

KENTWOOD PLAYERS PRESENTS
THE TALE OF THE
ALLERGIST'S WIFE
by CHARLES BUSCH



directed by **LEWIS HAUSER**
produced by **SUSAN GOLDMAN WEISBARTH**
September 11 to October 17, 2009

Westchester Playhouse, 8301 Hindry Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90045

Reservations are Necessary

Please call (310) 645-5156 between 4:00pm – 7:00pm TUESDAY – SATURDAY
Reservations MUST be paid for by cash, check, member coupon,
season subscriber coupon or VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER
one week after they are made.

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 theatre.

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

Kentwood Players remembers
Eugene Warech
A longtime Member, Director, and Actor

The Tale of the Allergist's Wife by Charles Busch

Director
Lewis Hauser

Producer
Susan Goldman Weisbarth

Set Design
Michael McGee

Light Design
Robert Davis

Costume Design
Maria Cohen

Sound Design
Susan Stangl

Cast

Mohammed..... Jonathan Ahmadi
Frieda Gail Bernardi
Marjorie..... Joanna Churgin
Ira..... Alan Levine
LeeCynthia Rothschild

Setting: Manhattan. Time: Today

Act I Scene 1 Late morning
 Scene 2 A few hours later
 Scene 3 A week later
 Scene 4 Several days later. Evening
Act II Scene 1 Two days later. Early evening.
 Scene 2 The following evening
 Scene 3 A few days later. Afternoon

There will be a 15-minute intermission between Acts I and II.
Decaf coffee will be served at the intermission, courtesy of Kentwood Players

Originally produced by Manhattan Theatre Club on February 8, 2000.
Subsequently produced on Broadway by Manhattan Theatre Club, Lynne Meadow,
Artistic Director, Barry Grove, Executive Producer, Carol Shorenstein Hays, Daryl Roth,
Stuart Thompson, and Douglas S. Cramer, opening on November 2, 2000.

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

About the Cast



Jonathan Ahmadi (Mohammed) – Jonathan is excited to be making his debut with Kentwood Players. He gives thanks to Arthur for giving him the tools to be here. Thanks to his mom and dad for giving him the support to chase his dreams. Thanks to Kelsey for putting up with him.



Gail Bernardi (Frieda) – Armed with a BFA in theatre, Gail has been acting and directing for many years and still can't decide which she likes best. Her TV credits include *Silver Spoons*, *General Hospital*, *Hail to the Chief*, etc. Stage roles too numerous to mention, include roles from Shakespeare to Neil Simon and her most recent directorial stint was *Present Laughter* here with Kentwood Players.



Joanna Churgin (Marjorie) – Joanna's previous roles have included Ouiser in *Steel Magnolias*, Jeannette in *The Full Monty*, Fräulein Schneider in *Cabaret*, Miriam in *Beau Jest* and Mrs. Meers in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* at the Morgan-Wixson, and Kate in *All My Sons* at Theatre Palisades. This is Joanna's first appearance with Kentwood Players.



Alan Levine (Ira) – Alan is delighted to be appearing again at Kentwood, having last been seen in the Marcom Masque Award winning production of *Working* earlier this year. He is delighted to be part of this delightful cast in this Charles Busch comedy centered around his old neighborhood in NYC. He is grateful for the support of his wife Roz, family and friends.



Cynthia Rothschild (Lee) – Cynthia's previous appearance at Kentwood was in *The Constant Wife*. Some of her favorite roles are Arlene in *Baby* and Phyllis in *Twilight of the Gods*. She appeared on *The Cho Show* in a Mother-Daughter Beauty Pageant where she sang "I Feel Pretty" and hula hooped! She continues to teach voice in Westchester. Thanks to her incredibly supportive friends, family, Lew and cast, and her mentor SG.

About the Director

Lewis Hauser – Lew has directed and acted in a number of plays in the L.A. area. For Kentwood Players, Lew directed *Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* (Best Director Award) , *Legends*, *Dames At Sea*, Cole Porter's *Can Can*, *Lend Me A Tenor* (Best Director and Best Play Awards), *Accomplice*, *Postmortem*, *A Chorus Line*. Recently, Lew received the Best Director Award at Theatre Palisades for *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. He was honored with the same award at The Morgan-Wixson Theatre for Neil Simon's *Laughter On The 23rd Floor*. Lew is currently Director-In Residence for The Vagabond Players, in the NOHO Arts District.

About the Producer

Susan Goldman Weisbarth – Susan has been an active Kentwood member for the past six years. Most recently she was seen on stage as Mrs. Kolotsky in *Little Green Men* and Sally in *Follies*. She directed the award winning production of *Gypsy* (Best Director) last year and currently chairs the Plays Committee of the theatre. Special thanks to Charles and Eric. Love to Jake always. Congratulations to this outstanding cast and crew led by Lew Hauser.

