW!

It is the time of year for selecting for The Asolo Repertory Theatre Guild Play Readers officers who will lead us next year.

Duties:

Chair: official representative/spokesperson for the Guild Play Readers

Vice Chair: shares the day to day responsibilities with the chair

Outreach Scheduler: developing new contacts and booking play readings at various community venues

If you are interested in being an active, integral part of this creative, inspiring, joyous organization, please indicate which position you would like to hold and respond by return email no later than March 9, 2018. Please include your name, email and/or telephone number in your reply.

Please contact me with your submission at: glanceatnance@outlook.com, call or text 401-529-9894. Kindly leave a message if necessary.

Candidates will be nominated by committee and will be notified in March. Voting will be held at the April 12th, 2018 Play Readers meeting.

Thank you for your participation in this exciting process!

Dine With The Cast And Crew Pot Luck Dinners

Thursday, April 26
Ragtime

4:45 PM In the Mezzanine
Lobby.

Guild Board Meetings

Meeting are held at 10:00 AM in the 3rd floor board room.

March 14th

April 11th

May 9th

Inside Asolo Rep - Guild Meetings

Wednesday, March 28 *Gloria*

10:00 AM Coffee and Conversation in FSU Center Lobby

10:30 AM Guild Meeting convenes in Cook Theatre

11:00 AM Panel Discussion



Inside Asolo Rep is sponsored by Designing Women Boutique, The Observer, and Hotel Indigo

Please call the Box Office for tickets to *Inside Asolo Rep* which immediately follows our meeting. Admission is free for Guild members but the theatre asks that you reserve tickets in advance. Call the Box Office at: (941) 351-8000.

Photos from January 31's *Inside Asolo Rep*- featuring *Shakespeare in Love* and *Morning after Grace*

photographs by Susan Mauntel



Paul Adolphsen- Dramaturg, Peter Amster- Director *Morning After Grace*, Jordan Brown- *Shakespeare In Love*, Catherine Smitko- Abigail in *Morning After Grace* and nurse in *Shakespeare In Love*, Rex Willis- musician in *Shakespeare In Love* who plays guitar and a custom made lute.

An impromptu performance by Rex Willis on guitar, and Jordan Brown.





BECOME A MEMBER OF THE

new membership membership renewal

referred by: _____

last name: _____ first name: _____

title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr.

spouse's name: _____

local street address: _____

city: _____ state _____ zip _____

*email address: _____ home phone: _____

mobile phone: _____ •alternate home phone: _____

***By providing an email address, you will automatically be sent the monthly newsletter to that address. If you would like to have a hard copy delivered by regular mail, please check this box.**

Please order a Guild member name badge for me, printed as above, or as follows:

_____ I understand that the badge will cost \$10.

Volunteering is an essential part of being a Guild member. How would you like to be involved?

- COMMUNITY EVENTS:** represent the Guild at various community events
- GUILD EVENT PLANNING:** plan and execute events for Guild members
- PLAY READERS:** perform in staged readings out in the community
- MEMBERSHIP:** actively recruit new members and contact members to increase involvement
- ENVELOPE STUFFING PARTY:** meet at the Asolo and make a party out of helping
- HOSPITALITY/GREETER:** meet & greet new members and circulate during meetings and functions to make everyone feel welcome and involved
- STAFF CAST & CREW DINNERS:** assist with registration, set up & clean up, or wine pouring
- NEWSLETTER/PHOTOGRAPHY:** assist newsletter editor with articles and photographs for *The Guild*
- ASSIST WITH STUDENT MATINEES:** shepherding at student matinees—training required

ANNUAL DUES:

(January 1st Renewal Deadline)

Please complete this form and send it with your check, payable to Asolo Repertory Theatre Guild, to:

Asolo Repertory Theatre Guild
Attn: Membership Chair
5555 North Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, Florida 34243

You may call Frank Kelly at Asolo Rep and charge your membership dues by phone:
941-351-9010 ext. 4714

\$35 **Regular** Individual Membership/\$50 per couple

\$110 ***Sustaining** Level Membership/\$125 per couple

\$135 ***Patron** Level Membership/\$150 per couple

* at this level of membership, Asolo Rep bestows Cherubim Angel status, with all of the associated privileges.

