

FootLights

ILLUMINATING THE THEATRE COMMUNITY

David Lindsay-Abaire

Good People



Directed by **Gail Bernardi**
Produced by **Susan Weisbarth**

May 12 - June 17, 2017

GOOD PEOPLE is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York

Westchester Playhouse • 8301 Hindry Ave. Los Angeles, CA. 90045

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GOOD PEOPLE

by David Lindsay-Abaire

Originally commissioned by the Manhattan Theatre Club
(Lynne Meadow, Artistic Director; Barry Grove, Executive Producer)
with funds provided by Bank of America
and received its world premiere there on February 8, 2011.

Director
Gail Bernardi

Producer
Susan Goldman Weisbarth

Set Design	Lighting Design	Sound Design	Costume Design
Doug Carlson and Scot Renfro	John Beckwith	Susan Stangl	Kathy Dershimer

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Margaret	Susan Stangl
Stevie	Beau Smith
Dottie	Margie Bates
Jean	Melodie S. Rivers
Mike	Scot Renfro
Kate	Allison Reeves

The play is set in South Boston's Lower End and in
Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts

Act I

Scene 1 – Alley behind the Dollar Store

Scene 2 – Margie's Kitchen

Scene 3 – Dr. Mike's Office

Scene 4 – Church Bingo Hall

Act II

Scene 1 – Dr. Mike and Kate's Home in Chestnut Hill Boston

Scene 2 – Church Bingo Hall

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

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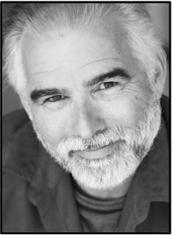
About the Cast



Margie Bates (Dottie) – is delighted to be a member of the cast of *Good People*. She takes great pleasure in working with such talented actors, director and production staff. Among her previous roles in Kentwood Players productions are Mammy Yokum in *Li'l Abner*, Sally in *Drive*, Miss Erikson in *Present Laughter*, and a chorus member in *Annie*, in which her dog, Katie, played Sandy. She has won Marcom Masque Awards as Mama in *I Remember Mama*, Flo in *Picnic*, Miss Preen in *The Man who Came to Dinner*, and Addie-Mae in *The Cover of Life*. Some other memorable roles were Lavinia in *The Heiress*, Kate in *Sylvia*, and Nancy in *Play it Again, Sam*.



Allison Reeves (Kate) – is thrilled to be working with Kentwood Players and the entire cast and production team of *Good People*. She is a MFA graduate of The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Allison was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. Theater credits include: *When Stars Align* (Odyssey Theater Ensemble), *The Human Spirit* (Odyssey Theatre Ensemble), and *The Bluest Eye* (PlayMakers Repertory Company), where she was directed by Tony-Award winner Trezana Beverley. Television/Film credits include: “Ferguson” (Theatre Verité), “One Life To Live” (ABC/Disney) and “Celebrity Ghost Stories” (Biography Channel), in which she portrayed the legendary Chaka Khan. Allison would like to thank her family and friends for the constant love and support.



Scot Renfro (Mike) – A special thank you to Madame Director, Gail Bernardi, for the opportunity to be a part of this production. Scot has been involved in SoCal theater for many years and working with Gail is always a pleasure. Always. Thank you also to the cast and crew of *Good People* and to our guests and patrons who support live theater.



Melodie S. Rivers (Jean) – is grateful to Gail Bernardi for this wonderful opportunity. What a truly great play. In 2009, Melodie began her theatre life as a specialty make-up artist. Before long, she was building props, sets, and costumes. After first appearing in *As You Like It* in 2010, she took every opportunity to perform. Recently, Melodie co-produced, was co-scenic designer/artist for, and appeared in *An Ideal Husband*, directed by Samantha Barrios at the Westchester Playhouse. Most recently, Melodie played Dionysus in Aristophanes' *The Frogs* with the Infinite Jest Theatre Company. This year, she and her partners opened THE OTHER HOUSE LA, a performing arts school located in Lisa MacFarlane Hamor's LA Arts Collective in Westchester. Enjoy the show!



Beau Smith (Stevie) – moved to Los Angeles in 2009, and as a working-class artist (at least in terms of income), has become very familiar with Dollar Stores across the county. But unlike in his native Iowa, some of them here have quite good produce, which sure helped him out when he was out of work. He went to theater school and is very happy to be in a show that really explores what it means to be a good person and the repercussions of the decisions we make in our lives. Have a lovely night!



Susan Stangl (Margaret) – has performed at Kentwood in *Man of La Mancha* (Housekeeper), *Sordid Lives* (Bitsy), *Rain* (Mrs. Davidson), *Blood Brothers* (Mrs. Lyons), *The Elephant Man* (Pinhead and others), and *I Remember Mama* (Sigrid). She has also directed *The Imaginary Invalid* and *Becky's New Car* at this theater. At other theaters, favorite roles include *Picnic* (Rosemary), *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (Nurse Ratched), *The Spitfire Grill* (Effy), *Sea Marks* (Timothea), *The Curious Savage* (Mrs. Savage), *Brighton Beach Memoirs* (Blanche), *Delusion: Lies Within* (Elena Fitzgerald), and *Delusion: His Crimson Queen* (Bride Maura). Thanks to Gail for the opportunity and my

mother Anne for her New England accent.

