

Kentwood Players presents

Neil Simon's

THE Odd Couple

Directed by
Larry Jones

Assistant Director
Karintha Touton

Produced by
Christine Joëlle



November 7 - December 13, 2008

Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m.

\$18 General Admission

\$2 discount for seniors, students and servicemen

www.kentwoodplayers.org

Westchester Playhouse

8301 Hindry Avenue, Westchester

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Director's Note

It has been a wonderful experience to work with the talented cast and crew of *The Odd Couple*. Each member of the group has brought something very special to this production. I am delighted to finally work with Scot Renfro and Joseph Buttler, who have come to epitomize the characters of Oscar Madison and Felix Unger. Where one stops and the other starts, I am not so sure anymore! The bright, sexy and fully alive Pigeon sisters simply sparkle and were NOT difficult to work with, thank you! The poker players, my Greek Chorus, provide the springboard to comedy in this show and do so extremely well, thank you! I hope everyone enjoys watching the show as much as I have enjoyed watching the rehearsals!

- Larry Jones, Director

Special Thanks

Barbara Brophay, Maria Cohen, Julia Maggs
and Linda Reinhardt for costume assistance,
Jim Crawford for special props assistance,
Roger Ehrenreich for the vintage 1962 stereo,
The Morgan-Wixson Theatre for lending costume pieces,
Frank Olivadoti for his door hanging expertise,
the entire cast and crew of *The Odd Couple*,
and anyone we missed due to printing deadlines.

**Please turn cell phones and pagers to silent,
turn off alarms on digital watches, and unwrap
any candy or cough drops before the play begins.**

Thank you.

Cast of Characters

Scot Renfro	Oscar Madison
Joseph Buttler	Felix Ungar
Roger Ehrenreich	Vinnie
Harold Dershimer	Roy
Max Cabot	Murray
Dave Scotti	Speed
Karen Pellant	Gwendolyn
Maria Pallas	Cecily

Setting

An Apartment on Riverside Drive, New York City, 1965

ACT I

A hot summer night.

- 15 minute intermission -

ACT II

Scene 1 - Two Weeks Later, about 11 p.m.

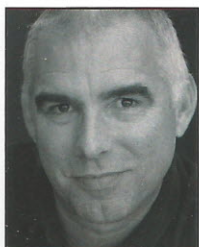
Scene 2 - A few days later, about 8 p.m.

Scene 3 - The next evening, about 7:30 p.m.

Production Staff

Director	Larry Jones
Assistant Director	Karintha Touton
Producer	Christine Joëlle
Stage Manager	John Beckwith
Assistant Stage Manager	Barry R. Nackos
Set Designer and Master Carpenter	Michael Allen
Costumer Designer	Sheridan Cole Crawford
Lighting Designer	Tom Brophey
Sound Designer	Susan Stangl
Set Construction	Jim Crawford and Scot Renfro
Set Decoration	Lori A. Marple-Pereslete and Dawn Joyal
Props Supervisors	Judy Polak and Shari Barrett
Booth Crew	Jim Crawford
Script Supervisor	Charlotte Lee Schildkret
Hospitality	Jeanne Spain
Audition Assistance	Jeanne Spain and Max Heldring Storms
Art/Lobby Design	DJ Carlile and Liz Reinhardt
Photography	Shari Barrett
Postcard/Program Design	Liz Reinhardt

The Cast



Scot Renfro (Oscar Madison) – An active eleven-year member of Kentwood, Scot was most recently seen on stage in last year's *Proof*. Other productions include *I'm Not Rappaport*, *The Trip To Bountiful*, *Nicholas Nickleby*, and *The Rainmaker*. As for *The Odd Couple*: "Funny play, great cast, director, and crew – enjoy! And for all your encouragement, Virginia, thank you so very much."



Joseph Buttler (Felix Ungar) – Joseph is delighted to be back at Kentwood, having previously appeared in *Picnic*, *The 1940's Radio Hour*, and *The Wake*. In his six years in L.A., he has also appeared at the Grove Theatre Center, Conejo Players, the Elephant Theatre, and Mysteries en Brochette. A native of Oregon, Joseph performed at Tygres Heart Shakespeare (company member), Sylvia's Class Act Dinner Theatre, Portland Actor's Ensemble, IMAGO, and the Idaho Theatre for Youth. Television appearances include *Boston Legal*, *General Hospital*, *Everybody Hates Chris*, *Medium*, and *iCarly*. In his "spare" time, Joseph sings and plays guitar with the rockabilly band, *The Stardust Ramblers*.



