

96th Season
The Chatham Community Players

2017-18 Subscription Series

October 5 - 21, 2017

Barefoot In the Park

By Neil Simon

February 23 - March 10, 2018

Steel Magnolias

By Robert Harling

May 4 - 19, 2018

Grease

By Jim Jenkins and Warren Casey



Special Events

December 8 - 16, 2017

Christmas Cards

By G. David Post

July 27 - August 5, 2018

Jersey Voices

One-Act Plays by New Jersey Playwrights

TBA

Fantasy Theater

A Production for Children

Sundays@7

A Play-Reading Series

TICKETS AND SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION:
WWW.CHATHAMPLAYERS.ORG or 973-635-7363
They make great gifts!

Our 96th Season! 1922-2018

The Chatham Community Players

Proudly Presents



The 23rd Annual

**Jersey
Voices**

One-Act Plays by New Jersey Playwrights

Featuring Works by

Eric Alter Walter Placzek

Eleanor Kennedy G. David Post

Dianna Lewis Robert Scott Sullivan

July 28th - August 6th, 2017

The Chatham Playhouse

23 North Passaic Avenue

Chatham, NJ

Jersey Voices Production Crew – 2017

Producer Bob Denmark
Co-Producer Andrea Herbert
Stage Manager Laura Carey
Assistant Stage Manager Beth Vetter
Production Coordinator Steffi Denmark
Lighting Design Steve Stubelt and Diane Giangreco
Sound Design Joe DeVico
Casting Gus Ibranyi
Box Office Kathy Rex
Photography Howard Fischer
Graphic Art Eleanor Anderson
Program Kathy Rex
Publicity Chris Furlong
Receptions Maria Merkle and Genevieve Anderson

Special Thanks

The Library of The Chathams
Stanley Congregational Church

Zarg theme composer: Joe DeVico
Wig Styling: Susan Cain
Genevieve Anderson

Barbara Fertakos, Jim Connely, Laura Russo
Christie Spriggs, Gina Priano-Kaiser, Jess Green

Our Painting Crew:

Joëlle Bochner, Steffi Denmark, John Kennedy,
Tom MacDonald, Lynn Polan, Andrea Sickler. Beth Vetter

MEET OUR PLAYWRIGHTS

ERIC ALTER (*In Reverse Order*) is thrilled to be part of *Jersey Voices* once again--this is an organization he firmly believes in. He is the author of 134 plays which have been produced, read and performed all over the world. He is the founder of Apricot Sky Productions (www.apricotskyproductions.com), a theater company based in Montclair since 1999. He would like to thank all cast, crew, directors and everyone involved for all their hard work to make a wonderful night of theater. He would especially like to thank Bob Denmark and Bob Lukasik for believing in his work, mutual trust and 17 years of friendship. Break a leg, everyone!

ELEANOR KENNEDY (*Hair, Shoes, Coffee*) is thrilled to be chosen for *Jersey Voices* a third time. Her play, *Like Music*, won the Dubuque Fine Arts Players one-act play competition (2013), and *Next Train* was a finalist in the Turnip Theatre's 15-minute play festival. Her work has also been seen as part of the Village Renaissance Festival of Wrightstown, with which she also performs. A resident of Chatham, Eleanor is a member of the Dramatists Guild.

DIANNA A. LEWIS (*Badger & Maddie*): Her short plays have won 17 competitions at nine theaters in six states: NM, NY, NJ, CO, TX and KS. Produced full-length plays include *The Number Giver*; *Pangloss & Penny-pocket*; *The Number Keeper*; *Bed, Bear, & Outhouse*; and *The Hat*, which won the 2008 Pen & Brush competition, NYC. Dianna grew up in Montclair, and currently lives in Santa Fe, NM. Her very first play to be produced was *Parallel Lines*, in Chatham in July, 1997.

WALTER H. PLACZEK (*Zarg*) is pleased to have another play produced by the fine *Jersey Voices* team. His previous play, *A Love Story* (the exterminator in the nursing home), was performed here in 2015. Walter has acted and directed at many Central Jersey playhouses over the years, including Circle Players, Playhouse 22, and Somerset Valley Players.

