

**LEX-HAM COMMUNITY THEATER  
PRESENTS**

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**A CLASSIC MELODRAMA!**

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**THE IRON PILLOW - IMMINENT PERIL**

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**WITH NEW SCENERY & LIGHTING**

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*Will the heroine be rescued at the end?*

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**WARNING - NOT FOR THE WEAK OF HEART**

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**Under THE Gaslight**

**BY AUGUSTIN DALY**

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**7:30 p.m., November 2, 4, 8, & 9**

**3:00 p.m., November 3 & 10, 2001**

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**HIGHER GROUND ACADEMY  
1381 MARSHALL AVENUE, SAINT PAUL**

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**651-644-3366 - [www.lexham.org/theater](http://www.lexham.org/theater)**

# Under the Gaslight

by  
Augustin Daly

## Act I

Scene 1 - Parlor of the Courtlands  
Scene 2 - The gentlemen's coatroom at Delmonico's Restaurant  
Scene 3 - The Blue Room at Delmonico's

## Act II

Scene 1 - Interior of Laura's apartment

10 minute intermission

## Act III

Scene 1 - The Tombs Police Court  
Scene 2 - Exterior of the Tombs  
Scene 3 - Foot of Pier 30, North River

## Act IV

Scene 1 - Long Branch  
Scene 2 - Woods near Shrewsbury Station  
Scene 3 - Railroad station at Shrewsbury Bend

## Act V

Scene 1 - Pearl's boudoir at Courtland's cottage

## Production Staff

Director - Tom Johnson  
Music Director - Mari Lynn Ampe  
Stage Manager - Lisa LeGrand  
Set Construction - Jeff Dahlin, Tom Egeberg, LuAnne Fogelson, Jon Stierwald  
Costumes - Debra Beilke, Kevin Gereghty, Kurt Hunsicker  
Props - Pat Armstrong, Christine DeZelar-Tiedman  
Lighting - Heather Christianson, Terry Gibson, Jim Penson, Jack Rose  
Stage Crew - Bruce Abbott, Nora Abbott  
Business Relations - Lori Stone  
Lila Taft - Photography

“The good ended happily, and the bad unhappily. That is what fiction means.”  
*The Importance of Being Earnest*, Oscar Wilde

## Cast in order of appearance

Mrs. Van Dam.....	Ann Frances Gregg
Pearl Courtland .....	Jaimi Paige
Edward Demilt.....	Craig Anderson
Ray Trafford.....	Frederick Jay
Laura Courtland .....	Mary Karcz Haley
Martin.....	Mark Noel
Snorkey .....	Tim Haley
Byke .....	Frank Blomgren
Windel.....	Jeff Dahlin
Sam .....	Urban Landreman
Sue Earlie.....	Christine DeZelar-Tiedman
Lizzie Liston .....	Jeanne Genovese
Peachblossom.....	Mary Langfield
Old Judas.....	Jennifer Schulz
Bermudas .....	Jeremiah Scanlon
Peanuts .....	Amber Crosby
Judge Bowling .....	Bruce Abbott
Officer Smithers.....	Urban Landreman
Peter Rich.....	Zak Forde
Signalman .....	Mark Noel

- Olios -  
Craig Anderson  
Jeanne Genovese

**Daly, Augustin,**

1838-99, American theatrical manager and dramatist, b. Plymouth, N.C. After 1859 he was drama critic for several New York City newspapers and adapted many plays from French and German. In 1867 he made his debut as manager with his melodrama *Under the Gaslight*, and in 1869 he opened his first theater. At his famous Daly's Theatre on Broadway he presented noted productions of Shakespearean comedies. He was praised for his meticulous concern with details and hated for what his critics saw as his paternalistic handling of his company.

Source: encyclopedia.com

**Craig Anderson** (Edward Demilt) is in his fifth show with Lex-Ham, having also appeared in *George Washington Slept Here*, *Bullets and Beauties*, *Chinamen*, and *The Vegetable*. Craig has also worked with Theater in the Round, the Urban Spectrum and the Corcoran Park Players. He takes great pleasure in singing and snooting for Lex-Ham's first melodrama.

**Bruce Abbott** (Judge Bowling) has just recently wandered through the fourth wall from the audience. His first acting experience was with the Hillcrest Community Theater in Summer 2001, where he played Maude the bartender in *Bye Bye Birdie*.