Roger Ehrenreich (Vinnie) – *The Odd Couple* is Roger's first theatre production with Kentwood Players – his first theatre production in more than fifteen years, in fact. Roger previously appeared in another Neil Simon play, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, as Eugene. Other past credits include *Psycho Beach Party*, *Annie*, *Godspell*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *The Mousetrap*. He'd like to thank Larry for this opportunity to get "back on the boards" and his dear friends for their love and support.



Harold Dershimer (Roy) – Harold is a graduate of USC's School of Drama. He has been in several South Bay productions, including the Civic Light Opera of South Bay Cities. He has also directed many shows, including *All My Sons*, *Catholic School Girls* and *The Gingerbread Lady*, and was President of the Board of Directors for Actors' Repertory Theatre at the Courtyard Playhouse in Rolling Hills. Since its closure, Harold has remained active producing musical productions with school age children while working as a teacher and school administrator. *The Odd Couple* marks Harold's return to the stage after a thirteen year hiatus.



Max Cabot (Murray) – Mr. Cabot has appeared in many productions in and around Los Angeles. Some of those roles include Mr. Katz in *Hot L Baltimore*, Cheswick in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, and Richie in *Bleacher Bums*. He has also directed numerous plays including *Baby with the Bath Water*, *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, and *The Art of Dinning*. He is founding member of a theatre company that produced his original play, *Dot Gone*. He extends his thanks

and love to his wife Eve and their children Mia and Ivy for all their support and love.



Dave Scotti (Speed) – Dave is happy to be making his first appearance with the Kentwood Players. He has appeared on stage in New York and Los Angeles in such productions as *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, *Rumors*, *Italian American Reconciliation*, *Vig*, and *Burn This*. He played the recurring role of Vito Mazi on the daytime soap *General Hospital*. He also wrote and starred in the feature film *Docs and Robbers*.



Karen Pellant (Gwendolyn) – Karen Pellant is a native Angelina born on Sunset Blvd. – yes, in a hospital. Arriving directly into Hollywood was ideal because since age 5, she has been bit by the acting bug. Lately she has mostly been working in film, tv, and voiceover. This year, she has proudly made her own first short film, “Lora Rox.” Karen is most excited to set foot on stage with this stellar cast in her premiere performance at Westchester Playhouse.



Maria Pallas (Cecily) – Maria Pallas, a recent transplant from NYC, found herself the part of Cecily before finding an apartment. Highlights of Maria’s pursuit include co-founding RoaN Productions and acting in their first show in both NYC and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, touring 22 countries with the USO, cheering for the NFL, various fun and challenging roles on film and stage, graduating with an MFA in acting from UIUC, and making Bob Odenkirk laugh out loud.

You are invited to meet and greet with the cast in the Green Room after the performance.

The Crew

Larry Jones (Director) – Long time Kentwood member Larry Jones is excited to be at the helm of yet another Neil Simon play, having already directed *Barefoot in the Park* and *Biloxi Blues* for Kentwood. Larry has also acted in many productions at Kentwood, including *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Talent for Murder*, *Moon Over Buffalo*, *Father of the Bride*, *Wait Until Dark*, *Harvey*, *The Goodbye People*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Sweet Charity*, *On Golden Pond* and *A Chorus Line*. He produced *The Odd Couple – Female Version*, *Company* and the recently successful *Gypsy*. He hopes everyone enjoys this latest effort.

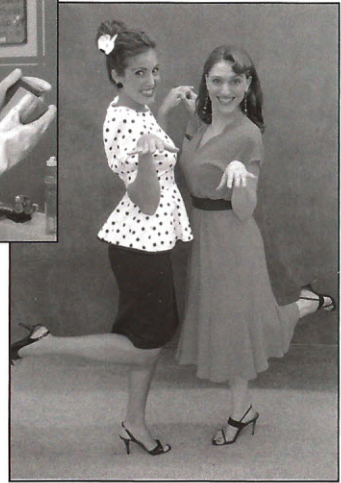
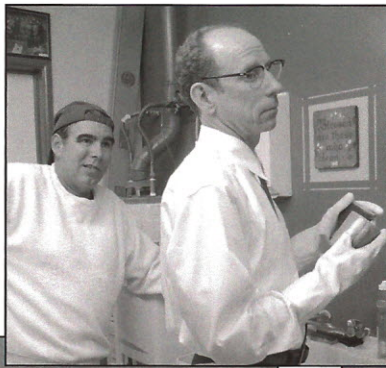
Karintha Touton (Assistant Director) – Karintha Touton is very happy to be working on her fourth production with Kentwood Players. She last appeared on stage in a backwards yellow dress in Kentwood's *Romantic Comedy*. You may not have seen her behind the scenes working as stage manager for *Gypsy* and as a co-producer for *The Lion in Winter*. She is excited to be studying under the talented Larry Jones and to be a part of this fantastic cast and crew. Love and thanks to Todd!