Please charge my Guild dues, in the amount of: \$ _____

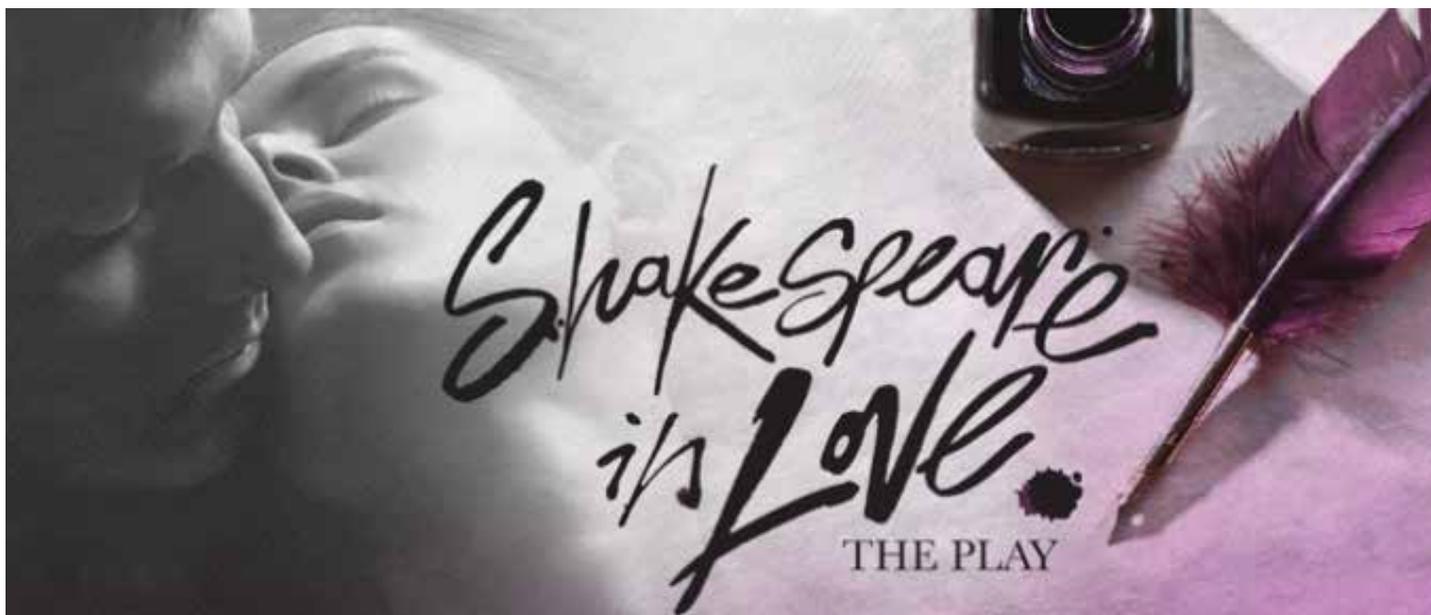
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name on card: _____ expires: ____/____

account number: _____

signature: _____

In The Mertz Theatre



JANUARY 12 - MARCH 28

Adapted for the stage by LEE HALL

Based on the screenplay by MARC NORMAN & TOM STOPPARD

Directed by RACHEL ROCKWELL

“An absolute joy from beginning to end.” - *Daily Express*

Tom Stoppard and Marc Norman’s brilliant seven-time Academy Award[®]-winning film, including Best Picture, bursts to life on the Asolo Rep stage. Promising young playwright Will Shakespeare is tormented by writer’s block while two competing theatre managers are demanding new comedies replete with romance, adventure and maybe a funny bit with a dog. To his rescue comes the beautiful and vibrant Viola, Will’s greatest admirer and the inspiration he’s been longing for. But Viola has a secret and Will finds himself star crossed. This sweeping romantic comedy is a love letter to the arts, as Viola proclaims: “I will have poetry in my life. And adventure. And love. Love above all.”

sponsored by





FEBRUARY 7TH THROUGH APRIL 14TH

by EUGENE IONESCO | Adapted and Directed by FRANK GALATI

“Emotionally compelling and intellectually gripping.” -*Backstage.com*

A farce. A tragedy. A magical experiment for the mind. Brace yourself for this illuminating new adaptation by two-time Tony Award-winner Frank Galati. Berenger is a simple man with a simple life. He has a regular job, drinks too much, and has a flirtatious relationship with his coworker, Daisy. But his day is interrupted by a rhinoceros charging through town—then another, until all of the townspeople transform into rhinos. As one of the few humans remaining, Berenger ponders the ramifications of literally following the herd. Written just after World War II, *Rhinoceros* was considered a masterpiece of absurdist theatre, where the world is incomprehensible and anything a writer can imagine can happen. Don't miss the hilarious satire about mass culture, conformity, and integrity.

