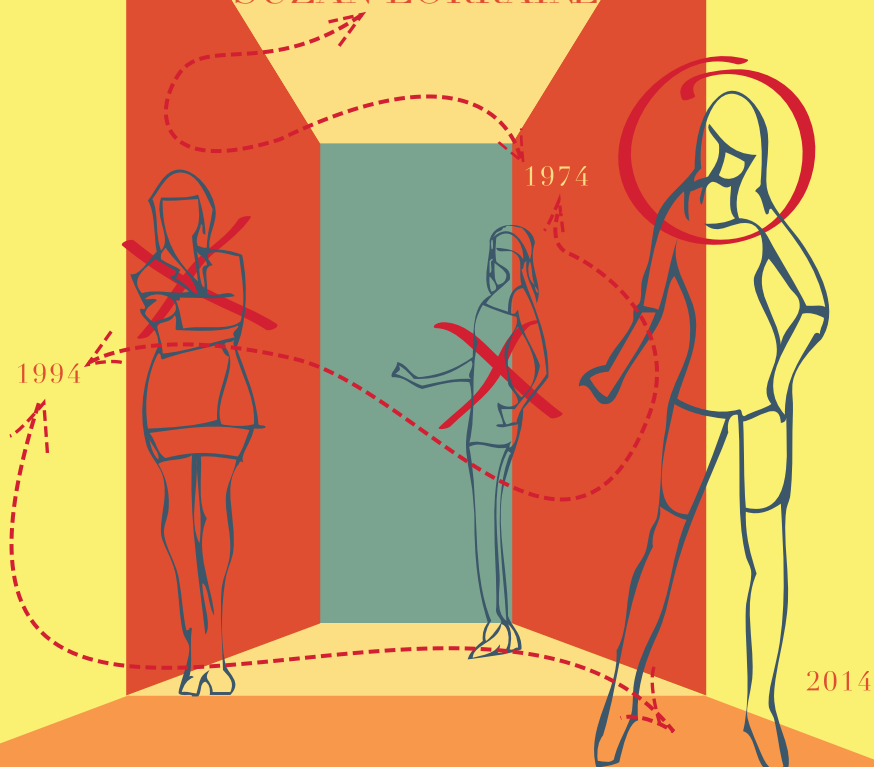


ACTORS 
ENSEMBLE OF
BERKELEY

COMMUNICATING DOORS COMMUNICATING DOORS COMMUNICATING DOORS

BY ALAN AYCKBOURN

directed by
SUZAN LORRAINE



LIVE OAK THEATER, BERKELEY

JULY 22 - AUGUST 20, 2011	\$15 GENERAL
8PM FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS	\$12 STUDENTS
2PM SUNDAY MATINEE 08/14	\$12 SENIORS

RESERVATIONS 510.649.5999 www.aeofberkeley.org

ABOUT ACTORS ENSEMBLE OF BERKELEY

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley has been around the block (and just around the corner from you) since 1957, making us the longest running stage company in Berkeley. In 1965, AE began performing at the Live Oak Theatre and has ever since.

Our mission is to enrich, entertain and improve our community through fascinating theatrical works. With social consciousness and an ensemble approach, we provide area residents with opportunities to attend, participate in and be helped through theatre. Our shows will be affordable, our opportunities enjoyable, and our community impact felt year-round.

As Berkeley's only true community theatre company, we depend on our volunteers to bring their energy and creative vision to each play we produce. If you would like to volunteer in our theatre, give us a call or send us an email!

Actors Ensemble of Berkeley, P.O. Box 663
Berkeley, California 94701
Info@AEOfBerkeley.Org

We'd love for you to play a part in our next show!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alan Barkan, Jeremy Cole, Robert Estes, Jose Garcia, Jonathan Gordon, Margaret Gudmundsson, Bob Gudmundsson, Martha Luehrmann, William Martinelli, Vicki Siegel, Jerome Solberg, Stanley Spenger, Kim Stewart

CHECK OUT WWW.AEOFBERKELEY.ORG AND
SUBSCRIBE TO OUR EMAIL LIST FOR

- SPECIAL EVENTS
- STAGED READINGS
- TWO FOR ONE NIGHTS
- AND MORE

A Note from the Director

Remember the story about the guy who went back in time, stepped on a butterfly, and found things changed for the worse when he returned to his own time? Alan Ayckbourn has taken that theme and written a wonderful mystery/SF/romantic thriller that will keep you on the edge of your seat! His characters get a chance to ‘step on the butterfly’ and make changes. And you get to decide if they are good or, well, odd. He rarely writes a “simple” play and, true to form, this one is filled with twists and humor and poignancy. I want to send out a huge Thank You to the cast and crew who have worked so diligently to give you a fabulous trip through time - sit back and enjoy!

Suzan Lorraine (Director) • Suzan Lorraine has directed all over the East Bay, at the Edinburgh, Scotland Fringe, the Marin Fringe, and on the radio. Currently she is Production Manager for The Masquers’ summer “camp” and Managing Director of Chanticleers Theatre in Castro Valley. She directed *Holiday* at AE in the 1990s and is delighted to return for *Communicating Doors*.

