

Marblehead Little Theatre

ARSENIC AND *Old Lace*

by Joseph Kesselring

October 2023

Produced by David Foye
Directed by Honorah Tinti



mlt
Marblehead Little Theatre

ARSENIC AND OLD LACE is presented by special arrangement with
Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection.
(www.dramatists.com)

MC Mass
Cultural
Council

Director's Note

The first time that I saw the movie “Arsenic and Old Lace” I was 9 years old. It fell in with my love of old movies. A unique dark comedy, Arsenic and Old Lace gives you villains where you least expect, twists and turns that are at once playful and sinister, and just a few buried and unburied bodies.

This production captures these nuances and the portrayal of these iconic characters are deftly acted by an amazing cast. These actors bring skill, talent, versatility and vitality to this play, which was written in 1941. They embody their characters bringing new energy, intimacy and facets to the forefront.

I feel privileged to have been a part of bringing this production to the stage here at Marblehead Little Theater but even more so as a Director of such a richly talented cast. Everyone brought their own perspective and creative potential to the set night after night. The moments that emerged are truly magical.

Live theater is so special because it literally takes a village to create each part so that the audience can enjoy the whole. I was also fortunate to be blessed with a production staff that enhanced those magical moments, building, broadening, and adding the details so that you, as the audience, get to experience them with authenticity. So sit back and enjoy a fun and entertaining experience at the Brewster house, just be careful what you drink.

Honorah Tinti, Director

Act I

Scene 1 The Brewster Home, Brooklyn, NY 1940s, Early Evening
Scene 2 The Brewster Home, Late Evening

15 Minute Intermission

Act II

Scene 1 The Brewster Home, 15 Minutes Later
Scene 2 The Brewster Home, Midnight
Scene 3 The Brewster Home, Morning

Production Team

Producer	David Foye
Director	Honorah Tinti
Scenic Design	Andrew Barnett
Lighting Designer	Greg Mancusi-Ungaro
Sound Designer	Jocelyn Duford
Costume Designer	Honorah Tinti
Stage Managers	Alyssa Olsen
.....	Carla McDonough
Properties	Lynn Turner
Music by	Thom Smoker
Set Construction	Lou Schoenthal, Larry Lowe, Andrew Barnett
MLT Technical Director	Andrew Barnett

Cast

Dr. Harper.....	Aimee Oliver
Abby Brewster.....	..Betty Lautner
Teddy Brewster.....	Victor Brandelise
Officer Brophy.....	David Foye
Officer O'Hara.....J.P. Giuletti
Martha Brewster.....Trudi Olivetti
Elaine Harper.....Alix Bigley
Mortimer Brewster.....Andrew Hakinnson
Jonathan Brewster.....Dom Pappagallo
Dr. Einstein.....Stephen Turner
Lieutenant Rooney...David Scannell
Mr. Witherspoon.....John Archer
Officer Klein.....Honorah Tinti
Mr. Gibbs	Dana Lemieux 10/6
.....	Joe Lautner 10/8
.....	Jim Olivetti 10/7, 10/13
.....	Chris Finn 10/12
.....	Jim Nye 10/14 (Eve)
.....	Thom Smoker 10/14 (Mat)
.....	Bruce Whear 10/15

Cast and Production Biographies

John Archer (Mr Witherpoon) is delighted to be back again at MLT following this summer's Gershwin/Porter revue. Last year John sang in a concert with Catherine Lamy, his Guinevere to John's King Arthur at St. John's Prep; the production was 55 years ago. A few of his favorite roles have been with MLT. They include Henry Higgins in "My Fair Lady", Captain Von Trapp in "The Sound of Music", Daddy Warbucks in "Annie" and all the summer concerts. When not performing in shows, John's real job is at Archer Insurance in Beverly. Mr. Archer looks forward to many more years of doing both. He resides in Danvers MA.

