

# BACKSTAGE

*Chatham Community Players Newsletter*

September, 2006

## AUDITIONS FOR A UNIQUE HOLIDAY PRESENTATION

Chatham Opera and Chatham Community Players will co-produce Menotti's holiday opera "*Amahl and the Night Visitors*" with 12 performances which will take place on December 15, 16, 17, 22 & 23, 2006. Auditions for all roles will take place on September 18, 19 & 22 at 7 p.m. at the Chatham Playhouse, which is located at 23 North Passaic Avenue in Chatham. Non-professional and professional performers with experience in opera or musical theater are encouraged to audition. The show will feature a 21-piece live orchestra.

"*Amahl and the Night Visitors*" is the story of a young, crippled boy, Amahl, and the miracle that cures him. It was first performed on December 24, 1951, in New York City, at NBC studios, where it was broadcast on television. The opera is now a popular family Christmas classic. '*Amahl...*' is full of humor, wonder, and drama, and the music is tuneful and charming.



**Constantine Kitsopoulos**, who is General Director of Chatham Opera, will be conducting the production. Kitsopoulos is a resident of Chatham. On Broadway he was music director and conductor for Baz Luhrmann's production of "*La Bohème*," Matthew Bourne's "*Swan Lake*" and "*Les Misérables*," among others. Kitsopoulos is teaming up again with **Robert Pridham** on this exciting collaboration between Chatham Opera and Chatham Community Players. Having directed "*Master Class*," "*Proof*," "*How I Learned To Drive*," "*Side Man*," and several other shows, Pridham returns as our director.

Performers should come prepared to sing either an aria in English or a traditional musical theatre song in the style of Rodgers and Hammerstein, Stephen Sondheim, Bock & Harnick, etc., which shows off their voice to its best advantage. For more information, please contact Kristin Barber at 732-208-4184. For more details, please visit [www.chathamplayers.org/auditions.htm](http://www.chathamplayers.org/auditions.htm)

### Character Breakdown:

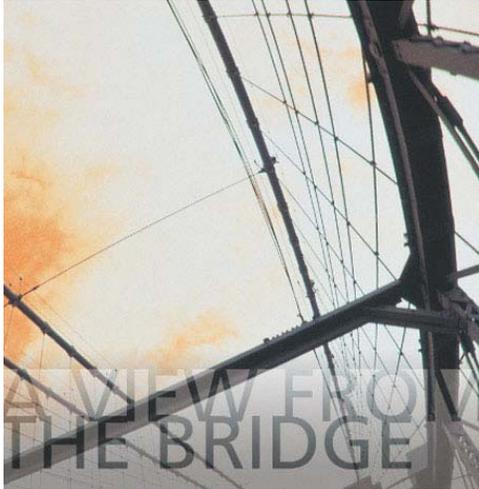
**Amahl** (boy soprano) – a shepherd boy between 10 and 12 years old.

**Mother** (soprano or mezzo) – age range between 25 – 40.

**Three Wise Men:** King Kaspar (tenor) – age range between 25 – 40; King Melchior (baritone) – age range between 35 – 45; King Balthazar (bass) – age range between 40 – 50.

**12 voice chorus** of villagers and shepherds consisting of 3 sopranos, 3 altos, 3 tenors and 3 basses. Additionally, there are two dancers, one male and one female.

## ***FALL BRINGS ARTHUR MILLER'S "A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE"***



To be presented in November, we offer this riveting story of fate, lust, and betrayal, love gone wrong. Set in a Sicilian neighborhood in Brooklyn, the drama tells of longshoreman Eddie Carbone's struggle with intense psychological and physical drives that lead him to betray his own family. A recent revival on Broadway drew rave reviews, calling it one of Miller's best plays, a modern classic.

Our cast is **Pete DiMarco** as Eddie, **Julianne DiPetro-Renshaw** as Beatrice Carbone, **Dana Vigliotti** as Catherine, **Neil Fasolina** as Marco, **Al Sperduto** as Alfrien, **Billy McArthur** as Rodolpho, and **David Gazza**, **Laura Sassano**, **Tony La Russo**, **Caroline Adalien**, and **Jessica Cornish**. We welcome **Rob Pherson** as our director, assisted by Producer **Joelle Bochner** and Production Coordinator **Mara Lundstrom**, with stage manager **Jennifer Dzama**.

The production will run three weekends, November 3 through 18, at The Playhouse, 23 North Passaic Avenue, Chatham.

## **LOOK FOR OUR SEASON BROCHURE**

Join us for our dynamite season 2006-07 of "A View From the Bridge," by Arthur Miller; "Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean" by Ed Graczyk in March; and an exciting musical, "City of Angels" with book by Larry Gelbart, Lyrics by David Zippel and music by Cy Coleman, to be presented in May. Subscribe immediately and plan to enjoy fine theater close to home. Please also consider making a donation with or without a subscription, and become a Friend, Patron, Angel, or even Benefactor; donors are listed in our regular season brochures. Subscriptions can also be purchased online at [www.ticketleap.com](http://www.ticketleap.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.

## **HERE AND THERE...**

**Kristin Barber** ("Proof," "Jersey Voices '04, '05") will be performing in Playhouse Association of Summit's "Children's Hour," directed by **Kate Schlesinger** (who's directed and acted for CCP)...**Stuart Scheer** ("West Side Story"), **David Simon** ("Pippin", "Joseph...Dreamcoat", "West Side Story"), **Will Lampe** ("A Christmas Carol"), **Shannon Barry** ("Pippin," "Into the Woods"), **Chris Cantalupo** ("Pippin"), **Matt Burns** ("...Carol," "Into the Woods," "...Mockingbird"), **Roxanna Arrojo** ("Jersey Voices '06"), and **Philippe Levesque** ("Into the Woods," "Jersey Voices '05." "Pippin") were all cast in 4<sup>th</sup> Wall Theatre's upcoming production of "Assassins" directed by **Bob Cline** ("...Mockingbird,"

"Into the Woods," "Pippin")...**Matt Burns** will also be performing at Studio Playhouse's "Full Monty," directed by **Bob Cline**...**Michael Pasternak** ("Pippin") was Daniel in "Once on This Island, Jr." at the Summit Playhouse, directed by **Renee Palermo** ("Into the Woods")...**Tom Blewitt** "Jersey Voices '04-'06") will be performing in "Music From a Sparkling Planet" at the Chester Theatre Group...**Voltaire Balderrama** ("...Carol," "Pippin") and **Jonathan Wierzbicki** ("Jersey Voices") starred in "Lonely Planet" for the Ledge Theater...**Joann Scanlon** (who's directed and acted for us) will be directing an upcoming production of "The Cemetery Club" for Westfield Players..

