

Lex-Ham Community Theater

presents the

2005 Lex-Ham Short-Play Festival

The Frog Prince

by Sally Bailey with music and lyrics by Carol Gulley

Sorry, Wrong Number

by Lucille Fletcher

The Actor's Nightmare

by Christopher Durang

April 2005				
Sun	Tues	Thurs	Fri	Sat
			<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> 7:00 p.m. The Frog Prince 8:00 p.m. Sorry, Wrong Number The Actor's Nightmare	<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> 7:00 p.m. The Frog Prince 8:00 p.m. Sorry, Wrong Number The Actor's Nightmare
<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> 2:00 p.m. The Frog Prince 3:00 p.m. Sorry, Wrong Number The Actor's Nightmare		<p style="text-align: center;">7</p> 7:00 p.m. The Frog Prince 8:00 p.m. Sorry, Wrong Number The Actor's Nightmare	<p style="text-align: center;">8</p> 7:00 p.m. The Frog Prince 8:00 p.m. Sorry, Wrong Number The Actor's Nightmare	<p style="text-align: center;">9</p> 7:00 p.m. The Frog Prince 8:00 p.m. Sorry, Wrong Number The Actor's Nightmare
<p style="text-align: center;">10</p> 2:00 p.m. The Frog Prince 3:00 p.m. Sorry, Wrong Number The Actor's Nightmare	<p style="text-align: center;">12</p> 9:30 a.m. The Frog Prince 11:00 a.m. The Frog Prince			

Dayton's Bluff Park and Rec Center
800 Conway Street, St. Paul

The Frog Prince

by Sally Bailey with music and lyrics by Carol Gulley

Cast and Crew

Prince Friedrich Johann Ludwig III
a.k.a. The Frog Prince Corby Ortmann
Althea the Wise Natasha Theiss
Princess Wilhelmina Rosa Kromrey
King Wilhelm Jim Bitney
Jester Katrina Zahradka

Director Nadya Trytan
Stage Manager Ross Vanderwert
Assistant Stage Manager Katrina Zahradka
Musical Accompanist Karen Hillmann
Costumes Leah Osterhaus
..... Edmund Quirin
..... Suzy Zahradka
Props Kathy Super
..... Ross Vanderwert
..... Gary Zahradka
Set Molly Diers
..... Ross Vanderwert
..... Nadya Trytan
..... Suzy Zahradka
Lighting Designer Nicole LeDuc

Setting: The Black Forest of Germany



Director's Note

What is a tale, but a series of symbols with layered meanings; one person's journey with a grain of universal truth. If you would like to know what this particular tale is truly about, you can read the works of Joseph Campbell, Karl Jung and Bruno Bettelheim - or you can ask your own questions and find your own answers.

The Wise Woman's Song

I am the old,
and I am the new.
I am the false,
and I am the true.
Things are rarely as they seem
But the dreamer is always the dream.

I am the hawk,
and I am the sky.
I have been foolish,
and I have been wise
Seeing what's true is ever an art
So close your eyes and open your heart.

Nadya Trytan

Author's notes about the play

The Frog Prince was commissioned by Imagination Stage, a children's theatre company in Bethesda, Maryland, in 1994. It was produced as part of their mainstage season and then taken on tour to schools in the Montgomery County, Maryland area during the course of the next two years. *The Frog Prince* has always been one of my favorite fairy tales.

Sally Bailey

Sorry, Wrong Number

by Lucille Fletcher

Cast and Crew

Mrs. StevensonStephanie Aerlyn-Buchan
VoicesTed Anderson
.Mariah Christensen
.Bill Gorman
.Susie Kaster
DirectorDavid Lind
Stage ManagerKasey Jean Tunell
Asst Stage ManagerHeidi Medlicott
CostumesJudy Larsen
PropsKathy Super
Lighting DesignNicole LeDuc
Wig MistressLynn Baskfield
Sound DesignDavid Lind

Author's notes about the play

This play was originally designed as an experiment in sound and not just a murder story, with the telephone as its chief protagonist. I wanted to write something that by its very nature should, for maximum effectiveness, be heard rather than seen. However, in the hands of a fine actress like Agnes Moorhead, the script turned out to be more the character study of a woman than a technical experiment...

Lucille Fletcher

Lucille Fletcher

After graduating from Vassar, Lucille Fletcher began writing radio scripts, including *The Hitchhiker* and *Sorry, Wrong Number*.

Sorry, Wrong Number was first produced on radio in 1943 and was adapted for the screen in 1948 in a version starring Barbara Stanwick and Burt Lancaster.

Ms. Fletcher also wrote several books, including *Blindfold*, *And Presumed Dead*, and *The Girl in Cabin B54*.

The Actor's Nightmare

by Christopher Durang

Cast and Crew

George Spelvin Ted Anderson
Meg Susie Kaster
Sarah Stephanie Aerlyn-Buchan
Ellen Mariah Christensen
Henry Bill Gorman

Director David Lind
Stage Manager Kasey Jean Tunell
Asst Stage Manager Heidi Medlicott
Costumes Judy Larsen
Props Kathy Super
Lighting Design Nicole LeDuc

Christopher Durang

Since graduating from Harvard, Christopher Durang has been a prolific and award-winning writer of plays, including *Wanda's Visit* (performed by Lex-Ham Community Theater in 1997), *Beyond Therapy*, *The Marriage of Bette and Boo*, and more recently, *Adrift in Macao*.

Besides writing, Mr. Durang has acted on stage and has appeared in many movies.

Mr. Durang is currently the Co-director of the Playwrights Program at the Julliard School.

Author's notes about the play

I assume that most people who are in theatre, or even have just dabbled in it, have had these "actors' nightmares" - you dream that you have to go on-stage, but for some reason you've never attended rehearsal and you don't know a single line.

