The ACTORS COMPANY THEATRE

COMPANY NEWS continued from page 6

ward to his "C.S. Lewis" in A Question Of God, a new PBS mini-series which airs in September.

LARRY KEITH continues to delight audiences in Caroline Or Change. He has also recently worked on a film called National Treasure, which stars Nicholas Cage, Harvey Keitel, and Jon

JACK KOENIG is doing stock this summer at Peterborough Players in Peterborough, NH: two comedies; the first, a new farce (a la Noises Off) called Laughing Stock; and the second, an English drawing room comedy from 1905 called The Return Of The Prodigal. Performances run July 21 through August 15.

DARRIE LAWRENCE will be playing "Paulina" in The Winter's Tale at Shakespeare on the Sound in Rowayton, Ct. this summer, and looks forward to fall when she will be doing Hail Marv at Buffalo Studio Arena. Performances start September 10th and run 'til October 10th. Our favorite bridegroom.

GREG McFADDEN, just finished playing Ensign Pulver in Mister Roberts at St. Louis Rep and at the 2004 Tony award winning Cincinnati Playhouse. He will also appear in his play Between The Books in In Praise Of Folly: The Don Quixote Project through the month of June. You can catch Greg intermittently on Guiding Light

as "Jeremy"

JAMES MURTAGH will be emceeing his 40th college reunion on July 31st, and will be back on Hope and Faith playing Faith's father-in-law again this coming season.

We're very proud of MARGARET NICHOLS who just won the Bay Area Critics Circle Award for Best Actress in a musical for her outstanding performance as Jane Eyre last year.

JOHN PLUMPIS is still on tour with The Lion

JAMES PRENDERGAST is shooting an independent film in September on Santo Domingo! GREGORY SALATA filmed an episode of the new Tom Fontana TV series The Jury and worked on the redo of The Pink Panther, starring Steve Martin.

After spending a month in Austria to celebrate his parent's 50th wedding anniversary, **SCOTT SCHAFER** returns home July 8, and then heads to the Depot Theatre on Lake Champlain to do Picasso at Lapin Agile and Kiss Me Kate. He returns to NYC on September 6th.

DAVID STALLER is currently in the Irish Rep hit production of Finian's Rainbow. The entire run has been sold out since it opened the beginning of April and continues until July 11th. The

cast album has just been recorded and will be released this autumn. The week of June 14th he appeared in a reading of a new Charles Strouse play and the week of June 21st he appeared in a reading of a new Martin Charnin play. He continues doing a great many voiceovers. He's currently scheduled to perform at

Summer Newsletter

2004/2005

the 21st of August. JENN THOMPSON is currently in Indiana at the New Harmony Theatre playing "Sylvia" (the dog) in Sylvia then goes to Connecticut and River Rep at Ivoryton to play "Edwin Drood" in The Mystery Of Edwin Drood and "Catherine" in

East Hampton's John Drew theatre on Saturday

JOE TREPASSO will be working hard this summer as usual and reports that he is "so proud of our TACT family and friend's-where everything is a group effort, onstage or off. It is a labour of creative passion! Just see how we've grown over the years. It's been worth our journey."

Perhaps the most dazzling production of the season was brought to us by LYNN WRIGHT. whose son, Graham Wright Gordon took his first bow on March 11th, joining his stellar sister Georgia and completing a perfect brood for his delighted father and mother.

Our new fantas**TIC** season Our new fantas **Isth!** Summer News 2004/05 0 New York, 1 d f P E 1 O O L 161 Sixth Avenue THEATTRE COMBVAK SHOLDY 94T

Administrative Offices 161 Sixth Avenue, 14th FI New York, NY 10013 212 645-TACT(8228) 212 255-2053(fax) www.TACTnyc.org info@TACTnyc.org

TACTICS is published twice yearly



Summer 2004/05

TICkle every fancy!

