



A HOT DAY

IN

EPHEUS

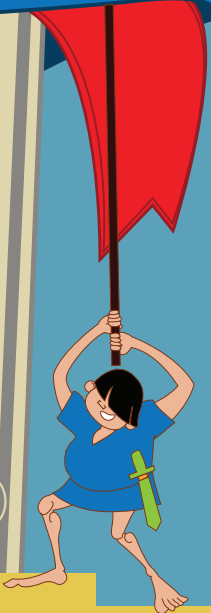
an **Æ** Musical

Book, Music & Lyrics by
Vicki Siegel

Directed by Bruce Coughran

April 20 through May 19
Live Oak Theater, Berkeley

Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 PM
Sunday May 13th at 2:00 PM





DIRECTORS NOTES

Two sets of twin boys, born on the same day, one set servants to the other; this setup starts Shakespeare's classic comedy of mistaken identities, *A Comedy of Errors*. But Shakespeare borrowed the plot (as he did for almost all of his plays) from another play, this one by the Roman playwright Plautus. In Shakespeare's version, the two sets of twins (who share the same names) are separated by a shipwreck when they are infants, and unknowingly end up in the same city (Ephesus). The visiting twins are from Syracuse, and they discover that Syracuse and Ephesus are on the brink of war and decide to 'fit in' and pretend to be Ephesian, not knowing that everyone there will confuse them with the actual Ephesian twins. Playwright Vicki Siegel adapted Shakespeare's tale and brought it up to date, adding music and dance to celebrate the comedy of life, as well as celebrating Shakespeare's beloved play.

When I read Vicki's musical adaptation of the play, it brought a smile to my face and warmth to my heart. I was thrilled when she asked me to direct the production of the play at Actors Ensemble of Berkeley. A workshop production had been done on the outdoor stage at the Curtain Theatre in Marin County in 2009, and now Actors Ensemble wanted to mount a full production; adding fully choreographed dances, full theater lighting, and expanding some music. Some of the set pieces (beautifully painted by Marin County artist Steve Coleman) were available, as were members of the original band, lead by Don Clark (and including Michele Delattre, Artistic Director of the Curtain.)

We started to work on the play, and just like working with the original Shakespeare, there were hidden gems inside. Certain little moments became deeper when looked at closely and worked in rehearsal. Music director Evan Alparone and choreographer Laura Wesslund came on and masterfully filled out the play with additional dance numbers and vocal harmonies. The cast came together and enthusiastically committed themselves to filling out Vicki's vision, transforming themselves into a wonderfully bonded ensemble. They embraced the material and made it their own. I have to say it was an honor and privilege working with all of them. Any magic you see on the stage tonight is because of the commitment of Evan, Laura, and this wonderful cast.

Thanks to Vicki for giving me this play full of joy and wisdom to direct, and thanks to Actors Ensemble for the resources to bring it to a full life (including the Live Oak Theater: home to Actors Ensemble of Berkeley for over 40 years!). I hope you relax, settle in, and enjoy your time in Ephesus!

Bruce Coughran, April, 2012

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING

| | | | |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Maria Graham | Kim Saunders | Chris Houston | Ann O'Connell |
| Justin Scott | Lennon Smith | Eddie Siegel | Kevin Keul |
| Tania Johnson | Dave Sikula | Debbie Messersmith | Pat and Eugene and the rest of the staff at Live Oak |
| Eryn Allen | George Mauro | Noll & Tam Architects | Recreation Center |
| Ellen Brooks | Barbara Bernardo | Adam Silva | |
| Robert Estes | Dave Moschler | Stanley Spenger | |

CAST

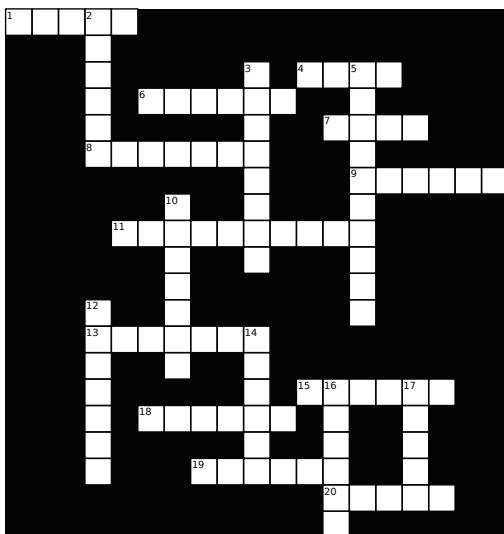
Alexandra Holtzman Adriana
 Asali Echols Merchant
 Bryan Quinn Dromio S.
 Carina Salazar Courtesan
 Don Hardwick Aegeon
 Elmer Strasser Antipholus E.
 Garrett Wilson Officer
 Jai Sahai Antipholus S.
 Jamie Harkin Luciana
 Jennie Brick Abbess/Merchant
 Jody Christian Merchant
 Jonathan Trinh Dromio E.
 Meira Perelstein Goldsmith
 Peggy De Coursey Merchant
 Stefin Collins Duke

