# **Special Thanks**

Galway Traders
David Hawkins
Michelle Gillette
John Ned
Emily Burns
Catherine Smith
Gary Cooper
Hollywood Lighting

### **Upcoming Events at Stone Soup Theatre:**

A Child's Christmas in Wales
Adapted from the poem by Dyland Thomas
December 4-24, 2009

Fool for Love
By Sam Shepard
Feb 19-Mar 14, 2010

*The Vagina Monologes* 10th Anniversary Edition, by Eve Ensler April 2-24, 2010

*Original One-Act Play Festival* May 13-23, 2010

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4 Tickets \$60/8 Tickets \$120 Use them any way you want!



# **Stone Soup Theatre Presents**



# 7 One-Acts by Christopher Durang



Directed by Maureen Hawkins

Made possible by Dramatists Play Service Stone Soup Theatre has 501-C 3 Status All Donations are Tax Deductible

# **Notes from the Artistic Director**

A year and a milestone. Opening the DownStage, the Little Theatre That Could tripled its creative space. What goes through my mind? How did we *ever*?... create multiple sets for an evening of one acts?...get by with one bathroom which at times doubled as part of the set?...wait outside in the cold to make entrances? ...have our tech booth, entrance area, and office in one ...how? With pride to call this our past. None of it possible without people who have given above and beyond in an unusual kind of love for a magical world.. So, please do share in our very magical world as you watch.

#### **Notes from the Director**

This evening will take you on a journey through seven of the myriad of one act plays written by the award-winning (two Obies, Tony, Pulitzer & Drama Desk nominations plus numerous fellowships) Christopher Durang. To our knowledge, this is the 1<sup>st</sup> time these particular plays, published at various times over a 17-year span (1980-97) have been combined in a production. Following the author's suggestion that a production of his short plays be mixed and matched to combine "frenetic and loud" ones with those "that have softer, quieter tones," Durang <sup>7</sup> is offered as homage to the range of his work: theatrical parodies, social satires and political commentary. So, sit back, relax and oh yes, please make sure your seatbelt is securely fastened......

# **Notes from the Dramaturg**

"Manic," "wicked," "ferociously funny," and "deliriously assaultive" are a few of the words used to describe Christopher Durang and his work in the thirty-plus years since the playwright (and sometime actor) first carved a niche for himself as a smart-aleck and gleefully satiric dramatist whose crackpot creations, simultaneously silly and stinging, would make him one of American theatre's most original, influential and therapeutic comic voices.... [He has said] about his method: "Taking... pain seriously at the same time that I expect the audience to find humor in it has become for me the definition of my style, or at least what I intend it to be: "absurdist comedy married to real feelings."

This quotation, from dramaturg Janice Paran, is a perfect description of the oeuvre of Durang and specifically of the plays represented in *Durang*<sup>7</sup>. Each piece merges absurd and realistic, whether parody of a famous play or life itself. That is where Durang's true talent lies: his ability to hold a mirror to life through an absurd filter that, in turn, reflects our truth. Human nature is absurd.

# **Sequence & Cast**

Maureen Miko
Rebecca Parker-O'Neil
Natalie Saxon
James Lyle
Zachariah Robinson
Laurence Hughes

DMV Tyrant

DMV Lady
Customer

Natalie Saxon
Laurence Hughes

Funeral Parlor

Susan Rebecca Parker-O'Neil Marcus Zachariah Robinson Mourners The Ensemble

~Intermission: 15 minutes~

Gym Teacher

Mr. D James Lyle

Desire, Desire, Desire

Blanche Maureen Miko
Mag 1/Cora Rebecca Parker O'Neil
Mag 2/Stella Natalie Saxon
Big D James Lyle
Stanley Zachariah Robinson

Entertaining Mr. Helms

MotherRebecca Parker-O'NeilDaughterNatalie SaxonPersonJames LyleSonZachariah RobinsonFatherLaurence Hughes