Andrew Barnett (Technical Director/Set Designer) designed and built his first set at the Marblehead Middle (Village) School in 1992 for "Fiddler on the Roof." Since then, he has built sets for Rebel Shakespeare Company, Endicott College, Gordon College, Opera Boston, Gloucester Stage, Roxbury Center for the Arts, MassJam, Perkins School for the Blind, Boston Center for the Arts, Massng Lnks, and Marblehead Little Theatre. Andy was a member of the production team as master carpenter, designer and technical director of Watertown based Revels, Inc. for more than 25 years, creating for The Summer Revels, Riversing and The Christmas Revels. His shows are dedicated to his wife Jessica, sons Nick and Jeremy and their spouses, and grandchildren Jacob, Vivienne and Rose, and to Marblehead Little Theatre for providing great live theater to patrons of all ages.

Alix Bigley (Elaine Harper) is a new North Shore resident and is excited to join this incredible cast and crew in her second MLT production! Some favorite roles include Belle "Beauty and the Beast", Sonia "They're Playing Our Song", Sugar Plum Fairy "Shrek", Amelia Earhart "Chamber Music", Twirler "Talking With", Edith "Pirates of Penzance", and Amy Adamo's "Little Women." Thanks to everyone who has worked tirelessly on this production.

Victor Brandalise (Teddy Brewster) This is Victor's second appearance with MLT. His last appearance at MLT was in "Inherit the Wind" as Henry Drummond. He has been performing since 1989 in New Hampshire, Texas, New Jersey, California, and Massachusetts. Victor appeared in a Texas production of "Arsenic and Old Lace" in

1995 as Officer O'Hara and Mr. Gibbs. Over the years, his two favorite performances were in the female version of "The Odd Couple" as Jesus Costazuela and in the Irish musical "Grannia" as Donal O'Flaherty. Recently, he has appeared in "Moon over Buffalo" as Ricard, "The Miracle Worker" as Captain Keller, "The Laramie Project" as Reverend Phelps, "Neighbourhood Watch" as Rod Trusser, "Funny Money" as a Passer By, and in "Our Town" as the Constable. Victor is a retired high school chemistry teacher. When not performing on stage, Victor is doing YouTube videos - Chemistry Experiments with Victor Brandalise and telling chemistry jokes.

Jocelyn Duford (Sound Design) earned her Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from Dartmouth College and has since been performing throughout New England as an actor, singer, and educator. She is currently the Artistic Director for The Fairy Tale Players, a group dedicated to providing educational, interactive, and inspiring live theatre for young children. Jocelyn is the Theatre Advisor at Mountain View Middle School in Goffstown, NH. She has taught many theatre summer camps for various performing companies, either directing a fully produced musical or leading various acting workshops. Jocelyn has directed several youth productions for the Majestic Theatre in Manchester "Lucky Stiff", "Spamalot", "Addams Family", "Mary Poppins", including summer camp performances. She has been nominated for Best Actress in a Musical (EMACT DASH) and Best Singer in a Musical (NY Winterfest).

Dave Foye (Officer Brophy) has been acting in shows at Marblehead Little Theatre for almost 4 years. He appeared as Mr. Hilltop in "Young Frankenstein", Fiddler Jones in the online broadcast of "Spoon River Anthology", Jimmie Jack Cassie in "Translations", Pastey (and others) in "Gypsy", Nate in "Equivocation", Constable Joe in "Tuck Everlasting", Henry Gatz (and others) in "The Great Gatsby." He is a regular in the bass section of the choir at First Church in Swampscott. He lives in Swampscott with his wife and two more generations of Foyes. This is his first attempt at producing a show here, and he could not resist the urge to put on a costume and join this talented cast.

J.P. Giuliotti (Officer O'Hara, Jonathan U/S) This is JP's MLT debut and 5th stage appearance since returning to Boston after 17 years on the West Coast. In the Boston area, he's appeared in (among several

shows): “Come Back Little Sheba & The Waverly Gallery” (Hovey), “A Few Good Men” (AFD), “Beau Jest” (Burlington), “California Suite” (QP), “Moon Over Buffalo” (TCAN). West Coast stages saw him in dozens of productions from Seattle to Los Angeles including 3 stints of “The Odd Couple” (Oscar and two Murrays), leads in “Sylvia & Love Letters”, Silvius in “As You Like It” and Diana Son's “Stop Kiss.” In L.A. he also booked film and TV gigs including CBS's Criminal Minds, HBO's Room 104 and sketch performances on Jimmy Kimmel and Conan. He's also studied and performed extensive improv at The Second City Hollywood, Spolin Theatre Games Seattle and Boston's Improv Asylum. A late deafened adult due to undiagnosed, sudden sensorineural hearing loss in 2015, J.P. has managed to keep his acting journey alive with the help of his miraculous cochlear implant. Feel free to ask him about this astounding technology!