**Frank Blomgren** (Byke) delivers mail in lovely St. Anthony Park. Frank is the father of a wonderful daughter who is a budding actor. He also is known as a bit of a loose cannon and plays a mean game of 500.

**Amber Crosby** (Peanuts) Although the gender of Amber's character is unclear in the performance there's no need to fret, we don't have it determined either. We do know this is her first appearance in a Lex-Ham Community Theater show though. She also resides in Maplewood and attends Century College.

**Jeff Dahlin** (Windel) is a man of many accents - Arabic, drunken slur, British, and now snobbishness. By day, Jeff binds books, at night he works on his beautiful home in St. Anthony Park. Current project: the dining room.

**Christine DeZelar-Tiedman** (Sue Earlie) was recently seen as Doris in Lex-Ham's summer production of *The Vegetable*. She has participated both onstage and backstage for a number of community theatres in Minnesota, Idaho, and Washington. Favorite past roles include Eliza in *Pygmalion*, Ismene in *Antigone*, and Brigitta in *The Sound of Music*.

*"I hate mourning, though it does become me, and I hate everything but fun, larks, and dancing."*

*- Pearl*

**Zak Forde** (Peter Rich) is performing in his fourth Lex-Ham

show. Zak was in *The Vegetable* last summer and has taken acting classes at Stepping Stone Theater and Explore School. He is in the sixth grade at Jackson Elementary.

**Jeanne Genovese** (Lizzie Liston) resides in St. Paul with her husband, Jason, and children, Mariah and Grant. Jeanne is appearing in her second Lex-Ham production. This time, though, she is expanding her horizons and is actually in a role of the actual play. She sings. Next production, will she speak?

**Ann Frances Gregg** (Mrs. Van Dam) has always loved gossip and believes solely in the higher being called Society. Thanks to her first Lex-Ham production, Ann may pay homage to each. In her spare time, Ann is a new drama teacher at Cretin-Derham Hall. Many hugs to all of her amazing new friends and bisous-bisous to Daniel G., Maura, and Pierrot - bien sûr!

**Mary Karcz Haley** (Laura Courtland), while a newcomer to the Lex-Ham Theater, is no stranger to the stage. Mary's past roles range from the three headed watch dog of Hades to a man obsessed with the MTC. Laura Courtland marks the first role to come close to Mary's actual species, gender, and age!

**Tim Haley** (Snorkey) is appearing in his first performance with the Lex-Ham Community Theater. Tim has been an inspiration to many since his tragic accident. His goal is to one day play Maurice Ravel's Piano Concerto for the Left Hand in D Major.

**Frederick Jay** (Ray Trafford) (AKA: "Rico") is a recent graduate of Hamline University, where he majored in Theatre and Spanish. His Hamline stage credits include *The Misanthrope*, *The Dining Room*, *It's Out Town Too*, and *The Comedy of Errors*. In 2000, his translation of Susana Torres Molina's one-act play *Extraño juguete* (Strange Toy) was featured in Hamline University's One Act Play festival. *Under The Gaslight* is his first show with the Lex-Ham Theatre.

*"It is you who must answer—and Society that will question"*  
*- Mrs. Van Dam*

## Nurture vs Nature

Scientists have long debated what is the dominant force that determines how a person behaves - the genetic make up that a person is born with or the social environment in which a person grows up.

This argument was alive in the mid-1800s when Daly wrote *Under the Gaslight*. Cesare Lombroso was an Italian physician, psychiatrist and pioneer criminologist, who caused a sensation with the publication in 1876 of his book *L'uomo delinquente...* (Criminal Man). In this work, Lombroso employed biological bases to account for criminal behaviour.

Measuring the heads of living and executed criminals against the skulls of apes, prehistoric humans and what he and his contemporaries saw as 'primitive' peoples, Lombroso concluded that criminals were in fact victims of atavism, or a return to a more primitive state of human beings.

**Tom Johnson** (Director) was a long-time member of Punchinello Players. He directed several productions for Punchinello, including *The Time of Your Life*, *The Playboy of the Western World*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Stevie*, and the North American premiere of Isak Dinesen's *The Revenge of Truth*.