CREATIVE AND DESIGN CREW

Director Bruce Coughran
 Producer Jerome Solberg
 Choreographer Laura Wesslund
 Music Director Evan Alparone
 Band Leader Don Clark
 Band Michele Delattre, Hal Hughes,
 Alice Montgomery
 Rehearsal
 Stage Manager Wayne Roadie
 Production
 Stage Manager Emily Buysee
 Dramaturg Carolyn Day
 Graphics/Lobby Display ... HumanFiction
 Costumes Helen Slomowitz
 Props Shifra Pride Raffel
 Lighting Designer Chelsea Camp
 Set Design Lili Smith
 Set Artist Steve Coleman
 Master Electrician Alecks Rundell
 Set Construction ... Bob Gudmundsson

A **BIG THANK** you to The Curtain Theatre, who originated the show and put on the workshop production in 2009

A HOT DAY IN EPHEBUS CROSSWORD



ACROSS

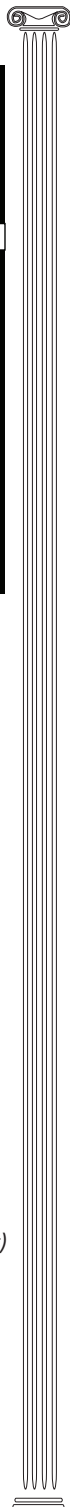
- 1 Drop of _____
- 4 This Shakespeare character interrupts the play
- 4 Father of the Antipholi
- 7 Shakespeare's nickname
- 8 The legendary founders of Ephesus
- 9 The modern country where Ephesus is located
- 11 Where Antipholus E likes to hang out
- 13 Antipholus S loves her
- 15 She has snake hair
- 18 Syracuse's island

- 19 The twin servants share this name
- 20 Like _____ I am fortune's fool

DOWN

- 2 The Abbess's name
- 3 Superman's girl
- 5 It's made at the monastery in Vauvert
- 10 The main deity of Ephesus
- 12 Shakespeare stole the plot from this Roman
- 14 This Greek god has an oracle at Delphi
- 16 The Comedy of _____
- 17 All the world's a _____

(answers at the end of the bios)





MUSICAL NUMBERS

(All Music and Lyrics by Vicki Siegel except as noted)

ACT I

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Ticket Bearers | Company |
| Aegeon's Lament | Aegeon, Merchants of Ephesus |
| I Wouldn't Stay in Ephesus | Merchants |
| Can You Blame Me | Adriana, Luciana |
| Fit In | Antipholus of Syracuse, Dromio of Syracuse |
| Can You Blame Me (reprise) | Antipholus of Ephesus |
| Drop of Water | Antipholus of Syracuse |
| Husband's Duty | Antipholus of Syracuse, Luciana |
| Don't Want To Fit In | Antipholus of Syracuse, Dromio of Syracuse |
| A Woman Needs a Husband | Luciana |
| Small Cheer | Duke, Merchant, Goldsmith, Antipholus of Ephesus, Merchants of Ephesus |

ACT II

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Courtesan Song (Chain) | Courtesan, Courtesanettes |
| Tango (You Don't Care About Me) | Adriana, Antipholus of Ephesus |
| Recap Rap (Somebody's Dream)* | Antipholus of Syracuse, Dromio of Syracuse, Antipholus of Ephesus, Dromio of Ephesus |
| Abbess' Song (Forgive)** | Abbess |
| Possessed | Company |
| Thee Will I Love | Antipholus of Syracuse, Luciana, Antipholus of Ephesus, Adriana |
| Stay in Ephesus | Company |
| Ticket Bearers Reprise | Company |

*Music and Lyrics by Cameron Clark, Brian Hansen and Vicki Siegel

** Music by Don Clark, Lyrics by Vicki Siegel

EPHESUS FUN FACTS!