TACT 2004/2005 SEASON continued on page 7

tact TheACTORS **COMPANY** THEATRE

Scott Alan Evans, Cynthia Harris & Simon Jones Co-Artistic Directors

Sean Arbuckle, Mary Bacon, Jamie Bennett, Eve Bianco, Simon Billig, Nora Chester, Cynthia Darlow, Francesca Di Mauro, Kyle Fabel, Richard Ferrone, Rachel Fowler, Delphi Harrington, Kelly Hutchinson, Larry Keith, Jack Koenig, Darrie Lawrence, Greg McFadden, James Murtaugh, Margaret Nichols, John Plumpis, James Prendergast, Gregory Salata, Scott Schafer, David Staller, Jenn Thompson, Lynn Wright

EMERITUS

Ryan Bowker, Maia Danziger, Paul Hecht, Jo-Ann Salata,

ADJUNCT COMPANY

Francys O. Burch, Dawn Dunlop, Jonathan Faiman, Mary Louise Geiger, David Macdonald, Colin McGrath, Yuzuru Sadashige, Jonathan Smith, David Toser, Joseph Trapasso

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TACT is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and a member of the Alliance of Resident Theatres / New York

neglected or rarely produced plays

of literary merit with an empha-

sis on creating theatre from its

ability to bring it to life.

essence: the text and the actor's

Neglected or rarely produced: adj. phrase.

not seen in a first-class production in NYC within the last 15 years.

Literary merit: n. laudable language of par-

ticular interest, uniqueness; or representa-

Concert Performance: n. fully rehearsed, minimally staged presentations that allow you

and your imagination to be a part of the cre-

ative event. With original incidental musical scores commissioned exclusively for our pro-

duction through a unique partnership with

Our 2004/05 season is made possible with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a

State agency and is supported in part by public funds fro the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs

tive of a specific period or era.

The Manhattan School of Music.

tact 1. takt; 2. taet, n. dedicated to presenting

Rachel Fowler

Roman

Enigma

Luna

Robo

Idiosyncra

Kelly Hutchinson

Company. Rachel Fowler first came to TACT in May 2003 for our production of U.S.A. by Paul Shyre and John Dos Passos. This past May Rachel was part of the cast of our special extended production The Triangle Factory Fire Project. Kelly Hutchinson has graced the TACT stage three times this season, first in Fathers and Sons, by Brian Friel, then in The Good Soup, by

2002 when he composed the music for Widower's Houses by G.B. Shaw. He went on to write the incidential music for our productions of U.S.A. last season, and The Marriage of Bette and Boo (by Christopher Durang) and The Triangle Factory Fire Project this season.

Artistic Directorate:

ooking back from this, the conclusion of our 11th season, TACT can be proud of a record that has brought many classics of great theatrical literature back to public consciousness. We have restored to new life some remarkable and unnecessarily neglected plays, reintroducing new audiences to the delights of Giraudoux, Ostrovsky, Eliot, Sherwood, Kaufman, the Spewacks, and many others. Plays such as J.M.Barrie's The Admirable Crichton. Shaw's Widowers' Houses. or George Kelly's The Torch Bearers had not been seen for many years prior to our produc-

Our company of accomplished and busy New York actors and our streamlined "Concert Performance" style of presentation, have allowed us the opportunity to present these works (many of them requiring huge casts, now deemed "commercially unviable") in a theatrical, entertaining and undeniably affordable way. That is our mission.

This past's season's "Concert Perfromance" offerings have been among our most successful ever. From Christopher Durang's brilliant dark comedy, The Marriage of Bette and Boo, Brian Friel's stunning adapation of Fathers & Sons, the rarely seen The Good Soup by Felicine Marceau, to the tightly wrought The Chalk Garden by Enid Bagnold, our company has demonstated the continuing power and relivance of great theatrical literature brought to life and offered our subscribers an unparalleled theatrical experience at a price everyone can afford.