*"He will question—he will ponder—leave him nothing to ask."*

- Laura

He was part of the production team which took Lakeshore Players' *The Love Course* to an international theatre festival in To-

yama, Japan. Tom has also adapted and directed chamber theatre productions of short stories by Edith Wharton and William Trevor. Special thanks to Molly and to those who didn't quit.

**Urban Landreman** (Sam, Officer Smithers) has been involved, in one way or another, with all the Lex-Ham productions since 1996. Being Officer Smithers in this production and having been Judge Fossile in last summer's *The Vegetable*, Urban is starting to feel that he should make a career change into the criminal justice system given all of his experience. Until then, he'll continue working with data, surveys, and websites for the Hennepin County Community Health department as his paid job.

**Mary Langfield** (Peachblossom) is in her first show outside of academic life—hopefully not the last. Mary hopes to be involved in theater until she grows too old and decrepit to hobble across the stage on her own

**Mark Noel** (Martin, Signalman) performed, years ago as a teenager, with Dudley Riggs, Theater in the Round, and The Old Log. Since then, Mark has entertained audiences as a ventriloquist when not writing radio spot, website, and print ad copy for the likes of Heartland America, Northern Tool and Best Buy. He also plays fiddle for his grandkids and other Vasa Junior Swedish Folk Dancers.

## Vocabulary Guide

Billet-doux - a short note, usually a love note

Hob - a shelf on the inside of a fireplace to keep things warm

Mill - a fist fight

Peach - to inform on someone

Swag - Goods obtained by illicit means

**Jaimi Paige** (Pearl Courtland) is a small-town girl, new to the city. She enjoys walks on the beach, making snow angels, and star-gazing. Turn-ons are: tatoos, dark hair, and five-o'clock shadows. Hope you enjoy the show—be sure to stick around and say hello afterwards!

### Jeremiah Scanlon

(Bermudas) has been very active in local theater recently. This is his second show with Lex-Ham and he has worked with Na Fiana, Central High School Drama Board, Circle of Dionysus Theatre Company, and Central Improv as well.

*"I ain't good. I'm only trying to be."*

- Peachblossom

**Jennifer Schultz** (Judas) serves up superb coffee fast at a drive-thru coffee shop she owns called BEAN & GONE. She has recently performed in: *The Odd Couple*, *God's Favorite* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. She is grateful to Tom for giving her the opportunity to play a villain! It's fun to be wicked!

### Special thanks go to

Ruth and Bill Chessey

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Barb Hogan

Dan Hogan

Rebekka Kaup

Sue and Denny Kaup

Bill Marchand

Concordia University-St. Paul  
Great American History Theater

Higher Ground Academy

Macalester College

Lakeshore Players

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# Lex-Ham Community Theater

The Lex-Ham Community Theater is a program of the Lexington-Hamline Community Council (LHCC). Throughout its history, the LHCC has provided the neighborhood with programs that help to maintain good housing, a healthy environment, facilities for recreation and strategies for protection from crime. The original fundamental purposes of the LHCC remain the same: to improve the quality of life in the Lexington-Hamline neighborhood and to bring about long-term, sustainable community change *for the neighborhood, by the neighborhood*.

For several years, the LHCC has used the Arts as one of its tools to assist in building a sense of community among Lex-Ham residents. Some of the LHCC's arts projects include a neighborhood quilt with squares created by residents and the Lex-Ham Community Band.

Since its start in 1995, the Lex-Ham Community Theater has striven to achieve its mission of producing quality theatrical experiences by and for the residents of the Lexington-Hamline and surrounding neighborhoods in St. Paul. The company has enhanced the local theatrical scene by selecting lesser-known works by noted playwrights and giving the regional and world premieres of works by local authors. All of its shows have provided people with little previous experience an opportunity to be on-stage or work off-stage side by side with those who have more experience.

Finally, the company strives to help build community by involving people across generations and walks of life with each of its productions.

Call (651) 645-3207 to get involved.

Check out the Lex-Ham Community Theater's web site at:  
**[www.lexham.org/theater](http://www.lexham.org/theater)**

## **Lex-Ham Community Theater**

2002 Season

March: Short Play Festival - 4 Short Plays all with the theme of Mother  
Auditions will be in January 2002

Summer: Full-length Comedy  
Fall: Full-length Drama/Suspense