1. Amazons, the legendary women warriors of Greek mythology, are said to be the founders of Ephesus
2. Ephesus is home to one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World – the Temple of Artemis
3. The excavations of the main brothel in Ephesus produced a baked clay figurine of the Statue of Bes, which became the phallic symbol of Ephesus.
4. One of the most noted and best preserved places in Ephesus is the Grand Theater
5. Ephesus changed hands several times before being abandoned when the harbor silted up. One of Ephesus's more famous rulers is Alexander the Great.

CAST AND CREW

EVAN ALPARONE (Musical Director) is a freelance accompanist, teacher, and conductor. He received his BA in Musical Theater from the UCLA in 2006 and has worked on musicals in a variety of capacities including music directing, vocal directing, and accompanying. Recently Evan has worked on *The Music Man* at the Utah Shakespeare Festival and *The Little Shop of Horrors* at Boxcar Theater and he is currently the piano/conductor for *Anything Goes* at the Willows Theater.

JENNIE BRICK'S (Abbess/Merchant) marks her debut with AE's *A Hot Day in Ephesus* and her second production in the Bay Area after a 17 year hiatus from the stage. Recent roles include Mama in *'night, Mother* and Vernadette in *Dixie Swim Club*. Love and thanks to her husband Brian. www.jennybrick.com

EMILY BUYSEE (Stage Manager) is new to the theater scene in the Bay Area and excited to be a part of AE. As a transplant from Michigan where she grew up on the stage, Emily is happy to join this talented and enthusiastic cast and crew.

CHELSEA CAMP (Lighting Designer) recently received her Master's degree in Applied Theatre (Drama Education) from Central School of Speech and Drama in London England. While in London she stage-managed the World Premiere of *Mad Women in Attics* with Bare Faced Theatre Company. She recently stage managed for Yorba Linda Spotlight Theatre (Orange County, CA) and *Arcadia* for AE.

DON CLARK (Band Leader) has led music for more than a decade at the Curtain Theatre in Mill Valley, the first to attempt *A Hot Day in Ephesus*. He helped write out Victoria Siegel's fine tunes, and penned the Abbess song melody. He collaborates musically with Michele Delattre, his spouse and band mate

BRUCE COUGHRAN (Director) was last at AE directing *Antigone*. He likes to work on new plays, and is excited to be directing his first musical! In the Bay Area he has directed premieres at Novato Theatre Company and West Valley College as well as numerous staged readings. He has been an assistant director at ACT, The Old Globe in San Diego, Kirk Douglas Theatre, and La Jolla Playhouse.

JODY CHRISTIAN (Merchant) is happy to be participating in her third AE production. She most recently portrayed Hannah Jarvis in AE's popular *Arcadia*. She has worked at CalShakes and SubShakes, where she first met Bruce and Vicki while acting in the staged readings series of the Canon. Her background is in dance, sketch comedy, and Shakespeare.

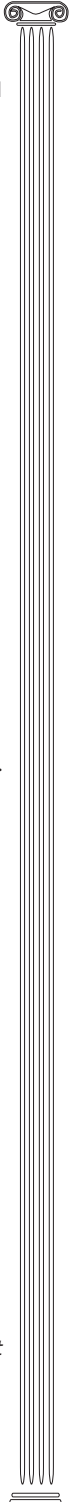
STEVE COLEMAN (Scenic Painter) has been the set designer for the Curtain Theatre and on staff at 142 Throckmorton in Mill Valley for many years in addition to designer for shows for Actors Theater of SF, Marin Theater Company and Lamplighters. He has received awards including Bay Area Critics Circle and Dramalogue Awards for his work in San Francisco and Marin.


STEFIN COLLINS (Duke) happily makes his AE debut, thanks to Bruce. Stefin's worked with BoxCar, Multi-Ethnic, Thunderbirds, & CMTC. Some favorite roles: Praxis, the owl in *Maidrid's Bow*, Otto in *The Food Chain*, & Beelzebub in *Goebbels! One Night Only! Live from Hell!*. He's ASL fluent; and a member of TBA & CMTC. AJ, -ILYE. www.stefincollins.com

CAROLYN DAY (Dramaturg) previously worked with AE on *Arcadia*. She is an avid Shakespeare lover and has a BA in English Literature from UC Davis. Her hobbies include photography and crossword puzzles.

