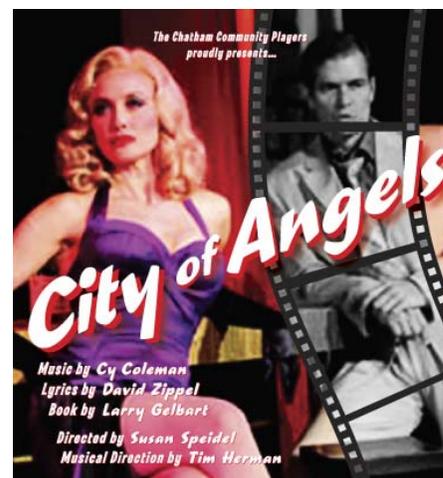


BACKSTAGE

Chatham Community Players Newsletter

“CITY OF ANGELS” OPENS MAY 4

This fast-moving, dazzling scene-changing musical won the Tony Award for best musical, leading actor, featured actress, best score and best original book when it ran on Broadway in the 90's. Author **Larry Gelbart** is famous for his work on “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum,” and “M.A.S.H.,” among others. Composer **Cy Coleman** wrote the music for “Sweet Charity,” “Barnum,” and Will Rogers “Follies,” plus many more. “**City of Angels**” offers a seductive view of 1940's Los Angeles, and has a score ranging from torchy ballads to swinging jazz and witty lyrics. The story concerns a writer struggling with a film noir script with echoes of “*The Maltese Falcon*” and “*I, The Jury*.” “**City of Angels**” will be presented in a unique set designed by **Joe Hupcey**, enhanced by special artwork by **Joan Gillroy**, and directed by the multi-talented **Susie Speidel**. **Tim Herman** is the Musical Director. Our cast will be led by **Matt Burns**



and **Paul Salvatoriello**, with **Karen Cantor**, **David Cantor**, **Ed Carlo**, **Brandon Fake**, **Jeffrey Fiorello**, **Howard Fischer**, **Garret Gallinot**, **David Gazzo**, **Susan Hagen**, **Kathleen Campbell-Jackson**, **Jillian Prefach**, **Andrew Sfiris**, **Julia Sickler**, **David Simon**, **Brynn Stanley**, and **Julie Waldman-Steil** rounding out the cast.



“**City of Angels**” opens Friday, May 4, 8 p.m., with performances on May 5, 11, 12, 18, and 19 at 8 p.m., and matinees Sunday, May 13, and Saturday, May 19 at 3 p.m. Call our box office at 973-635-7363 or order tickets online at www.chathamplayers.org.

“JERSEY VOICES” IN PREPARATION



Some 92 scripts have been offered to us for our 13th annual summer production of six original one-act pieces to be presented July 27 & 28, and August 3 & 4. Under the leadership of **Bob Denmark** and **Bob Lukasik**, this will be an exciting theater evening. **Auditions** for all parts will be held at The Playhouse, 23 North Passaic Avenue, Chatham, on **Sunday, May 20, and Monday, May 21, beginning at 7:30 p.m.** We are looking for males and females ages 20 to 60, and male and female dancers,

ranging from mid-teen to 30's. Actors will be reading from sides from each of the one-acts chosen for the festival. Dancers should be in appropriate dance attire. Auditions are open; all are welcome. Plays have not been selected at this time. Playwrights will be notified shortly.

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULED

Chatham Community Players' Annual Meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, May 16, at The Playhouse, and will include presentation of annual awards given in recognition of outstanding effort during the year. Entertainment will be presented by our theater interns under the guidance of **Kathy Ruskin**. Outgoing President **Chris Furlong** will present his multi-media report of the past season. At the Election Meeting held March 14, the following officers were elected: President: **Roy Pancirov**; Vice-President: **Steve Stubelt**; Secretary: **Mara Lundstrom**; Treasurer: **Kathy Rex**; and Business Manager: **Steffi Denmark**. **Chris Furlong** will remain a Trustee as Past President.

THINKING OF YOU



(“Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf? in 1997 - Bob Lukasik is pictured bottom right)

We send best wishes to Bob Lukasik for a speedy and complete recovery after heart surgery!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR OFF-STAGE JOBS

There are many off-stage jobs which can be performed by theater-lovers which would be a big help to our Council. None of these jobs require any particular expertise, other than a pleasant demeanor and showing up on time, but are totally necessary for a smooth operation!

For instance, five or six times a year, one or two people could help our **Publicity Committee** distribute posters advertising our shows. It’s a simple job, an hour or two, and a BIG help in getting the word out on our excellent productions.

The sales staff of **Box Office/Tickets** is **desperately** in need of some new personnel. There are two kinds of service—selling to the public, or handing out tickets at a performance. Tickets are sold Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 12:30, and Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings 7 to 8:30 p.m. When the Box Office is open, seller is responsible for getting out supplies, taking phone calls, and selling in person to drop-ins. Occasionally other events are taking place during evening sales (performances, out-reach shows, rehearsals, meetings). Handing out tickets at evening and matinee performances and (hopefully selling on the spot) is a little different, but also requires opening on time, and staying a while after the show starts to watch for late-comers, so arrival time for Box Office staff is one hour before the show begins. Complete training can take place in just a few minutes, and newcomers can be assigned a “buddy” when starting out.

Another group in need of a boost in volunteers is **Front of House**. Usually three or four persons are assigned per performance, and duties include pre-sale and intermission sales of refreshments, stuffing and handing out programs, taking tickets, assistance to the handicapped, and presenting a cheery presence to the public! Arrival time for this group is about 45 minutes before the performance.

If you are interesting in any of these positions, please call **Bob Denmark**, 973-952-0052.

HERE AND THERE...

Frank Briamonte ("*A Christmas Carol*," "*Jersey Voices*," "*Desperate Hours*") will be performing in Westfield Community Players' "*Rumors*"...**Paul Rivers** ("*...Carol*," "*Blood Brothers*"), **Robert Cox** ("*Blood Brothers*"), and **Stuart Scheer** ("*West Side Story*") are starring in "*Jeckyl & Hyde*" at the Barn Theater, Montville....in Cranford Dramatic Club's "*A Secret Garden*," you will see **Phil Levesque** ("*Pippin*," "*Into the Woods*," "*Jersey Voices*") and **Melissa Loderstedt** ("*Blood Brothers*").....**David Neal** ("*Jersey Voices*," "*A View From the Bridge*") is in Chester Theater Group's "*The Norman Conquests*"**Chris Furlong** (various shows from 1980's-2000) recently completed work on two films for Off Stage Films—check them out at www.offstagefilms.com...

Funding for Chatham Community Players has been made possible in part by funds from the Arts Council of the Morris Area through the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.