

FootLights

ILLUMINATING THE THEATRE COMMUNITY

Kentwood Players presents

six degrees of

SEPARATION

by John Guare

Directed by Don Schlossman

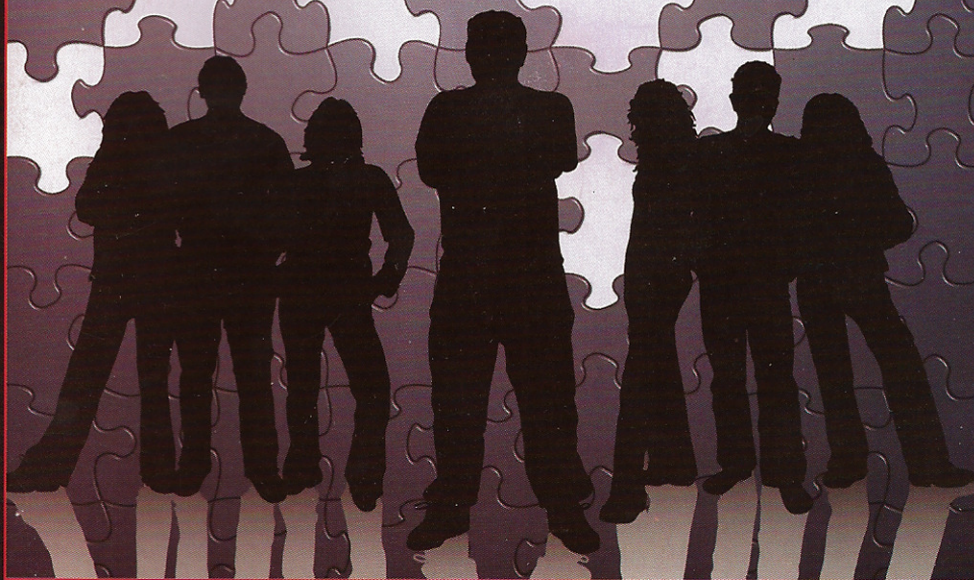
Produced by Meredith M. Sweeney
and Jordan Bland

January 8 - February 13, 2010

Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.
Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

www.kentwoodplayers.org

Westchester Playhouse
8301 Hindry Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90045



Six Degrees of Separation

by John Guare

Director

Don Schlossman

Producers

Meredith M. Sweeney & Jordan Bland

Set Design

Joel Castro

Light Design

Hilda Outwater

Costume Design

Valerie Wright

Sound Design

Susan Stangl

Cast

(in order of appearance)

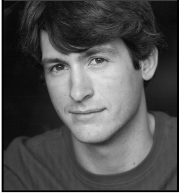
Ouisa	Joanna Churgin
Flan.....	Ken MacFarlane
Geoffrey.....	Mark Mayes
Paul.....	Willie Mack Daniels
Kitty	Ginny Kunz
Larkin	Jack Coppock
Detective.....	Drew Fitzsimmons
Tess	Tara Jean O'Brien
Woody	Nick Alspaugh
Ben	Kevin T. King
Dr. Fine.....	Michael-Anthony Nozzi
Doug.....	Andy Grosso
Policeman/Doorman.....	Dylan H. Bailey
Trent	Lorenzo Bastien
Rick	Ryan Knight
Elizabeth.....	Meredith M. Sweeney

Six Degrees of Separation will be performed without an intermission.

Decaf coffee will be served after the performance, courtesy of Kentwood Players

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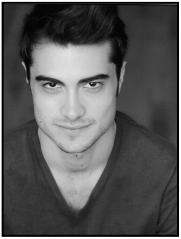
About the Cast



Nick Alspaugh (Woody) – Nick was born in Boston. His entertainment career started with modeling while he was living in Las Vegas. He took part in several fashion shows and conventions there. He had his first taste of performing when he had an opportunity to perform a monologue at one of the shows, and he immediately fell in love with it. From there he decided to make the move to Los Angeles to begin acting. He plans to make theater and film a lifelong career.



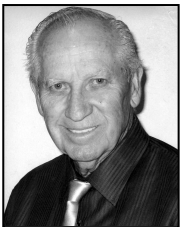
Dylan H. Bailey (Policeman/Doorman) – Born and raised in the South Bay, Dylan studied theatre at El Camino College and is a founding member of the Ghost Light District Theatre Company. Some favorite past roles include Banquo in *Macbeth* and Curley in *Of Mice and Men*. Dylan is pleased to make his Kentwood Players debut in this show!



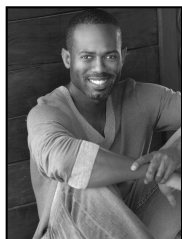
Lorenzo Bastien (Trent) – Lorenzo is a fresh transplant from New York, where he studied under the watchful eye of his mentors Deborah Kampmeier and Fay Simpson, at the Michael Howard Conservatory. He is thrilled to be jumping into the deep end that is Los Angeles and treading alongside the inspirational cast, crew and director of Kentwood Players' *Six Degrees of Separation*.



