



The Prompter

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF HOVEY PLAYERS

Seeking Directors for Season 2005-06

We've barely started our current season, but we are already accepting play submissions for Hovey Players' next season, 2005-2006! It is requested, not required, that each director submit two contrasting plays for the Board's consideration. Please note that individuals may also submit plays without having to direct.

You may download the play submission form from our website at www.hoveyplayers.com/season.html. Go to the bottom of the webpage and click onto the link to download. If you do not have access to the web, a form can be mailed to you. Please send your request to Hovey Players, c/o M. Aguillon, 105 Sharon Street #3, Medford, MA 02155 and a play submission form will be sent to you.

Please fill out an application for each play submitted. We ask that two copies of each play be sent with a self-addressed envelope and postage so that we may return your scripts to you. The deadline for submissions is February 1, 2005. Final decisions will be made by April 1, 2005.

Send scripts to:
Hovey Players, Play Selection
PO Box 540101
Waltham MA, 02254-0101

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Just Finished: *The Taming of the Shrew*

Leading off our 68th season, Director Wayne Vargas brought a unique and exciting production of Shakespeare's most famous comedy to the Hovey stage.

This thoroughly engaging production created its distinctive aura at the very beginning of the evening as the actors wandered about greeting the audience on their arrival, selling them coffee and cookies and escorting them to their seats. From there, the evening took off as our hostess (A.J. LaDuke) welcomed the audience to her tavern where, under the drunken eye of Christopher Sly (Stephen Falcone), the play began.

For two and a half hours, dressed in a blend of costumes (that might well have been borrowed from the closets of most of the intervening centuries since the play was written) this talented ensemble wove the telling of the timeless play throughout virtually every corner of the theater. From the light booth to the workshop, from the green room to the aisles, to the stage and beyond, the production unfolded, engaging the audience at every turn.

Featuring Michelle Aguillon, Josh Bartok, Brian Busch, Emily Evans, Stephen Falcone, Mike Haddad, Eric Houghton, A.J. LaDuke, Neal Leaheey, Jim Muzzi, Andy O'Kane and Christopher Wrenn all playing multiple roles, this enjoyable production was a delightful way to kick off the season.

Our thanks to all who attended.

Where To Find Us

Abbott Memorial Theater
9 Spring Street at Joel's Way
Waltham, MA

Reservations (781) 893-9171
Green Room (781) 647-1211
Website www.hoveyplayers.com
Email theater@hoveyplayers.com

Mailing Address

Hovey Players, Inc.
P.O. Box 540101
Waltham, MA 02454-0101

Auditions: *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* by Alan Ball

Auditions for *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* by Alan Ball will be held Sunday and Monday, November 14 and 15 at 7:00 pm. Performance dates are January 14-29, 2005. Auditions will consist of selected readings from the script. Familiarity with the play is encouraged, but not required. Actresses will be considered for all roles, regardless of age, although due to time restrictions, it is highly suggested that they come prepared with a specific character in mind. Although the play is set in Nashville, Tennessee, southern accents will NOT be required. Copies of the play can be purchased through Dramatists Play Service, Inc. at www.dramatists.com. Questions about auditions or about the play itself can be directed to Gordon Ellis at (781) 864-2113 or via email at gordonellis@lycos.com.

Character Descriptions (ages as suggested by the script) :

FRANCES - (21). The devout Christian. Frances is the often overlooked cousin of the bride who was seemingly added as a way of filling out the wedding party. Initially tentative and awkward, she soon reveals herself to be a confident young woman, steadfast in her beliefs and unashamed of her desire to be a "good woman."

MEREDITH - (22). The sarcastic rebel. Meredith (the bride's younger sister) longs to escape from her sibling's shadow and leave behind the pretentious, white south in which she finds herself trapped. On the surface she projects herself as a bitter, anti-establishment representative of Gen-X, but her rebelliousness masks a hidden longing that itself plays home to a dark secret. (*)

TRISHA - (early 30s). The promiscuous beauty. A one-time close friend of the bride, Trisha is a glamorous and striking woman who has grown tired of the superficial nature of men and has chosen to insulate herself from disappointment by using them for her own needs. With an air of calming authority, she acts as an anchor for the others while at the same time falling prey to that old-time feeling at the hands of an intriguing, young groomsman.

MINDY - (mid-to-late 30s). The awkward lesbian. Though her initial entrance projects the image of a clumsy, southern gal unfamiliar with the ways of womanhood, the groom's lesbian sister soon reveals a grace and charm which flies in the face of stereotype. Wisecracking and at times self-deprecating, it is her upbeat freshness which opens the door for much of the frank discussion that occurs and challenges the way each of the women view themselves and each other.

GEORGEANNE - (early 30s). The unhappy housewife. With equal parts self-indulgent melodrama and starry-eyed romanticism, Georgeanne represents the road most traveled - a woman desperate to escape the life she thought she wanted. Miserable in marriage but lacking the strength for change, she turns to Trisha for inspiration, soon discovering the freedom in self-reliance.