About the Director

Gail Bernardi (Director) – has been acting and directing for many years. Last year you might have seen her as Olive in *Olive and the Bitter Herbs*, and her last directorial stint at the Westchester Playhouse was *4000 Miles*. She has been very fortunate in being able to direct plays that she loves, including such classics as *The Heiress*, *The Gin Game*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, and *Enchanted April* to name just a few. This play happens to be a new favorite by the amazingly talented David Lindsay-Abaire. Gail sincerely hopes that her wonderful cast will give you a glimpse into a world that is becoming all too familiar to all of us.

About the Producer

Susan Goldman Weisbarth (Producer) – Susan has a long history with Kentwood as an actor, director, and producer. She is thrilled to be working with Gail and her talented cast and crew on this beautifully crafted play. Most recently Susan directed our production of *Man of La Mancha* and will be directing *Avenue Q* later this season. Susan also serves as President of the Kentwood Players.

About the Designers

Doug Carlson (Set Design) – For the last couple years, the Westchester Playhouse has been fortunate to have Doug Carlson building our specialty sets. If it slopes, curves, swings, spins, or lifts...chances are Doug has designed it. Who knows what he will come up with next?

Scot Renfro (Set Design) – has been involved in set design and scenic painting, in many Kentwood productions. Recent sets include *Man of La Mancha*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Lend Me a Tenor*. Thanks to Doug Carlson and Jim Crawford–Kentwood's resident “make it work” geniuses.

John Beckwith (Lighting Design) – John has designed lights and worked the lighting board for more shows than he cares to mention. In fact, John does not like to write bios or draw attention to the time and effort he takes to make the Kentwood Players' shows shine. That just makes us appreciate him all the more.

Susan Stangl (Sound Design) – has designed sound for over 100 productions in the LA area and a few outside of LA. You have heard her work on dozens of Kentwood productions over the past 15 years.

Kathy Dersheimer (Costume Design) – has been doing Costume Design at Kentwood for several years. This is her 17th show since 2010, most recently *The Imaginary Invalid*. Some of her other favorites are *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Something's Afoot*, *Into the Woods*, *Oliver!*, *Parade*, *Candide*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Doubt*. Kathy enjoys the challenge of helping the actor show his character and expressing the director's vision. Kathy thanks her wonderful husband and children for their support.

Director's Note

Good People is a play about class and character, but class is seldom discussed in America because we are, after all, a democracy, and character seems to be less important in the trajectory of our lives today.

This play asks the question that has currently been driving political debate in this country: Do people rise above their circumstances by hard work or by sheer luck? David Lindsay-Abaire writes about the great American theme: Is America the place where you can actually believe in the idea of rugged individualism, or is it a place where the deck is stacked against people in the lower classes? The play goes back and forth between those two ideas.

So, what is it that determines our fate? Is it a strong character or a few lucky breaks? I hope that you, our audience, leaves the theatre talking about the answer.

Gail Bernardi
May 2017

Production Staff

Stage Manager	Jerilynn Kacena
Booth Crew	Melvin Miller
Set Decoration Design	Daniel Kruger
Original Graphic Design	West Maatita
Master Builders	Scot Renfro, Doug Carlson
Set Construction	Jim Crawford
Scenic Painting	Scot Renfro
Costume Assistance	Lezlie Ann Moore
Properties	Arlene Cohen, Sheldon Cohen
Publicity Photos	Shari Barrett
Audition Assistance	Katherine Harfoush, Lauren Jarvis, George Rametta
Hospitality Coordinator	Gail Bernardi
Box Office	April Kacena

Work Sunday

Miriam Amster, Margie Bates, Michael Berckart, Gail Bernardi, Doug Carlson,
William Carter, Arlene Cohen, Maria Cohen, Michael Cohen, Sheldon Cohen,
Sheridan Cole, Jim Crawford, Terry Delegeane, Drew Fitzsimmons, Samuel Goldman,
Rachel Grinbaum, Marlene Grinde, Michael Grinde, Charlotte Lee Gunter, Lauren Jarvis,
April Kacena, Glen Kacena, Jerilynn Kacena, George Kondreck, Gretchen Luna,
Lori Marple-Pereslete, Melvin Miller, Lee Polak, George Rametta, Melodie S. Rivers,
Susan Stangl, Bruce Starrett, Lynn Warech, Susan Weisbarth

Special Thanks

Lauren Jarvis and George Rametta



David Lindsay-Abaire

Good People



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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 Lobby.

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

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If you plan to attend a performance with a group of at least
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at the time reservations are made.

Kentwood Players Coming Attractions

The Gingerbread Lady

A Dramatic Comedy by Neil Simon
July 14 – August 19, 2017
Director: Drew Fitzsimmons

Farragut North

A Political Thriller by Beau Willimon
September 8 – October 14, 2017
Director: Sherry Coon

Avenue Q, a Musical

Music & Lyrics by Robert Lopez & Jeff Marx
Book by Jeff Whitty
November 10 – December 16, 2017
Director: Susan Goldman Weisbarth

The Crucible

A Drama by Arthur Miller
January 12 – February 17, 2018
Director: George L. Rametta

Sister Act, a Musical

Music by Alan Menken Lyrics by Glenn Slater
Book by Cheri & Bill Steinkellner
Additional Book Material
by Douglas Carter Beane
March 16 – April 21, 2018
Director: Ben Lupekis

TBD

May 11 – June 16, 2018

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