Medea

MedeaMaureen MikoChorus 1Rebecca Parker-O'NeilChorus 2Natalie SaxonJasonJames LyleMessengerZachariah RobinsonAngelLaurence Hughes

#### **Production Crew**

Lighting Design/Scenic CoordinatorJohn ClarkeCostume DesignSavannah BaltazarSet DesignJenna CarinoDirectorMaureen HawkinsStage ManagerChris ScofieldAssistant Stage ManagerKalah MazacDramaturgyCatherine Smith

# **Theatre Staff**

Artistic Director

Education Outreach Coordinator

Rental Manager

Technical Director

Technical Assistant/Web Master

Bookkeeper

Office Manager/Public Relations/Graphic Design

Maureen Miko

Norene Sterling

Michael LoSasso

John Clarke

Chris Scofield

Mary Machala

Carolynne Wilcox

# **Cast & Crew Biographies**

#### Johnny Bacca (Sound Design)

Johnny Baca has worked in theatre for nearly 5 years. Getting into the craft after high school by accident (some accident), Johnny has done it all from developing academic programs to redesigning and building theatrical spaces big and small. After traveling the country (and indeed a bit of the world too) working technical theatre and design for productions of every scale, he has returned to Seattle to help advance the art form he loves and has made his career. Johnny works locally with IATSE Local 15 as well as many theatres and production companies in the Seattle area.

#### Savannah Baltazar (Costume Designer)

Savannah Baltazar graduated from Stephens College in 2008 with a BFA in Theatrical Costume Design. A Tucson, Arizona native, Savannah is a transplant to Seattle and is thrilled to be designing her second show with the Stone Soup Theatre. She has previously designed the children's 2009 spring production of *The Swashbuckle Sisters*.

#### Jenna Carino (Set Designer)

Jenna Carino (Set Designer) has just moved to Seattle after graduating from Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, NY where she spent the past 4 years studying Set Design and Scenic Artistry. She was the first Skidmore undergrad to design sets for 3 major department productions: *The Good Woman of Setzuan*, *The Insect Play*, and Kafka's *Metamorphosis*. She

worked for Wellfleet Harbor Actor's Theater in MA as a set designer and charge scenic artist, for Lake George Opera Company in NY as a props artisan and electrician, and for various other companies around the New England and New York area. She is thrilled to be working with Stone Soup Theater for her set design debut on the West Coast.

#### John Clarke (Lighting Design/Scenic Coordinator)

John has been around Seattle theatre for quite sometime. He has worked onstage and behind the scenes at many of the citys professional theatres. John has served as Technical Director for the Village Theatre, Civic Light Opera and Seattle University. This is his fourth season at Stone Soup and the second at the new DownStage space which he was very excited to be able to help design and build.

#### **Maureen Hawkins (Director)**

Maureen Hawkins is delighted to have this opportunity to direct these one-acts by the brilliantly outrageous Christopher Durang. Favorite directing projects include *Our Country's Good, An Experiment with an Air Pump, A Bright Room Called Day, The Cripple of Inishmaan* and *God's Country*. Her acting credits include a variety of principal roles at Intiman, A Contemporary Theatre, Village Theatre, Empty Space and Seattle and Montana Repertory Theatres. She has several dozens of voice-over and on-camera commercial, industrial, educational and mainstream television and film credits. Maureen has also been an NEA Artist-in-the-schools throughout Washington and Alaska.

#### **Laurence Hughes (Cast)**

This is Laurence's first show with Stone Soup. He has performed on many stages in and around Seattle, including Book-It, Annex, ACT, Nebunele, Centerstage, On The Boards, and Greenstage, and internationally in Canada and Prague. As a founding member of the wonderful and tragic Ardeo Theatre Company he had his most memorable performance – in Chuck Mee's *Big Love* on September 11, 2001 (one-night-only, as it turned out) in a deconsecrated chapel in central France. In his alter-ego career he battles world champions and upstart 19-year-olds in poker tournaments around the world (and occasionally on ESPN). Thanks to cast and crew for putting up with his poker travel, and love to Rachel for putting up with everything else.