Christine Joëlle (Producer) – An active member of Kentwood Players, Christine Joëlle likes to dabble in all aspects of theatre. Other than acting on the stage, Ms. Joëlle enjoys wearing the producer's hat, including her last produced show, *Nicholas Nickleby*. She is thrilled to be working with a fabulous cast and crew and thanks her friends, family and Shawn Savage for their never ending love and support.

John Beckwith (Stage Manager) – John has been involved in tech (booth and stage managing) for community theatre over a period of 20 years (never on stage - though he's been tempted). Previous productions include *Runner Stumbles*, *Gin Game*, *Follies*, *Romantic Comedy* and *Proof* at Kentwood Players, as well as the Marsee Auditorium, El Camino College, Little Fish, Theatre Palisades and the Morgan-Wixson. *The Odd Couple* is his first return to backstage in about 20 years.

Work Sunday Crew:

Michael Allen, Miriam Amster, John Beckwith, Barbara Brophey, Tom Brophey, Joseph Buttler, Max Cabot, Geanne Clarke, Arlene Cohen, Maria Cohen, Michael Cohen, Sheldon Cohen, Jim Crawford, Sheridan Cole Crawford, Harold Dershimer, Roger Ehrenreich, Hal Fisher, Logan Gould, Ron Gould, James Manley Green, Michael Grinde, Barbara Haberman, Gene Haberman, Russell Ham, Christine Joëlle, Larry Jones, Gretchen Luna, Julia Maggs, Virginia Mekkelson, Melvin Miller, Bill Moylan, Barry Nackos, Maria Pallas, Karen Pellant, Lori Marple-Pereslete, Tony Pereslete, Lee Polak, Kaye Porter, Linda Reinhardt, Victor Reinhardt, Valerie Ruel, Scot Renfro, Charlotte Lee Schildkret, Dave Scotti, Adina Silo, Max Holding Stormes, Karintha Touton and Tiffany Towers.



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About Kentwood Players

Kentwood Players was founded by the late Arky and Jan Marcom, Elizabeth Thornberg and Betty Francis in December 1949. The company actually got its start, and its name, as members of the Kentwood Elementary School PTA in Westchester, and motivated by a school play they performed there, decided to keep a good thing going. This small group of talented men and women quickly got their act together, so to speak, and in 1950, this illustrious theatre "family" officially began.

Obviously, they couldn't stay at an elementary school and looking for a permanent home wasn't easy. At times, the Kentwood "boards" included a barn, a pump house, and a restaurant before 1960, when the players finally found their present location at the corner of 83rd Street and Hindry in Westchester. In the early sixties, they transformed an old warehouse into the Westchester Playhouse that now houses a proscenium stage, dressing rooms, costume closets, a scene shop, over a hundred comfortable seats and a large, welcoming front patio.

Some of KP's loyal season subscribers have been attending KP shows for decades. The fans enjoy seeing their favorite actors on stage and through the years have become friends as well as theatergoers. The support and love among the Kentwood "family" of members also crosses multi-generations, where life-long friendships have been fomented. KP is proud of its second- and third-generation members.

Because this is community theatre, all work is done by volunteers. But the dedicated members always take their jobs seriously. They and the Board of Directors handle all aspects of running a little theatre. And, that's why this nonprofit group can afford to keep their prices low while not skimping on sets and costumes!

For more information, visit www.kentwoodplayers.org.



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We Need Your Help

In 1949, a group of dedicated performers came together to provide quality theatre at an affordable price for the Westchester community. More than 50 years later, the Kentwood Players are still going strong.

From Shakespeare to Simon, from Sondheim to Hammerstein, we have worked diligently, putting in countless volunteer hours, keeping our prices low enough to allow all in our community access to a magical evening or matinee in the theatre.

Now, we need your help. We have some critical improvements that will be beyond what we as a small community theatre can manage. We need a new roof, a new heating and air conditioning system, and most of our facility needs to be updated. For the first time in our history, we are asking our wonderful patrons and dedicated community members to partner with us and become sponsors of our beloved theatre.

There are many ways you can help. Of course, we welcome your contributions no matter how large or small. Together we can keep quality theatre in Westchester at prices that are still affordable for our audiences. Please take a look at our sponsorship opportunities and if we can answer any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

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