Joanna Churgin (Ouisa) – Joanna previously appeared with Kentwood Players as Marjorie in *The Allergist's Wife*. Other roles have included Ouiser in *Steel Magnolias*, Jeanette in *The Full Monty*, Fraulein Schneider in *Cabaret* and Miriam in *Beau Jest* at the Morgan-Wixson, and Kate in *All My Sons* at Theatre Palisades.



Jack Coppock (Larkin) – Jack last appeared on the KP stage in *Present Laughter* in April of this year. He has enjoyed entertaining KP audiences for years, most recently in *George Washington Slept Here*, *Light Up the Sky* and many others. He had the pleasure of working with our director in productions of Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice* in Thousand Oaks and *She Stoops to Conquer* at the Attic Theatre in Los Angeles. He gives a big Thank You to his wife of 40 years for putting up with and supporting his addiction to the stage.



Willie Mack Daniels (Paul) – Willie is psyched to be playing the role of Paul with such a great cast while making his debut with Kentwood Players. He is a proud graduate of the Los Angeles City College Theatre Academy's Professional Actor Training Program, Florida State University and the University of Southern California. Willie's theatre credits include *Macbeth*, the *Basic Training of Pavlo Hummel*, *A Piece of My Heart*, *National Pastime* and *Landscape of the Body*. This past year William made his debut as Detective Harrington in the feature film *Justify*.

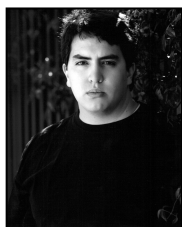


Drew Fitzsimmons (Detective) – Last seen at Kentwood as Honey in *Drive*, Drew is honored to be working once again with Don Schlossman. Previously he appeared on stage with him as Ray in the highly acclaimed *Beauty Queen of Leenane* and under his direction as Tybalt in *Romeo & Juliet* where Drew, unknowingly, met his future fiancée.

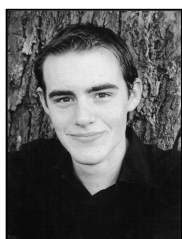


Andy Grosso (Doug) – Andy began his theatre career about 14 years ago, if you can believe it. He received a BFA in Acting from Syracuse University and had been working in Italy, New York and North Carolina before moving to Los Angeles. Mr. Grosso can also be seen at the LA Connection Comedy Theatre in Sherman Oaks and invites you to vote for his Super Bowl Commercial at doritosplesse.com. He'd like to thank Mike Nozzi for introducing him to this wonderful theatre company! And also, a big Thank You to Don for the dedication

he expressed while sharing such a collaborative and rare approach to directing.



Kevin T. King (Ben) – Kevin was convinced to try his hand at acting when he was in high school and his theatre arts teacher convinced him to audition for *West Side Story*. Kevin won a part and hasn't looked back with roles in his high schools productions of *M*A*S*H* and *The Music Man*. He went on to perform in Fullerton College's *Romeo and Juliet* as well as *To Kill A Mockingbird*. This is his first Kentwood production.



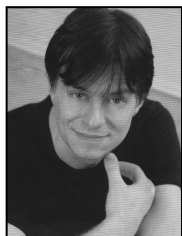
Ryan Knight (Rick) – Ryan Knight is thrilled to be making his first appearance with Kentwood Players. The experience with so many wonderful people has truly been remarkable. Previous roles include Romeo in *Romeo & Juliet*, Robert in *Don't Dress for Dinner*, Paul Bratter in *Barefoot In the Park*, and Ceyx, Phaeton, and ensemble in STAGES theatre production of *Metamorphoses*.



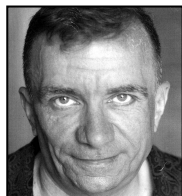
Ginny Kunz (Kitty) – Ginny is a graduate of Cal State Dominguez Hills Theatre Arts Program. She has been in theatre, student films and independent movies. She is especially happy to be a part of this production. She would like to thank her husband and children for their love and support.



Ken MacFarlane (Flan) – Ken's theatre credits include *Godislay*, *The Crown of Minos*, *Hamlet*, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *JB*, *The Lark*, *Enemy of the People* and *True West*. On film Ken can be seen in *Caesar and Otto*, the sequel *Caesar and Otto's Summer Camp Massacre*, as well as *Empire Builders*, *Annabel*, and *The Millennium Bug*, scheduled for release in Spring of 2010.



Mark Mayes (Geoffrey) – Mark Mayes has recently been seen in Los Angeles productions of *She Stoops To Conquer*, *The Zoo Story* and *The Merchant of Venice*. He appeared in the Kentwood Players' *Romeo & Juliet* as Benvolio. Mark studied acting with Nina Foch.



Michael-Anthony Nozzi (Dr. Fine) – Michael-Anthony recently appeared as Clarence in *It's A Wonderful Life!* this Christmas in Pasadena. Mike has also performed all over the US as well as twice at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2007 as Thaddeaus in *Corpus Christi* and 2008 in *Greater Tuna!* Mike is thrilled to be a part of this production.