About the Designers

Michael McGee – As a scenic designer, artist and actor Michael and his work have appeared on several stages in Southern California and on TV. This is his 8th production with director, Lew Hauser. TV credits include: A&E's *Find & Design* (Design Assistant), *Kid Justice/Teen Justice* (Assistant Art Director). Theatre Design credits include: *The Hot L Baltimore* (Theatre Palisades), *The Prisoner of Second Avenue* (Morgan-Wixson Theatre), *Crimes of the Heart* (Raven Playhouse), *Don't Dress for Dinner* (Whitmore-Lindley Theatre), *Frankie & Johnny in the Clair de Lune* (San Diego Rep. "Space").

Robert Davis – Robert is pleased to return to light the Kentwood Stage. Previous lighting credits here include *The Most Happy Fella* and *A Murder is Announced*. Other recent SoCal lighting credits include *Carousel* at Westminster Community Theatre as well as *Beau Jest* and *My Father's Dragon* at the Morgan-Wixson theatre.

Maria Cohen – Maria Cohen has been with Kentwood Players as wardrobe mistress and costume designer for more than twenty years. She has costumed dozens of shows winning numerous awards for her designs including *Working*, *Gypsy*, *Follies*, *Unsinkable Molly Brown*, and more. Maria and Lew first worked together in 1992 on *Dames at Sea*. It was Maria's first show as Costume Designer and she is thrilled to now be working with Lew once more and the cast and crew of *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*.

Production Staff

Stage Manager	John Beckwith
Assistant Stage Manager	Cassandra DeCuir
Script Supervisor.....	Shirley Hatton
Booth Crew.....	Virginia Mekkelson
Set Decoration Design.....	Michael McGee
Original Graphic Design.....	Michael Cohen
Lobby Design	Michael Cohen
Master Builder	Michael McGee
Set Construction.....	John Beckwith, Jim Crawford, Bill Moylan Brad Moylan, Kaye Porter, Lynn Reed
Costume Construction	Barbara Brophrey, Julia Maggs, Judy Polak
Properties.....	Judy Polak
Publicity Photos	Shari Barrett
Audition Assistance	Max Stormes, Jeanne Spain
Hospitality Coordinators.....	Alta & Greg Abbott
Box Office	Ashley Schultz

Strike Crew and Work Sunday

Miriam Amster, Carol Becker, Scott Briscoe, Barbara Brophrey, Tom Brophrey, Arlene Cohen, Sheldon Cohen, Nikki Corso, Cassandra DeCuir, James Green, Russell Ham, Jayne Hamil, Gretchen Luna, Alice Lunsford, Julia Maggs, Lori Marple-Pereslete, Melvin Miller, Victoria Miller, Calia Mintzer, Barry Nackos, Lee Polak, Robyn Rothstein, Charlotte Schildkrett, Adina Silo, Max Stormes, Lynn Warech, Fred Wolf
and the cast and crew of *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*

Special Thanks

Leslie Hauser, Dementia – North Hollywood, Ted Goldberg

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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.

THANK YOU FROM THE KENTWOOD PLAYERS

Donation envelopes can be found in our lobby.

Founders Circle – \$2,500-\$5,000

- 4 Season tickets
- Listing in our program for an entire season
- A seat bearing your name in our theatre
- Your name on a permanent plaque in our lobby
- Invitation to our special sponsors party

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- 4 Season tickets
- Listing in our program for an entire season

Kentwood Angels – \$1,000-\$2,499

- 4 Season tickets
- Listing in our program for an entire season
- Your name on a permanent plaque in our lobby
- Invitation to our special party

Spotlight Supporters – \$250-\$499

- 2 Season tickets
 - Listing in our program for an entire season
-

Donations of any size will receive recognition in our programs along with our heartfelt thanks. Kentwood Players is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation and your contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Special Thanks to our
2009 Capital Campaign Donors

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Mr. and Mrs. William Carter

- Spotlight Supporters -

Karen Blessington and Dave Garman

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Elaine Wagner

- Friends -

Baker

William and Eileen Brabender

Sandy Gunn

Nancy Olmstead

Pierre Paddock

Dorothy Sobelman

Frances and Bill Stoeckle

Kentwood Players Coming Attractions

A Little Night Music A Musical

Book by Hugh Wheeler
Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Based on Ingmar Bergman's film
November 6 – December 12, 2009
Director: Sheridan Cole Crawford

Six Degrees of Separation
A Comedy/Drama by John Guare
January 8 – February 13, 2010
Director: Don Schlossman

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

Enter Laughing

A Comedy by Joseph Stein, adapted from Carl Reiner's novel
May 7 – June 12, 2010
Director: Drew Fitzsimmons

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:

Jenny Boone at (310) 204-1838 or Calia Mintzer (310) 837-3609

Season Ticket Order Form

Season Subscriptions are good for SIX (6) CONSECUTIVE productions, and you may start your subscriptions with the show of your choice. **Please allow 4 weeks for processing of your order.**

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