Andrew Hankinson (Mortimer Brewster) originally hails from northern Vermont. He studied at Oberlin College, before moving back east to find his calling. Andrew has spent a great deal of his life involved with local theater and performed all over New England. Some of his favorites include “Tuck Everlasting” and “Gershwin/Porter: Who Could Ask For Anything More” earlier this season, as well as “Mamma Mia”, “Titanic”, “1776”, “Wonderful Town”, “The Secret Garden”, “The Mystery of Edwin Drood” and “Cabaret”, and he is excited, as always, to work with Marblehead Little Theater.

Betty Lautner (Abby Brewster) is from New York City, having a satisfying and successful career singing on Broadway and television, concert and light opera. In 1978 Betty moved to Marblehead with her son and daughter, to join the faculty at Emerson College, teaching voice and performance for several years. She is a pianist and organist, and has been both stage and Music Director at many North Shore community theaters for the past 35 years. She teaches voice and acting at her home studio. Over the years Betty has appeared in “Brigadoon”, “The Sound of Music”, “Fiddler on the Roof”, “Cinderella” and many MLT summer revues collaborating with Anne Lucas. Betty last appeared at MLT in Anne's play “PARTY?” in “ARSENIC AND OLD LACE” she is joyfully appearing as Abby, sister to Martha, played by terrific actor, Trudi Olivetti!

Greg Mancusi-Ungaro (Lighting Designer) has designed many productions at theatres all across the North Shore, including MLT, Arlington Friends of the Drama, Quannapowitt Players, the Salem Theatre Company, and the Mugford Street Players. His most recent credits include the 2022 MLT productions of: “Translations”, “The Sunshine Boys”, “Gypsy”, “Equivocation” and “The Great Gatsby.”

Aimee Oliver (Rev Dr Harper) has been active in theatre too many years to count. She graduated from the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, and has worked in stage, film and television. A past president of Marblehead Little Theatre, she has directed many productions around the North Shore. This is her first show in the Firehouse, and is thrilled to be here. Aimee lives in Wenham, MA with her family: Bliss, Dan, Logan, Spencer, Coco the cat and Winston the dog, who was thrilled to attend most of the rehearsals.

Trudi Olivetti (Martha Brewster) Trudi Olivetti (Martha) has been involved with MLT in various capacities since she moved from Virginia to Swampscott in 2011. Acting credits with MLT include First Witch “Macbeth”, Granny “Into the Woods”, and Violet “August, Osage County.” Other local performances include Ann Putnam “The Crucible” Salem Theater Company and Gert “The Porch” Quannapowitt Players. Trudi sings with Boston’s Chorus pro Musica and has appeared in the Christmas Revels, both in Washington, DC and in Cambridge. She has also enjoyed a number of non-performing opportunities, as producer, costumer and director - while living in the DC area and in Massachusetts. As always, she is grateful for the support of her husband Jim.

Dom Pappagallo (Jonathan Brewster) is thrilled to be back at MLT! He most recently appeared on the Marblehead stage in “Tuck Everlasting” as the Man in the Yellow Suit. Other past credits include “Shrek: The Musical” (Shrek) at Malden High School, “Urinetown” (Bobby Strong) at 2nd Stage Productions, “Spring Awakening” (Georg) at Theatre Company of Saugus, “RENT” (Ensemble) at Riverside Theatre Works, and most recently performed in “The Wedding Singer” (Robbie Hart) with Pentucket Players. Dom would like to thank his family, friends, Daria, the cast, crew and entire team at MLT!