Tara Jean O'Brien (Tess) – Tara is a graduate of USC, the British American Drama Academy, IO West, and the Groundlings. Past theater credits include Rosencrantz in *Hamlet*, Frieda in *Johnson Over Jordan*, Dementia in *Scenes From an Execution*, as well as being a regular at the Laugh Factory with her band, VOMIT! Big love to Art and this great cast and crew!



Meredith M. Sweeney (Elizabeth) – Meredith loves her fiancé. Past credits include: Catherine in *Proof*, Alais in *Lion In Winter* and Juliet in *Romeo & Juliet* with Kentwood Players; Sally Bowles in *Cabaret* with TAP; Regina in *Another Part of the Forest* at Theatre 40; winning Best Lead Actress for Polly in *The Boyfriend* at Theatre Palisades and three seasons playing Hermia at the Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum.

About the Director

Don Schlossman – Don dedicates this production to the memory of Ed & De Cotter. Previously at Kentwood he directed *Romeo & Juliet* in 2006. He has been seen onstage here in *Time of My Life*, *The Ruling Class*, *Rain*, *Follies* and his Marcom Mask Award-winning performance as King Henry in *The Lion in Winter*. In LA, he has directed productions of *Three Sisters*, *A Month in the Country*, *The Heiress*, *The Merchant of Venice* and *She Stoops to Conquer*. As an actor, he has been seen in leading roles in, among others, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *School for Scandal*, *A Man for All Seasons*, *An Ideal Husband*, *Assassins*, *Chess* and *Pirates of Penzance*. Films and TV include *Kuffs* and *Judging Amy*. He sends his love to Samantha.

About the Producers

Meredith M. Sweeney – Meredith’s first production in California was directed by the incredible, multi-talented Don Schlossman. She is honored to work with him yet again and with this fantastic cast and crew. Meredith directed the recent Kentwood Kids smash hit *The Wizard of Oz* and co-produced/co-directed *Willy Wonka* last April. To Ed.

Jordan Bland – Jordan is thrilled to have been a part of this wonderful show. This is his second producing credit at Kentwood having just worked on *A Little Night Music*. This Michigan native is armed with a musical theatre background that includes both cast and crew credits, but he was most recently seen on the Kentwood stage as Roland Maule in *Present Laughter*.

Kentwood Players’ Board of Directors 2009-2010

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Strike Crew and Work Sunday

Nick Alspaugh, Dylan Bailey, John Beckwith, Jordan Bland, Tom Brophey, Joel D. Castro, Joanna Churgin, Maria E. Cohen, Michael I. Cohen, Sheridan Cole-Crawford, Jack Coppock, Jim Crawford, Willie Daniels, Hal Fisher, Drew Fitzsimmons, Daniel Frederick, J. M. Green, Michael Grinde, Andy Grosso, Russell Hamm, Lorenzo Jimenez, Ryan Knight, Ginny Kunz, Ken MacFarlane, Julia Maggs, Lori Marple-Pereslete, Scott Martin, Alison Mattiza, Virginia Mekkelson, Treva Merritt, Melvin Miller, Barry Nackos, Tara Jean O'Brien, Frank J. Olivadoti, Hilda Outwater, Kaye Porter, Linda Reinhardt, Victor Reinhardt, Charlotte Schildkret, Don Schlossman, Adina Silo, Bruce Starrett, Max Stormes, Elizabeth Summerer, Shawn K. Summerer, Meredith Sweeney

Special Thanks

Shari Barrett, Gail Bernardi, Barbara Brophey, Daniel Frederick, Carl Miller, Marc Ostroff and the Morgan-Wixson Theatre, Shawn Summerer, Bruce Starrett, Sherman Wayne and Shawn White

During the performance please turn your pagers to silent,
and turn off your cell phones and alarms on your digital watches.
There is no louder sound in a theatre than the rattle of cellophane.
Please unwrap your candy or cough drops before the play begins.

Kentwood Players is a Member of the
LAX COASTAL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

You are invited to meet and greet cast members
after the performance in the Green Room.
Please use the outside stairway at the rear of the theater.

For up to date info about Kentwood Players visit our website
www.kentwoodplayers.org

Kentwood Players Coming Attractions

Li'l Abner A Musical

Book by Norman Panama and Melvin Frank

Based on Characters Created by Al Capp

Lyrics by Johnny Mercer

Music by Gene de Paul

March 12 – April 17, 2010

Director: Victoria Miller

The Importance of Being Earnest

A Comedy by Oscar Wilde

May 7 – June 12, 2010

Director: Drew Fitzsimmons

A play to be announced

July 9 – August 14, 2010

Dracula

A Drama by Hamilton Deane and John L.

Balderston, from Bram Stoker's novel

September 10 – October 16, 2010

Director: Shawn Summerer

Special Theatre Parties

A special Theatre Party planned for your organization or group can be a financial success as well as an entertaining evening (or matinee) at the theatre. For further information call:

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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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