A short while back we began to feel the

Artistic Directorate continued on page 2

Company News



acclaimed company of actors.

member to our Adjunct Felicien Marceau and finally in May in The Triangle Factory

Company and one new

From the roman**TIC** to the robo**TIC**.

TACT's new season has something to

Details of our new season can be found on page 7 along with our Early

Bird Subscription form. We look forward to seeing you at the Florence

Gould Hall for another lively and provacative season of great rarely-seen

plays by internationally renowned playwrights performed by our

Colin McGrath began his association with TACT in March of

NEW COMPANY MEM-**NEW BOARD MEMBER:** The **TACT** Board of Directors is BERS: The Artistic honored to announce the addition of Darya Geetter to the Board of **TACT** is very board. Darya worked in the Justice Department and was a pleased to announce the former Assistant U.S. Attorney. She is currently a senior litigator in the legal department of Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. addition to two new member to our Acting

MARY BACON recently returned from the Old Globe were she recreated her role of Charlotte in Stephen Wadsworth's adaptation of Moliere's Don Juan and this summer she will be featured in AMC's new reality series Into Character.

JAMIE BENNETT was recently up at Hartford Stage participating in their New Play Festival reading of Bhuton by Daisy Foote to an overwhelmingly positive response. It looks like the play will have a production somewhere soon.

JONTHAN FAIMAN had a busy spring, playing concerts in Chicago, Milwaukee, and at the Krannert Center at the University of Illinois in Urbana, in addition to numerous performances in the New York City area. This summer, he continues work on a musical based on Henry James' The Ambassadors, he finishes recording a CD of music by Nils Vigeland, and he performs with the Locrian Chamber Players (August 5, Riverside Church). He is also preparing orchestrations for fall performances of the Coastal Carolina Chamber Music Festival and the Chappagua Orchestra.

COMPANY NEWS continues on page 6

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THE ACTORS COMPANY THEATRE



Performers Margaret Nichols, Jim Dale, Delphi Harrington, Tonya Pinkins, Larry Keith, and David Staller perpare for the grand finale.

TACT's Socko Sardi's Gala Wows the Crowd!



verything we promised and more, TACT's "Socko Songfest at Sardi's" on March 29th, surpassed even our grandest expectations as a glittering crowd of subscribers, Broadway luminaries, company members and friends filled the famous main dinning room on 44th Street for an unforgettable evening of song and celebration. The evening began with cocktails, canapés and conversation as the ranks of party-goers swept through the doors and into the legendary show biz hang-out. As the glamorous crowd surveyed the colorful caricatures of famous faces covering every inch of wall space the sharp-eyed among them picked out the likenesses of our own Cynthia Harris and Simon Jones as well as those of our special guests for the evening, Jim Dale, Karen Ziemba and Tanya Pinkins.

Excitement grew as charming likenesses of several in the crowd, created on the spot by two of Sardi's outstanding caricaturists, began to be passed around to the delight of all. Quick as a flash all the 'sittings' were filled and the two busy artists had to work over-time to meet the demand for portraits. Our intrepid board President, Stephen Lindenmuth, managed to pose for both artists and came away with two completely different and yet uncannily accurate caricatures of his noble profile! Before the evening's end, several recognizable new faces graced the walls of Sardi's "appearing for one night only." A roving photographer also circled the room snapping polaroids, providing instant souvenirs of a memorable

evening

Our own cabaret and recording star, David Staller was a charming master of ceremonies as the crowd was seated for dinner and the musical entertainment began. Piano man, Darren Cohen, provided the accompaniment as company members Margaret Nichols, Delphi Harrington Scott Schaefer, Larry Keith and David Staller were joined by Tony Award winners, Jim Dale, Tanya Pinkins and Karen Ziemba for a thrilling onenight-only salute to the music of the Great White Way. The entire crowd joined in for a rousing singalong to "There's No Business Like Show Business" as all the performers took the stage for the Grand Finale.