PEGGY DE COURSEY (Merchant) is delighted to return to the AE stage where she appeared in *As It Is in Heaven* and *Present Laughter*. Currently, she is a member of the Nguyen Dance Company, performing in venues throughout the Bay Area and Vietnam. Peggy dedicates this performance to her twin heartbeats, Larry and Danny Boy.

MICHELE DELATTRE (Band Member) played the Abbess in the Curtain Theatre's first staging of *A Hot Day in Ephesus* and is delighted to see it come to life now with such a talented group of musical actors. She also has old roots in AE where she played Hesione in *Heartbreak House* and Cecily in *Travesties*.





ASALI ECHOLS (Merchant) recently graduated from Cal where she was involved in the film and theatre departments. She's happy to be living and working in Oakland and enjoying all the Bay has to offer. When she's not peddling her wares in Ephesus, you can find her playing the fiddle, cooking spontaneous concoctions, and hiking in Tilden Park.

DON HARDWICK (Aegeon) is back at AE after debuting in the staged reading of *Henry IV*. He was recently seen at Berkeley Playhouse as FDR/Bundles/Others in *Annie* and as Yertle/Grinch/Lion-Tamer in the award-winning *Seussical*. He has served as producer, director, vocal director and stage manager and is a concert soloist.

JAMIE HARKIN (Luciana) is fairly new to the Bay Area. She graduated from college last summer, majoring in theater at the University of Tennessee of Chattanooga. She now attends a conservatory for physical theater called Flying Actors Studio. She's so happy to be here and hopes you enjoy the show

ALEXANDRA HOLTZMAN (Adriana) is very excited to be a part of her first show with the AE. Alexandra graduated with a BFA in Acting from the USC, where she was involved in many productions. Various credits include *Octomom the Musical*, *Our Country's Good* and *Mad Forest*.

HAL HUGHES (Band Member) joined Curtain Theatre for *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and has done music and theater for decades with Overtone Theater, Nightletter Theater, Subterranean Shakespeare (often with Bruce Coughran) and others. Last year he toured northern California performing short works by Samuel Beckett with Jack Halton and George Killingsworth.

MEIRA PERELSTEIN (Goldsmith) is pleased to be rejoining AE. She has studied Theater Arts at CSU Long Beach. This has been a good cover for her work as a Nigerian spy and Ninja Assassin. She is onstage for the entire show but is only seen when she chooses to reveal herself. She is actually sitting right next to you now.

BRYAN QUINN (Dromio S.) has not written a bio and so is depending on nearly complete strangers to sum up his life story in a few pithy comments.

SHIFRA PRIDE RAFFEL (Props Manager) played Lady Croom in *Arcadia*. She is a software programmer who always likes to go around thanking her darling husband.

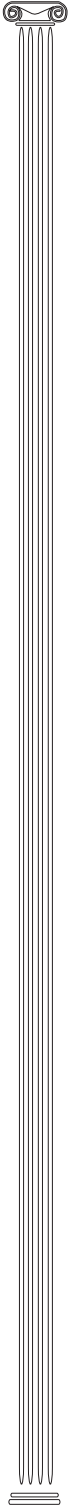
WAYNE ROADIE (Rehearsal Stage Manager) has successfully stage managed such shows as *The Full Monty*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and most recently, *Cabaret*. Wayne is honored to have been a part of this journey with the wonderfully talented cast as well as the entire *Ephesus* team.
www.wayneroadie.com

ALECKS RUNDELL (Master Electrician) is happy to be working with the talented lighting designer Chelsea. He is grateful to AE for supporting fabulous live art, especially *Journey of Light*, a *Glo-Opera*, coming to the SF Fringe Festival. Please support AE for their contributions to community art. And love to Priscilla.

JAI SAHAI (Antipholus S.) is honored to be part of this wonderful cast and crew. Sahai is a member of Impact Theatre and the Berkeley Rep Improv Lab. He has a BA in Theatre from Pomona College, an MA in Theatre from UCLA and can be seen in the web-series *Armageddon Inc*.

CARINA LASTIMOSA SALAZAR (Courtesan) is very excited to be partaking in this new work and has enjoyed working with such a wonderfully funny cast. Previous credits include: *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* (Role Players Ensemble), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Arclight Repertory) and *All That... & a Box of Donuts* (Arclight Repertory). She is currently a performer/educator for Kaiser Permanente's Educational Theater Programs.