THANK YOU FOR THE HELP

- Jo Lusk and the members of Masquers of Point Richmond for assistance with costumes



- URBAN NORE for donation of bathroom fixtures



- The Claremont for the loaning of furniture and miscellaneous decorations
- Thanks especially to Lee and Bill for their help getting stuff out of the cave
- Thanks to Chanticleers for their help with furniture
- Jack's Antiques: Adeline at Ashby in Berkeley

Cast

CAROL REYES	•	RUELLA
CLAIRE STEVENSON	•	POOPAY
LEE VOGT	•	REECE
MARK HOLOBETZ	•	JULIAN
JENNIFER HUGHES	•	JESSICA
BILL CHESSMAN	•	HAROLD

Act I - 70 Minutes
Intermission is 10 Minutes
Act II - 60 Minutes

Crew

SUZAN LORRAINE	• DIRECTOR
DEBBI SANDMANN	• ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
KRISTA CARTER	• STAGE MANAGER
JULIANN HALVORSEN	• ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER
KIM STEWART	• PRODUCER
DIANNA SCHEPERS	• SET DESIGNER/PROPS
HELEN SLOMOWITZ	• COSTUMES
ALEX RUNDELL	• LIGHTING DESIGNER
MICHELLE CHESLEY	•
EMMY PIERCE	• LIGHT/SOUND OPERATION
JEFF TRESKOTT	
JONATHAN SANCHEZ	• SET CONSTRUCTION
HOWARD CHAU	
NAYLA EL-HABER	• ASSISTANT SET CONSTRUCTION
IVY FENG	
NATHAN LIE	
JEROME SOLBERG	• BOARD LIAISON/SET CONSTRUCTION

Allow Us to Introduce Ourselves

Krista Carter (Stage Manager) • This is Krista's debut performance as Stage Manager, but this is not her first rodeo with AE. Krista was backstage and behind the scenes for *Passion Play* and the *Winter's Tale*. She would like to thank Jerome and everyone else at AE for bringing theatre back into her life.

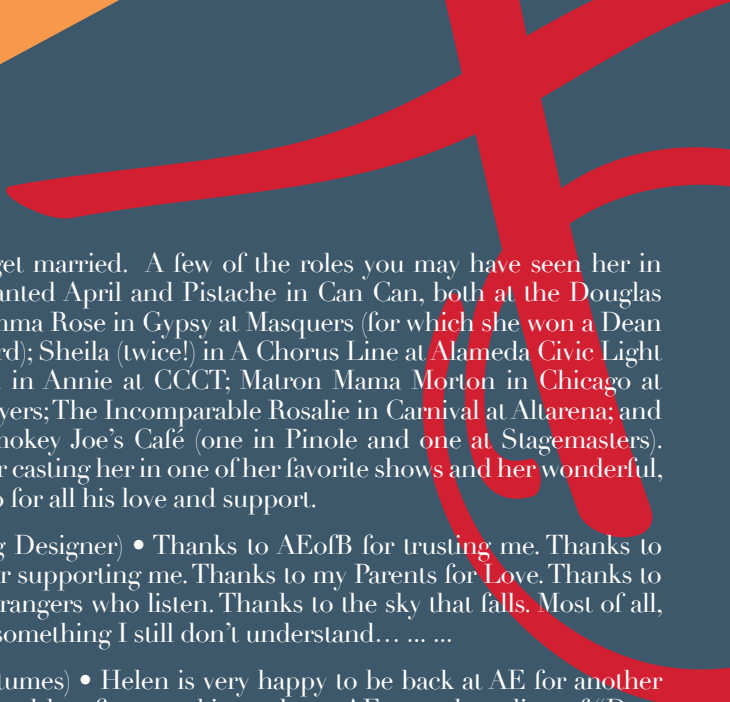
Michelle Chelsey (Light/Sound Operation) • Michelle Chesley is about to start her first year at Harvey Mudd College, where she plans to major in Math, Physics, or Computer Science, and to minor in Theatre Design. She enjoys reading, ice skating, and solving Rubik's cubes.

Bill Chessman (Harold Palmer) • Bill is almost as tall as he appears on stage. He took up acting in 1990 upon his arrival in California and since that time, has appeared at Actors Ensemble twice--in *A Chorus of Disapproval* (also by Alan Ayckbourn) and in *Holiday*, both back in the 1990s. He has also appeared on both sides of the San Francisco Bay, both sides of the continent and both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. When not acting, he writes plays for stage and radio. Some of his works have been performed in the Bay Area; Belleville, Illinois; Baltimore and Edinburgh, Scotland. His very short play, *The Compliment*, will be appearing in the Half Pint Play Festival in San Francisco in August and his radio play, *He's Mad, I Tell You* will be performed by the Shoestring Radio Theater of San Francisco and broadcast on KUSF (<http://www.kusf.com/>), the Public Radio Satellite Service and the Broadcast Services for the Blind in August. He recently directed his short play, *Convention of Spies* for the 2011 Marin Fringe Festival. When not doing all this creative theater work, Bill plays guitar, plays with cats, plays with fire, and, to make a living, plays at computer programming. He'd also like to thank his wife (the lovely and talented Suzan Lorraine who directed this show) for her support of his endeavors and guitar buying.