G. DAVID POST (*Knock Out*) is thrilled to have a piece included in this year's *Jersey Voices*. Other writing credits include *Christmas Cards* (a collection of 12 holiday sketches), and the book for several pre-teen musicals, *The Tremble Inn*, *THE FEARLESS 5* and *Malt Shop*. Shout out to Jack for taking my work seriously, Delightful for the inspiration, Arnold for the encouragement, and Mr. Macavity for being there.

ROBERT SCOTT SULLIVAN (*A Dog's Life*) is honored to have his play presented in *Jersey Voices* 2017. Rob is a NJ native who has written approximately 20 short plays, many of which have had productions throughout the country, as well as Canada. When not writing plays, he works as a Creative Director for a business communications/production company. Thanks to everyone involved with this terrific production.

MEET OUR DIRECTORS

DAWN AFANADOR (Director, *Hair, Shoes, Coffee*) is pleased to be involved for the first time with *Jersey Voices*, after serving as choreographer for *A Christmas Carol*. She has performed in and directed shows for various semi-professional and community theaters. Directing credits include *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*, and *Driving Miss Daisy* (African Globe Theater), as well as *Wayside Motor Inn* and many children's shows (Old Library Theatre). She earned the 1999 Perry Award for Featured Female for her portrayal of Emily in *Our Town* (West Milford Players). She has a B.A. (Theatre Arts) from Drew University and is a certified dance teacher at Mary Lou Hale's School of Dance.

ELEANOR ANDERSON (Assistant Director, *A Dog's Life* / Graphic Designer) is working on her third show with *Jersey Voices* with Joann Lopresti Scanlon. Going into her sophomore year at Kutztown University for Communication Design, she has been designing for CCP since the summer of 2014 and has also worked as a dresser for multiple CCP productions. She'd like to thank her family for supporting her, and Joann for giving her the opportunity to be assistant on another show!

ARNOLD J. BUCHIANE (Director, *Badger and Maddy*): Arnold's history with CCP includes appearances in *A Man For All Seasons*, *Mousetrap*, *Dracula*, *Cabaret*, *Applause*, *Pride and Prejudice* and *The Grapes of Wrath*, and many seasons of *Jersey Voices* as an actor and director. He most recently has been seen at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse in *Born Yesterday*, *Spreading It Around* and *Social Security*. His most cherished directing experiences are the NJ premier performance of *Angels In America* and the award-winning *Marvin's Room*. He has also been fortunate to play C.S. Lewis in *Shadowlands*.

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Jersey Voices 2016

PROGRAM

A Dog's Life

Written by Robert Scott Sullivan
Directed by Joann Lopresti Scanlon
Assistant Director – Eleanor Anderson

RJ Matt McCarthy
Billie Jessica Phelan

Badger & Maddy

Written by Dianna A. Lewis **DIANNA A. LEWIS**
Directed by Arnold Buchiane

Badger Donald Calliste
Maddy Diane Gilch

Zarg

Written by Walter H. Placzek
Directed by Lynn Polan

Carolyn Carpenter Mary Jo Oakley
Janet Carpenter Christine Talarico
Alison Watford Lily Bauer
David Watford Dominic DeNucci

Intermission

Hair, Shoes, Coffee

Written by Eleanor Kennedy

Directed by Dawn Afanador

Frank Dominick DeNucci

Doris Gianna Esposito

Knock Out

Written by G. David Post

Directed by John C. C. Kennedy

Jen Mary Morlino

Brenda Elissa Strell

Connie Julie Anne Nolan

Waiter - Dean Chip Prestera

Waiter 2 Matt McCarthy

Waiter 3 Howard Fischer

In Reverse Order

Written by Eric Alter

Directed by George Seylaz

Gordon Howard Fischer

Renee Judi Laganga

JOHN A. C. KENNEDY (*Director, Knock Out*) previously directed *Clybourne Park* and *Christmas Cards* for CCP, wrote the play *Wendy*, part of *Jersey Voices* 2015, and also appeared in CCP's productions of *Christmas Cards*, *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Bell, Book & Candle*. Elsewhere, locally, John appeared in *The Realistic Joneses* at Alliance Rep, *The Game's Afoot* at the Summit Playhouse and last year directed *Present Laughter* at interACT Productions, where he's also taught acting. CBA

LYNN POLAN (*Director of Zarg*) is very pleased to direct in her third *Jersey Voices*. She also directed *Cleo's Cafe* and last year's *The Christmas Bus* at CCP. She has directed *Vanya and Sonya* and *Masha and Spike* at Playhouse 22 and also directed one acts in the two most recent editions of Luna Stage's New Moon Short Play Festival. Lynn is a freelance director and has worked in various regional, Off-Broadway, and college theatres. She is the former Theatre teacher and director at Chatham High School. Favorite past productions include *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *Crimes of the Heart*, *The Dining Room*, *Metamorphoses*, and *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Many thanks to the talented Zarg cast: May the thunder hawks of Zarg always guard your soul!