sponsored by





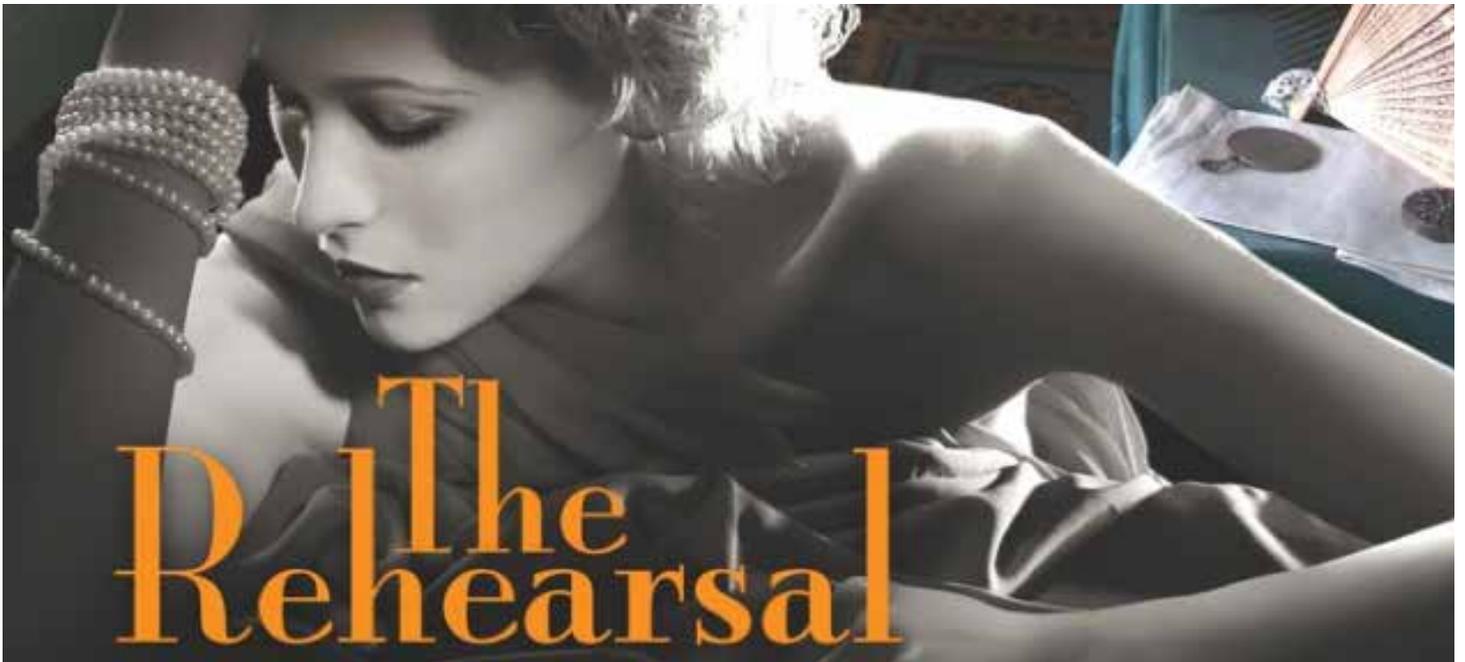
MARCH 14 - APRIL 15

by LISA LOOMER | Directed by LAVINA JADHWANI
Based on the original production directed by BILL RAUCH

“Rousing Entertainment... A big play with bit ideas” - Mail Tribune

The lawyer: a young courageous woman arguing her case before the Supreme Court. The plaintiff: a hard-living single woman hoping for a quick end to an unwanted pregnancy. The aftermath: a place in American judicial history and a lifetime of inescapable notoriety. Lisa Loomer cuts through the headlines to deliver a clever, comic and poignant portrayal of the two women at the center of one of the most infamous court cases of all time. Taking place from the 1970s to the present with characters on both sides of the issue sparring from decidedly pro-choice to decidedly pro-life, **Roe** reflects the polarization in America today while illuminating the heart and passion each person has for their cause.

In The Cook Theatre



FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 11

by **JEAN ANOUILH**

A group of very wealthy socialites gather to present a production of a Marivaux play and enlist the help of Lucile, a poor young girl hired as nanny for the household. Love blossoms quickly, but is soon ruthlessly destroyed by those who feel their barely adequate existence is threatened. At once a brilliant boulevard farce and a dark, disturbing morality play, penned by one the great writers of contemporary European theatre