VICKI SIEGEL (author) is thrilled and gratified to have such a talented cast and wonderful musicians, crew and production support for *Hot Day in Ephesus*. She is working on another musical or two for production in the distant future. Meanwhile she has been acting with Curtain Theatre, having done the rollicking role of Mistress Quickly in *Merry Wives of Windsor* last season and Miss Prism in the 16th St. Players' *Importance of Being Earnest*. Look for the Curtain production of *Much Ado About Nothing* this summer. www.curtaintheatre.org



HELEN SLOMOWITZ (Costume) is thrilled to be a part of another fun production with AE. She has costume designed many a show thru-out the years here at AE and the Bay Area. Helen has costumed for film and TV in the Bay Area and LA, Big thanks and appreciation to Maria Graham, Vicki, Bruce, Wayne and the whole cast for their incredible help, ideas and amazing creativity.

LILI SMITH (Set Coordinator) has enjoyed working in the theater over the past 5 year for various projects including the set design for Berkeley Opera's *L'Elisir D'Amore*, and lobby designs for Shotgun Players on *Bulrusher* and *The Cryptogram*. As an artist and theater enthusiast, she is interested in transforming the viewer's mood, thought process and frame of mind in order to be completely immersed in the performance. She is excited and honored to be working on the production of *A Hot Day In Ephesus*.

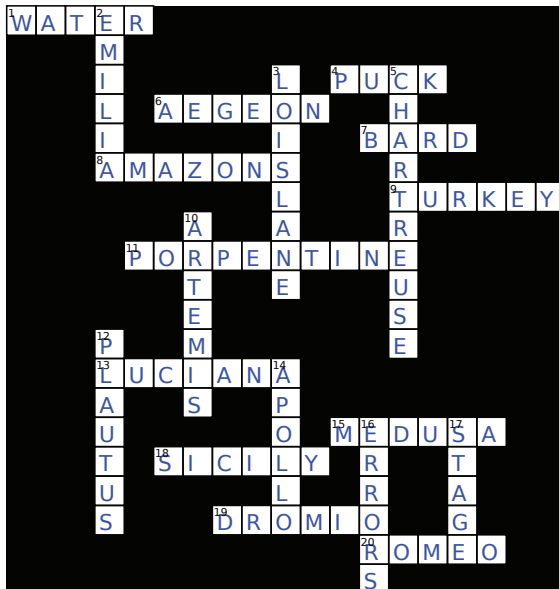
ELMER STRASSER (Antipholus E.) sees his first show with AE as a great opportunity to bring to life a local playwright's work. His last show, *Blame O'Malley Twice*, produced in SF by Virago Theater, was a world premiere also written by a local playwright. He looks forward to more of such opportunities and thanks his family for giving him the freedom to do so.

JONATHAN TRINH (Dromio E.) is proud to work with AE for the first time! As a second year undergrad student at UC Berkeley, he studies Theater and Political Economy. After taking a semester hiatus from performing, he is ecstatic to be welcomed back to the stage.

LAURA WESSLUND (Choreography) holds a BA in Theatre from Northwestern University and recently moved to the Bay Area. In Chicago, Laura was a member of Be the Groove, a rhythmic performance ensemble, as well as a choreographer, director, performer, and teaching artist with several arts organizations. Choreography credits include: *The Wiz* (Dominican University), *Rocky Horror Picture Show* (Ludicrous Theatre), and *Main Street Kids' Club* (Theatrebam Chicago). She currently teaches dance and music theatre at Next Step Dance Studio in Danville, and Performing Arts Academy of Marin in Mill Valley.

GARRET WILSON (Officer) has been on the stage for 20 years, ever since he was 5 years old and learned one could make a career out of pretending to be someone else. He has enjoyed roles in plays such as *Pirates of Penzance*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and Neil Simon's *Fools*. He will continue to pursue his destiny as a world renowned thespian.

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD



Look for the final two shows of our 2012 Season:

July 20 to August 18, 2012

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NOISES OFF, by Michael Frayn, directed by Colin Johnson

October 19 to November 17, 2012

The original villain you love to hate or hate to love
RICHARD III, by William Shakespeare, directed by Sharon Robinson

STAGED READINGS (\$5-\$10 sliding scale) 8 pm

May 1st *Comedy of Errors* by Shakespeare, dir. by Eileen Tull

May 8th *Talley's Folly* by Wilson, dir. by Matthew Surrence

May 15th *Pseudolus* by Plautus, ada. and dir. by Anna Andersen

IMPROV AT AE (\$5-\$10 sliding scale) 7pm, May 6th

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