JOANN LOPRESTI SCANLON (*Director, A Dogs Life*) My favorite time of the year, *Jersey Voices* time. It is always a pleasure to match wonderful actors and wonderful scripts for a truly enjoyable evening in the theater. With six short plays you are bound to find at least one or two you can really love. Very special thanks to my wonderful assistant Eleanor, to our writer Bob, our "dog" Matt, and his mistress, Jessica.

GEORGE SEYLAZ (*Director*) played Spike in *Talk Radio*, and stage managed *Bell, Book and Candle* here at CCP. This is his second year directing for *Jersey Voices*. George has also directed a number of productions in the surrounding NYC metro area. Some favorite credits include *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Psycho Beach Party* and *Next Fall*. He is also stage manager for the on-going VillainDeBlanks.com. Thank you to my buddy Hank for giving me a needed push.

Funding to Chatham Community Players has been made possible in part by 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.

MEET OUR ACTORS

LILY BAUER (Alison Watford, *Zarg*) of Chatham is thrilled to be in her second CCP production, previously appearing in *The Christmas Bus* (Clara). Some of her favorite credits include *Aladdin* (Genie), *The Little Mermaid*, and *Pirates of Penzance*. Lily is very thankful for this opportunity. She would like to thank her friends and family for all of their support. Break a leg, cast and crew!

DONALD CALLISTE (Badger, *Badger & Maddy*) is a U. S. Army Veteran with four years of service, who unconventionally transitioned into a theatre, television and film actor. With no prior experience, his first acting job was in a major hit film, and after being on set with A-list actors, and a few acting workshops, he committed to the Susan Batson school. He eventually put up a one-man show portraying Marvin Gaye. Donald has gone on to act in many theatre projects, perfecting and honing his skills which he continues today.

DOMINICK J. DENUCCI (Frank, *Hair, Shoes, Coffee*; David Watford, *Zarg*) is in his third production at CCP, previously appearing in *Talk Radio* in October 2016 and *The Lion in Winter* in March 2016. Other previous credits include *Proof* at The Barn Theater as well as *All My Sons* and *Panic* at the Leonia Player's Guild. This is his first production of *Jersey Voices*. Dominick would like to thank all of his friends and family for their endless support.

GIANNA ESPOSITO (Doris, *Hair, Shoes, Coffee*) is in her first production at CCP. Recent previous credits include *Unnecessary Farce* at The Barn and *The Other Place* at Chester. Thanks to this wonderful group for my first opportunity to be on the CCP stage!

HOWARD FISCHER (Gordon, *In Reverse Order*; Waiter #3, *Knock Out*): *Jersey Voices* marks Howard's 14th production at CCP, previously appearing in *City of Angels*, *Little Women*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Inherit the Wind*, *Oliver!*, *The Fantasticks* (Bellomy), *Christmas Cards*, *Sherlock Holmes* (Dr. Watson), and *Spamalot*. Other appearances include *Present Laughter*, *Hands on a Hardbody* (JD Drew), and *Amadeus*. He is a member of Alliance Repertory Theater Company. Love and thanks to wife Jill for her support, advice, encouragement, and patience. (See what you started, Jen?)

DIANE GILCH (Maddy, *Badger and Maddy*) is so happy to be back at *Jersey Voices*, with friends that feel like family after all these years. Thank you, Arnold Buchaine, such a gifted director, for the chance to do this beautifully written piece, and for casting the perfect Artful Badger, and for travelling with me from glamour roles to arrive at this beautiful soul.