The generosity of those who attended this year's benefit helped us raise over \$20,000 towards bringing another season of one-of-a-kind theatre to our audience. Our gratitude to all who have supported us throughout our eleven seasons - we will be back this coming year with great plays, wonderful actors, and the best theatre bargain in New York.



New TACT Board Member, Darya Geetter (center) surrounded by friends.

Artistic Directorate Letter (cont'd)

need to see whether what we bring to a concert performance could be translated to a full theatrical production. Two years ago a previously unproduced Noel Coward comedy from 1947, *Long Island Sound*, was brought to our attention. Our world premiere production has resulted in the play being published at last by Samuel French, and thus made available to a wide audience.

That production was more conventional than our usual style of performance, and so this season we commissioned a new work created with writer Christopher Piehler and our company members especially designed for our particular style of performance. It concerns a tragedy that has long fascinated us for both its drama and for its wider political and social implications the Triangle fire of 1911. The resulting production was an unequivical hit and a great finale to our season.

Not ones to rest on our laurels, we've now turned our attention to our 2004/05 season in which we will be presenting five wonderful and very different plays all in our *Concert Performance* format. If you've been a subscriber to **TACT** in the past, we certainly hope you'll join us again, and for those of you new to the company please accept our invitation to experience our continuing journey of discovery and delight. We look forward to seeing you at the **Florence Gould Hall** when our new season begins in October.

Scott Alan Evans, Cynthia Harris & Simon Jones



Anita Jaffe with company member Scott Schafer



Lore Degenstein and TACT Board Member, Melissa Mulrooney

TACT Season continued from front page

Our 2004/2005 Season begins Saturday, October 16, 2004



FLARE PATH

By Terrence Rattigan

Saturday, October 16, 2004 Sunday, October 17, 2004 Monday, October 18, 2004



THE FIRE BUGS

By Max Frisch

Saturday, November 20 Sunday, November 21 Monday, November 22



HOME By David Story

Saturday, January 22, 2005 Sunday, January 23 Monday, January 24



ZACK By Harold Brighouse U.S. Premiere!

Saturday, March 12 Sunday, March 13 Monday, March 14

F. R. B.

R.U.R. By Karel Capek

Saturday, April 30, 2005 Sunday, May 1 Monday, May 2

Play selections subject to change without notice.

Become an "EARLY BIRD SUBSCRIBER" and enjoy priority seating for all five of these remarkable plays for only \$90. Fill in the subscription coupon to the right or call the TACT office for further details: 212/645-8228

If you've already sent in your subscription for the season, **THANK YOU!** Your tickets will be mailed to you in the fall.

To get all five plays of our 2004/05 season for the undeniably affordable price of \$90, please fill in the form below and send it to the **TACT office**

Summer Newsletter

2004/2005

Please fill out th New York, NY 10 sure to include y	005 Early Bir is form and mail to TAC 013. Your tickets will bes your full mailing and to	CT, 161 Sixth A mailed to you s). For more ir	<i>renue, 14th ı</i> in the Fall
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_	Apr. 30		ORCHESTR
SUNDAY MA	ATINEES K-BACK with cast)	Lower Level	
@ 2:00pm	Oct. 17 '04, Nov. 21,		Lower Levi
	Jan. 23 '05, Mar. 13, May 1		S TAGE
MONDAY E	•		nce Gould H
		1 55	Loot 50th
— @ 7:30pm	Oct. 18 '04, Nov.22 Jan. 24 '05, Mar. 14,		East 59th

If possible, would you like the

seats you had last season?

Send to:

The Actors Company Theatre

161 Sixth Avenue, 14th FL

New York, NY 10013

The Cast of *The Triangle Factory Fire Project*







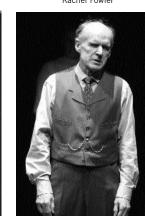
Nora Chester



Francesca Di Mauro



Kvle Fabel



Timothy McCracken





"Delivers a true emotional punch." **American Theatre Web**

The creative pieces of this puzzle - cast, ddirector, writer and designers come together beautifully in a collaborative blaze of sadness, energy and poignancy. Once can only hope that 100 years from now we might have the same perspective on our own New York tragedy" Katie Riegel/Broadway.com

COMPANY NEWS continued from page 1

jonathanfaiman.com.