Juliann Halvorsen (Assistant Stage Manager) • Juliann is happy to return to Actor's Ensemble theater after a respite since being stage manager for "*The Winter's Tale*" She is grateful to always work with such great people and looks forward to further her experience and many more opportunities to add some crazy to this wonderful theater.

Jennifer Hughes (Jessica) • Jennifer is excited to be performing for the first time with Actor's Ensemble of Berkeley a huge thank you to Suzan for this opportunity. She most recently choreographed and starred in *The Fabulous Follies* for The Vagabond Players. Some of her favorite roles include Ruth in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, Mavis Turner in *Stepping Out*, Bo in *Criminal Hearts*, and Margery Pinchwife in *The Country Wife*. Jennifer would like to dedicate this role to her fiancé, Drew, for all of his love and support.

Carol Reyes (Ruella) • This is Carol's first show with Actor's Ensemble. She is very happy to trod the boards again after taking a couple of years off to earn her



paralegal degree and get married. A few of the roles you may have seen her in include Rose in Enchanted April and Pistache in Can Can, both at the Douglas Morrison Theatre; Momma Rose in Gypsy at Masquers (for which she won a Dean Goodman Choice Award); Sheila (twice!) in A Chorus Line at Alameda Civic Light Opera; Miss Hannigan in Annie at CCCT; Matron Mama Morton in Chicago at Pinole Community Players; The Incomparable Rosalie in Carnival at Altarena; and two productions of Smokey Joe's Café (one in Pinole and one at Stagemasters). Her thanks to Suzan for casting her in one of her favorite shows and her wonderful, talented husband, Julio for all his love and support.

Alex Rundell (Lighting Designer) • Thanks to AEofB for trusting me. Thanks to my Sister and Frank for supporting me. Thanks to my Parents for Love. Thanks to Brian. Thanks to the strangers who listen. Thanks to the sky that falls. Most of all, thanks to Priscilla, for something I still don't understand... ..

Helen Slomowitz (Costumes) • Helen is very happy to be back at AE for another great adventure - she had her first speaking role an AE staged reading of "Dear Liar" this past February. She has designed costumes for many years now in both the Bay Area and L.A. for film & theatre. She'd like to thank each & everyone of the cast and crew for being so fabulous and a special thanks to Suzan for being such a marvelous Director.

Claire Stevenson (Poopay/Phoebe) • This is Claire's first time working with the Actor's Ensemble of Berkeley and it's been a real pleasure as she continues to experience different theatre groups in the Bay Area. She was last seen on stage performing at Pittsburg Community Theatre as Mrs. Barbara Smith in Run For Your Wife. Before that she grew up on stage at the outdoor ampitheatre of Orinda Starlight Village Players, most recently as Joan in Ayckbourn's Time & Time Again, and Julia in Christie's A Murder Is Announced. Favorites from her 20+ year run with OrSVP are Kitty in Ayckbourn's Taking Steps, and Susan Hollander in Woody Allen's Don't Drink The Water! Claire is grateful to her family for watching her rambunctious toddler during rehearsals and performances, and for this wonderful opportunity to be working again with director Suzan Lorraine and fellow thespian sweetheart Mark Holobetz.

Lee Vogt (Reece) • This is Lee's fourth time to act on the Live Oak stage in 34 years, starting with The Shewing Up of Blanco Posnet by George Bernard Shaw. The last time was as Creon in Anouilh's Antigone for the Actors Ensemble. He was recently seen as the Reverend Danforth in The Crucible by Arthur Miller at Broadway West in Fremont. He is currently working on a staged rendition of Ekelof's City Bells.

Mark Holobetz (Julian) • This is Mark's first time appearing at Actors Ensemble. He is a resident of Orinda and has played various roles with the Orinda Starlight Village Players. This is his third appearance with Claire Stevenson in an Ayckbourn play, having played Tristram in Taking Steps, and Leonard in Time and Time Again. Other roles include Clive in See How They Run, and Bobby in Run for Your Wife. Mark is thrilled to be involved in local theatre.

ACTORS ENSEMBLE OF BERKELEY'S 2011 SEASON

Celebrating our 54th year!
still the longest-running theatre organization in Berkeley


George Bernard Shaw's
Heartbreak House
directed by Robert Estes
January 21 to February 19


Sarah Ruhl's
Passion Play
directed by Jon Lowe
April 22 to May 21

Alan Ayckbourn's
Communicating Doors
directed by Suzan Lorraine
July 22 to August 20

John Patrick Shanley's
Doubt: a Parable
directed by Donna Davis
October 21 to November 19

Check out our staged reading of 'Fortinbras' - the story of what
happened after 'Hamlet' - directed by Anna Anderson
One night only - Tuesday, August 17th, 8PM
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www.AEofBerkeley.Org

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Program design by Jamie
muskandmintdesigns@gmail.com