David Scannell (Lieutenant Rooney) In his long career, David has played the King in “The King and I” six times, including three times professionally with the Reagle Players in Waltham, Massachusetts. Other roles include Bill Sykes in “Oliver!”, the Beast in “Beauty and the Beast” (Nominated for Best Actor in a Musical by EMACT), Dr. Lyman Hall in “1776”, Juror #6 in “12 Angry Men”, 14 characters in “It’s A Wonderful Life, the Radio Play”, and as singer/entertainer in revues “Jacques Brel Is Alive And Well” and “Living in Paris”, “Side By Side By Sondheim”, “Richard Rodgers, The Man and His Music”, “Irving Berlin Loves America”, “Gershwin/Porter: Who Could Ask For Anything More?”, “The World of Kander and Ebb”, and in 2 seasons of “Christmas Is” for Marblehead Little Theatre. With Colonial Chorus, David played Oliver Warbucks in “Annie”, Freddy Filmore in “It’s a Wonderful Life, the Radio Play”, and Nicely Johnson in “Guys & Dolls.” David played Daddy Warbucks in “Annie”, Nathan Detroit in “Guys & Dolls”, and shared the role of Thenardier in “Les Miserables” with Neverland Theater. David’s other credits include playing Judas in “Jesus Christ, Superstar” with Moonlight Productions, and John the Baptist/Judas in “Godspell” with the Peninsula Players of Nahant (Winner Best Ensemble, Best Production NETC, Winner Best Production New England Theater Conference, placed fourth in National Competition in Memphis, TN, Best East of the Mississippi). That ensemble led to the creation of the musical theater troupe, Crossroad Company for whom David was co-founder and first President. Crossroad Company performed revues at the Prince Restaurant in Saugus, MA 1979-1989.

Honorah Tinti (Director/Officer Klein) This is Honorah’s 2nd production with Marblehead Little Theater. She was recently seen singing and dancing in the Porter and Gershwin review this past summer. Her favorite past roles include: Eva Peron in “Evita”, Truvy in “Steele Magnolias”, and Peggy Sawyer in “42nd Street.” Honorah’s favorite past directing moments include: “Singing in the Rain”, “The Brothers Menaechmi” and “Beauty and the Beast.” She enjoys wearing multiple hats and can be found acting, directing, creating choreography, set design and lighting at local theaters and schools. She is currently working on her PhD in Education at Lesley University. She would like to thank her amazing production staff, especially David, her fabulous cast, her family and of course, Geno, for all the love, constant support and baby wrangling. Enjoy the show!

Lynn Turner (Properties) is a retired Public Health Nurse. I am honored to be working with such a wonderful cast and crew! My experience with MLT as Properties for “Equivocation” (DASH Nominee) and “Tuck Everlasting.” Previous experience with the Arts includes many years of being a backstage Dance Mom/Grandmom and backstage seamstress at Paulette’s Dance and Urban Nutcracker. So many feathers and sequins! Supported CAST tour in London(Anna Christie) with set painting. Set Nurse for PBS’s 1995 documentary “You Don’t Have to Ride Jim Crow”.

Steve Turner (Dr. Einstein) is excited to be playing Dr. Einstein 44 years after he was Officer Brophy in the Theatre Jacksonville (Florida) production in 1979. He’s previously appeared at MLT in “Equivocation,” “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime,” and “The Tempest.” Some other stage credits: “Anna Christie” (Tower Theatre, London); “The Birds” (Theatre at First); “The Unexpected Guest” (Stage 284); “Pygmalion” (Flat Earth Theatre).



Marblehead Little Theatre

12 School Street, Marblehead, MA 01945

www.MLTLive.org info@MLTLive.org

MLT's Premier Restaurant Partner



123 Pleasant Street. Marblehead

Special Thanks

The Board of Marblehead Little Theatre
The Production Staff of Arsenic and Old Lace

Geno Desaulniers

Bananas Clothing Store, Gloucester, Ma
The Tinti family

The Beacon Restaurant

Huntington Theatre Company for the use of Gus
University of Southern Maine