FRAN BURCH opened the season at Wolf Trap with The Mikado; she goes to England in August; Toledo in November; back to City Center for January; and is looking for non-musical projects to fill in the holes.

NORA CHESTER will be heading back to Cape Cod for her 13th consecutive season at The Monomoy Theatre where she will be playing Mrs. Banks in Neil Simon's Barefoot in the Park (August 17-21) and Mrs. Stanley in The Man Who Came to Dinner (August 24-

CYNTHIA DARLOW is playing "Widow Paroo" in The Music Man with Jeff Goldplum at the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera July 6—18th, after a brief trip to New Orleans in June.

DAWN DUNLOP is stage managing a production of Giradoux's Ondine, performing at Soho Rep in

SCOTT ALAN EVANS again created and directed the American Musicals Project spring concert series at the New York Historical Society. The series this year was entitled "Broadway's Babies: The Second Generation of America's Great Theatre Composers" and include four evenings highlighting the works of Harold Arlen. Harold Rome. Jule Styne and Cv Colman and featured singers Nancy Anderson, Kim Crosby, Martin Vidnovic, Chuck Cooper, Robert Cuccioli, Leah Hocking, Capathia Jenkins, Victoria Clark, Ron Bohmer, Phyliss Newman, Dee Hoty, Helen Gallahger, Bob Gunton, and hosts John Weidman, Phillip Furia, Max Wilk, and Cy Coleman.

RACHEL FOWLER recently closed in The Pagans at the Abingdon Theatre and The Triangle Factory Fire Project with TACT. This summer she is producing a benefit with the Mile Square Theatre. 7th Inning Stretch, to fund their first full production, a 3 actor Cyrano, presented free of charge in Frank Sinatra Park in Hoboken in July. Then she and her husband, Karel, will be taking a much needed vacation to Yellowstone Park.

KYLE FABEL recently appeared in The Real Thing at the Pioneer Theatre in Salt Lake City, and The Triangle Factory Fire Project with TACT. In the fall, he will be directing the graduating class at NYU's Graduate Acting Program in The Suicide, by Nikolai

DELPHI HARRINGTON will be taking a mini-sabbatical this summer. After she performs in Bloomsday on June 16th at Symphony Space, she and her husband will join their daughter in London and tour the south of England, return to New York for a few weeks and then leave for Brazil in mid-August to travel before and after their son Alexander marries on Labor Dav in Sao Paolo

CYNTHIA HARRIS will be doing Bloomsday, as well as a CBS movie of the week called (thrillingly) The Revenge Of The Middle Aged Woman! It films the latter part of June with Christine Lahti and Bryan Brown.

PAUL HECHT appeared recently at Symphony Space's Selected Shorts with David Sedaris and was also part of the Bloomsday celebration. On June 26th he will be reading at the Mount (Edith Whartons home) in Lenox Massachussetts.

SIMON JONES played "Pickering" in My Fair Lady at the Mc Carter Theatre, and will be graduating to "Higgins" in a production at Hartford Stage, July 6th to August 1st. He then flies immediately to London to film A Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy. We look for

COMPANY NEWS continues on page 8



2003/2004 Season Contributors

TACT'S THEATRICAL LEGENDS

The following list represents TACT's honored contributors from January 1, 2003 to June 25, 2004. We gratefully recognize their support which is so vital to our success and take great pride in these generous people who have given at the levels listed below

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*new company member +New Adjunct company Membe

ACTORS COMPANY THEATRE 11th The

"TACT has performed another service in introducing its fans to a play that hasn't been staged in New York since 1960... TACT has an amazing ability to so enliven the readings as to create the illusion of larger mountings"

Wolf Entertainment

Delphi Harrington as Marie-Paul in The Good Soup

Scott Schafer as Odilon





Pictured from The Good Soup. Top: Gregory Nichols as the young Marie-Paul.