TRIPP - (late 20s). The mysterious charmer. Tripp (a cousin to the groom) is a confident young man about whom it is said has "that look that makes you feel like you're at a really boring party and you and he are the only ones with drugs." Affable and good-natured with a dangerous side, he challenges the idea of what women think men want.

(*) *Note: The play calls for brief nudity. Anyone auditioning for the character of Meredith should be comfortable with the possibility of onstage exposure.*

Hovey Players Gratefully Acknowledge Your Generous Support!

The Hovey Players gratefully acknowledge the following individuals for their generous financial support. These thoughtful donations allow us to bring quality, affordable theater to the community. This list includes all donations received from October 1, 2003 to October 1, 2004. If you have any questions, or would like to make a tax-deductible donation, please contact us.

Benefactors (\$200-2,000)

Anonymous
Joseph Lombardi

Angels (\$100-199)

Thomas Berry
Eric Houghton and Erika Foin
Dan Taylor and Joan Smith
Ralph Tomao
David and Joyce Wilbourn

Sponsors (\$50-99)

Robert and Carolyn Allen
David Berti
Homer Deitmeier
Lissi Engvall
Margaret Lowe

Sponsors (Continued)

Ronni Marshak
Marjorie McNicholas
John Murtagh
George Sauer
Constance Tonner

Friends (\$5-49)

Lynn Armstrong
Sidney and Rita Bourne
Gordon Buck
Hugo DeAngelis
Patricia Howard
Jeanine Leonard
Martin and Dian Lerman
Lucille LoPresti
Stephen and Barbara Low
Michelle Mulvaney
Jean Roche
Phyllis Weaver
William and Judith Webb

If you have sent us a contribution and aren't on the list, please contact us so that we can gratefully recognize your support.

So Long, but Not Goodbye

Friends come and go, and although we are sad when they say goodbye, we are happy that they are where they want to be. We are thankful to the following talented individuals who worked at Hovey Players, some who graced our stage: Shannon Allen and Manasi Ramanna moved to Florida; Jenna Lea Scott was accepted into a theatre internship in Philadelphia; Margaret Pham moved to Chicago to study with Second City Improv Troupe's 2-year program; Garrett Blair is at Columbia University and Keedar Whittle is at the Circle in the Square 2-year acting program in New York City; Tyler Reynolds moved to New York City; Michael Corbett, Patrick Flanagan, and Louis Jacques, Jr. head for Los Angeles to pursue acting in film and television. We wish them all the best of luck and we will miss them!

Fundraiser for New Theater Space

Hovey Players wishes to thank Stephen Collins for presenting his one-man show of the life and times of the great American poet, Walt Whitman, in *Unlaunched Voices*. The fundraiser was a success, playing to enthusiastic audiences on October 8, 9, 15 and 16. This special event was held in an effort to help fund Hovey's efforts to move to a better facility in the near future. The opening night party was sponsored by In Blossom on Spring Street. Hovey thanks owners, Michael and Elissa Adler, for their continued support. If you missed this event and would like to contribute to this fundraiser, please send your tax-deductible donation to: Hovey Players (Attn: M. Tonner, Treasurer), P.O. Box 540101, Waltham, MA 02454-0101. Our deepest gratitude to all who attended Mr. Collins' performances.

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Hovey Players, Inc.
P.O. Box 540101
Waltham, MA 02454-0101

NOW APPEARING...SCOTLAND ROAD by Jeffrey Hatcher. Directed by Lissi Engvall. Produced by Michael Tonner.

PERFORMANCE DATES and LOCATION: Performances are November 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27 at 8:00pm and November 14 and 21 at 2:00pm.

THE STORY: This unique script, written by Jeffrey Hatcher and set against the background of the sinking of the Titanic, wraps elements of mystery and suspense around an examination of identity and self. Set in the present day, the mystery begins when a young woman, dressed in period clothing, is discovered floating on an iceberg in the North Atlantic. When found, she speaks only one word: 'Titanic'.

Is she an actual survivor? An apparition? A fraud? The mystery unfolds in a stark white room where a man and woman seek to determine the truth about the young woman. Their attempts reveal as much about themselves and others as they do about this mysterious young woman.

Our cast for this delightfully entertaining production includes: Leigh Berry, Rachel Kline, Wayne Vargas and Phyllis Weaver.

Please join us for the second production in Hovey Players' 68th season of community theater in Waltham. As always, those attending opening night are welcome to join us for our after-show party held at In Blossom. Please join our hosts, Elissa and Michael Adler, in this fabulous setting for wine, cheese and fun -- directly across the street from the theater, immediately after the performance on November 12.

For ticket reservations...please call (781) 893-9171, or visit www.hoveyplayers.com. You may also order tickets online at www.hoveyplayers.com. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults, \$13.00 for seniors and students.