JUDI LAGANGA (Renee, *In Reverse Order*) Recent credits include *A Funny Thing Happened.....* (Domina), Chester Theatre Group, *Blithe Spirit* (Mme Arcati), Cranford Dramatic Club along with *The Drowsy Chaperone* last spring; *Young Frankenstein* (Frau Blucher), Old Library Theatre, and *August: Osage County* (Violet Weston) right here at CCP. This is Judi's third turn with *Jersey Voices*. She is a proud member of Alliance Repertory Theatre and future resident of Lake of The Woods in Locust Grove VA.

MATT McCARTHY (RJ, *A Dog's Life*; Waiter #2, *Knock Out*) is happy to be acting again after living in Germany for 3½ years. Matt has done three plays with CCP, *Sideman*, *Proof*, and *Bug*, along with many performances throughout NJ. He would like to thank his beautiful wife Anne and daughter Aubrey for bringing out his inner dog!

MARY MORLINO (Jen, *Knock Out*) is happy to be back on stage at CCP and excited to be part of *Jersey Voices*. Previous performances here include *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Puss In Boots*. She was also seen in *Romeo & Juliet* at Circle Theater. Before NJ, she could be seen on stages in locations from Switzerland to Chicago. Special thanks goes out to her daughters for their support and for always keeping her entertained.

JULIE ANNE NOLAN (Connie/Waitress, *Knock Out*) is in her sixth appearance at CCP, previously appearing in *Moon Over Buffalo* (Eileen), *Christmas Bus* (Darlene), *Christmas Cards* and *Jersey Voices* 2013 and 2015. Selected credits include *Born Yesterday* (Billie Dawn) at CDC & NLT, *Lost in Yonkers* (Bella), NLT, *And Then There Were None* (Vera), *Strollers*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Gwendolen), PGL, and *Bluff* (Bonnie/Marta), Alliance. She has also directed several middle school productions.

MARY JO OAKLEY (Carolyn Carpenter, *Zarg*) is delighted to be onstage at CCP, working with director Lynn Polan. She toured nationally with *Amadeus* and has performed in NYC in such diverse venues as La Mama (*Increase*), The American Place Theatre (*The Unguided Missile*), and Radio City Music Hall (*Snow White and the*

Seven Dwarfs). Regional productions include *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, *Rumors*, *Follies*, *Tom Jones*, and *Company*. Love to Vern, Grace, and Gibson.

JESSICA PHELAN (Billie, *A Dog's Life*) is proud to be back at *Jersey Voices* this summer. Last summer she was on the other side of the stage, directing *Paper Bell*. Previous *Jersey Voices* pieces are *The Incident Report* and *The Buffer*. Other favorite roles include *Proof* (Claire) and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Maggie) at The Barn Theater, and *Noises Off* (Brooke) and *Crimes of the Heart* (Babe), at Studio Playhouse.

CHIP PRESTERA (Dean, *Knock Out*) is performing in his 21st show with CCP since 2012: *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Cabaret*, *The 39 Steps*, *A Christmas Carol*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Fantasticks!*, *Angels in America*, *Christmas Cards*, *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure*, *A Christmas Carol*, *The Normal Heart*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Spamalot*, *Talk Radio*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Cleo's Cafe* and four *Jersey Voices*. Elsewhere, he was in *Harvey* (Elwood P. Dowd), *Oliver!* (Fagin), *Wizard of Oz* (Scarecrow), *Annie*, *The Game's Afoot*, *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* and *From Up Here*. Chip thanks his wonderful wife, whom he can still make smile.

ELISSA STRELL (Brenda, *Knock Out*) is making her *Jersey Voices* debut, though she's no stranger to CCP. Previous roles are *The Taming of the Shrew* (Kate) and *Into the Woods* (Rapunzel). Other credits include *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* (Carol), *Still Life* (Carrie Ann), *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* (Sunny) and *Uncommon Women and Others* (Leilah), among many others. Elissa thanks her incredible family for letting her dip her toe back in the water.

CHRISTINE TALARICO (Janet Carpenter, *Zarg*) is in her third production at CCP, previously appearing in *Talk Radio* and *Bell, Book and Candle*. She would like to thank all involved with *Jersey Voices* for this experience, and Pete for his support.



Chatham Community Players is committed to making all reasonable efforts to ensure that its facilities, programs and services are accessible to, and usable by, all people, including those with disabilities.

Please ask a staff member for assistance.