#### James Lyle (Cast)

James is delighted to be making his first appearance with Stone Soup, though confused to be acting without an accent for a change. Recent appearances include *Not Now, Darling* at MSTT and *Black Gold* at ArtsWest. He can

also be found on the internet as Dr. Alden, chief medical officer on the fan film series *Star Trek Phoenix*.

#### Maureen Miko (Artistic Director, Founder, Cast)

Maureen was last seen as Dorothea in *Eleemosynary* at Stone Soup. Prior to that Mrs. Stevenson in the *Trilogy of Terror*. Quite happy to be performing comedy - many thanks to a great cast, crew, and devoted interns who are lightening the load. Tune your ears to the radio and you will hear commercial spots in my voice. Maureen is a member of AFTRA and SAG and hails from Purdue university and the Drama Studio of London.

#### Kalah Mazac (Assistant Stage Manager)

Kalah is oh so pleased to be starting her career at Stone Soup Theatre! She is a 2009 Theatre graduate of Seattle Pacific University, where some of her favorite shows worked on include *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, You Can't Take it With You*, and *The Last Time I Saw Timmy Boggs*.

#### Rebecca Parker-O'Neil (Cast)

Rebecca Parker-O'Neil is happy to return to the stage after a 3 year maternity leave. In the Puget Sound area she most recently appeared as Mrs. Boyle in *The Mousetrap* at Driftwood Players, and as Belinda in the Bellevue Civic Theatre production of *Noises Off.* Roles in the Portland area include the title role in *Antigone* with the Classic Greek Theatre and the Teacher in *When the Blues Chased Up a Rabbit* at Teatro Milagro. Many thanks to Peter, Gemma and Rafferty for letting me out - I am now in debt to my husband for at least 120 nights of freedom.

#### **Zacharaiah Robinson (Cast)**

Zacharaiah Robinson could not be happier to have this opportunity to work with Stone Soup on this show. With a love of Monty Python, and The Far Side comics, A show by Christopher Durang seemed a perfect fit. A professional actor in theatre and film for the past 18 years, he has been involved in over 40 productions in Indianapolis, Ohio, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Sydney Australia, and Seattle. Other Seattle credits include: *Wonder of the World* with Re-Act, *Laughter on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor* with SecondStory Rep, and *Love, Sex, & the IRS* with both Bellevue Civic and Redwood Theatre, and most recently *Sins of the Mother*, a world premier Israel Horowitz Play with Harlequin Productions. With a BA in Theater Performance from Butler University, Zach currently serves as the Acting Teacher for Rossi Entertainment. In addition to being on stage, Zach is a director and also serves on the Board of Directors for Burien Little Theatre.

#### Natalie Saxon (Cast)

Natalie Saxon recently moved from the Southeast after earning a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and working as an acting apprentice at Horizon Theatre Company in Atlanta. She is thrilled to make her debut on the Seattle stage with Stone Soup Theatre and such a fine group of theatre artists, onstage and behind the scenes. All of her love and gratitude goes to her family for their unwavering support.

#### **Chris Scofield (Stage Manager)**

Chris Scofield has been playing in backstage theatre for almost 5 years now, and is very pleased to be spending an entire season with Stone Soup and stepping into the world of production management as well as continuing to stage manage, and squeeze in some lighting design here and there--though sanely, not all at the same time. He last worked this summer with Woman Seeking Theatre West on their amazing production of *Last Summer on Bluefish Cove*, and can be seen next designing and running the lights for Stone Soup's production of *A Child's Christmas in Wales*. After that, he'll spend a brief couple weeks stage managing for Ear to the Ground on *Not All Clowns Are Bozos II: Clown Harder*, before returning to Stone Soup.



Stone Soup Theatre's Downstage
is dedicated to the memories of
Richard G. Miko, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1949-June 28,
2008
Rowan Christie Francklow, July 8, 1969-Apr.
15<sup>th</sup>, 2009