Photos by Carol Rosegg



January 2004

THE **SEASON** PART TWO

March 2004



by Felicien Marceau adapted by Garson Kanin

with company members Sean Arbuckle*, Nora Chester*, Francesca Di Mauro*, Delphi Harrington*, Kelly Hutchinson*, Simon Jones*, Jack Koenig*, Darrie Lawrence*, **Greg McFadden***, Margaret Nichols*, James Prendergast*, Gregory Salata*, Scott Schafer* and Guest Artists

Joel Hurt Jones*, Kimber Riddle*,

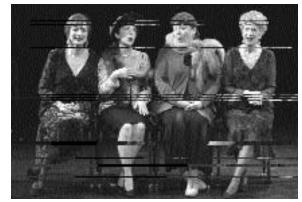
Production Stage Manager Dawn Dunlop*

Costumes by Lighting by **David Toser** Mary Louise Geiger

> Music Composed by Marcus Paus

Directed by Kyle Fabel*

*member Actors' Equity Association



Delphi Harrington, Francesca Di Mauro, Nora Chester and Darrie

"The company overcomes the play's faults admirably, with Delphi Harrington bringing a world-weariness reminiscent of Elaine Stritch to the role of older Marie-Paul. Margaret Nichols, as the younger Marie-Paul makes the character about as likeable as possible. A uniformly excellent supporting cast of 13 fill in the various roles of lovers, jilted wives and numerous other odd acquaintances from Marie-Paul's life" Samuel Johnson/ Washington Square



with company members

Mary Bacon*, Francesca Di Mauro*, Cynthia Harris*, Simon Jones*, Darrie Lawrence*

Nicholas Kepros*, Barbara Marineau*, Gloria Moore Production Stage Manager

Dawn Dunlop*

Costumes by **David Toser**

Lighting by Steve TenEvck

Music Composed by John Slover

Directed by **John Christopher Jones**

*member Actors' Equity Association



Francesca Di Mauro as Madrigal and Cynthia Harris as Mrs. St. Maugham



Winter Newsletter 2003/2004

"The wit and exquisite construction of Enid Bagnold's 1955 comedy come across to a remarkable degree in TACT's semistaged reading. Bagnold's elegant play is in very good hand, indeed." HarryForbes/Backstage

"The entire cast, under the direction of John Christopher Jones, performed with depth and nuance in making Bagnold's very literate work come alive anew" William Wolf/ Wolf Entertainment

May 2004



by Christopher Piehler in collaboration with Scott Alan Evans

with company members

Jamie Bennett*, Nora Chester*, Francesca Di Mauro*, Kyle Fabel*, Rachel Fowler*, Kelly Hutchinson*, James Murtaugh*, Scott Schafer* and Guest Artist Timothy McCracken*,

Set design by Mimi Lien

Stage Manager

Costume design by David Toser

Asst. Stage Manager Dawn Dunlop Leila Guenancia

Assistant Director **Aaron Wilton**

Lighting design by

Fight Director Mary Louise Geiger Ax Norman Press & Publicity

> Origilo PR Richard Hillman

Music by Colin McGrath

Conceived and Directed by

Production Supervisor

George Boras

Scott Alan Evans

"Electrically direted by Scott Alan Evans, and dynamically acted by the whole company, it is one of the theatre events of the season. Everyone involved does a brilliant job in this searing play, which reminds us why theatre exists." Doug Lyons/ New York Post

"A good play is a wonderful distraction. A great play tugs at your emotional core. A truly great play does all that and also affects its audience by triggering memories and influencing one's view of events. The Triangle Factory Fire is one of the plays that falls into the last category"

Karen Barrow/ Off-Off Online