After writing this play, I've learned that in psychological literature this dream is called "the good student's dream", and the prototype is the high school or college student, in life usually quite conscientious, who dreams that he has to take a test, but that he is totally unprepared: He has forgotten to study, or has lost his book, or he can't read the questions, and so on.

My personal variations have included dreaming I was playing Edmund in *Long Day's Journey Into Night*; and thinking to myself, well, I know the story, I just don't know the lines, maybe I can fake it. Or once dreaming I was acting at Yale Repertory Theatre, but that they had re-designed the backstage area so that I kept getting lost in hallways and couldn't find my way onto the stage. Or once dreaming I was in a musical that I knew nothing about - never rehearsed, never read it - and finding myself onstage needing to sing along with an orchestra, guessing at what the melody was, and ad-libbing lyrics, including some that rhymed. They didn't make sense, but they rhymed.

Christopher Durang
Twenty-Seven Short Plays

This play is presented through special arrangements with Dramatists Play Service

Cast and Crew Member

Ted Anderson (Sorry, Wrong Number: Voices; The Actor's Nightmare: George) is pleased to be making his first appearance with the Lex-Ham theater. He would also like to thank David for another opportunity to work with a wonderful director; he's so excited, he's willing to lose his head for the role. Ted has been seen in theatres around the area including most recently the Phipps Center for the Arts where he just completed the production *Of Mice and Men* where he played Lennie Smalls. Other memorable roles are Sheridan Whiteside in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, and Herbert Marshall in *The Spoon River Anthology*. Ted would like to thank those of you for your support when he needed it most, bless you and this is for you. Cheers mates!

Jim Bitney (The Frog Prince: King Wilhelm) This is Jim's first adventure with the Lex-Ham Community Theater. He has recently appeared with the Chaska Civic Theatre, Oops Theatre, Plymouth Community Theatre, The Shoestring Players, and Theatre in the Round. "It's good to be king!" sez Jim.

Stephanie Aerlyn-Buchan (Sorry, Wrong Number: Mrs. Stevenson; The Actor's Nightmare: Sarah) This is Stephanie's first experience with Lex-Ham Community Theater, but she has worked with director David Lind before, which were wonderful experiences. She has performed in numerous productions with the Madhatters Community Theater, the River Falls Community Theater, and the Phipps Center for the Arts. She shares her life with two dogs, three fat cats and a very understanding husband. They hope they'll still recognize each other once this is over. Stephanie would like to dedicate her performance to her mother, who passed away March 16, 2005. "Thanks for everything, mom. This one's for you."

Mariah Christensen (Sorry, Wrong Number: Voices; The Actor's Nightmare: Ellen) is appearing in her debut performance with Lex-Ham Community Theater. She received a BA in Theatre from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities where she appeared onstage as Hedda Hopper in *Anything Goes* and Mrs. Hartwick-Moore in *The Lady of Larkspur's Lotion*. Thanks to Kasey and Christian for encouraging her to get her 'act' together.

Bill Gorman (Sorry, Wrong Number: Voices; The Actor's Nightmare: Henry) It is a great pleasure to be working with the friendly and talented group of theatre artists performing these plays at the Lex-Ham Community Theater. Recently Bill played the role of "Candy" in the Phipps Center for the Arts production of *Of Mice and Men*. Last summer, he was "Michael" in the Fringe Festival production *The Testimony of Gary Alan Richards*. In addition to theatre, he also appears in independent films and commercials. Enjoy the show!

Karen Hillmann (The Frog Prince: Musical Accompanist) Karen has tinkled tunes for various venues: community theaters, school productions, her church, and with the band "Chord Authority". She's happy to return to work with Lex-Ham after working on *Working* with them last fall. During the day, she teaches piano lessons and negotiates a husband and two teenagers. Ribbet on, beautiful souls!

Susie Kaster (Sorry, Wrong Number: Voices; The Actor's Nightmare: Meg) Susie is appearing in her first Lex-Ham show. Some of her previous roles have been Merry in *To Mordor or Bust! The Parody of the Rings*, and Balthazar in *Much Ado about Nothing*. Susie plays the street character Jazmyn Underhill at the Minnesota Renaissance Festival in the fall. "I've also started taking stage combat classes. I love to act, dance, and fight on stage; they are my favorite things to do! Thank you to my mom, who always encourages and supports my acting, she is the best!"

Rosa Kromrey (The Frog Prince: Princess Wilhelmina) This is Rosa's first outside of school play. She has been in a few acting classes and one other play. She also enjoys singing and drawing.

David Lind (Sorry, Wrong Number and The Actor's Nightmare: Director) This is David Lind's first time directing with Lex-Ham Community Theater. David is a local actor, director and playwright. He was worked with Mixed Blood Theater, Teatro del Pueblo, Theatre in the Round Players, Theatre Limina, Oops Dinner Theatre, the Minnesota Fringe Festival, the Cromulent Shakespeare Company, Rosetown Playhouse, Pioneer Theatre Company, Playhouse 15, SteppingStone Theatre, the Grand Marais Playhouse, The Phipps Center for the Arts, Off Broadway Community Theatre and CLIMB Theatre. David teaches acting classes in the Michael Chekhov Technique and in the actor's use of the breath in performance. He graduated with an M.A. From Kansas State University and continued his training at Rutgers University and the Michael Chekhov Acting Studio in NYC. A special thanks to Team Lind for their support and love.

Heidi Medlicott (Sorry, Wrong Number: Voices; The Actor's Nightmare: Assistant Stage Manager) Heidi is involved with her third Lex-Ham show, having been on the set crew for *The Solid Gold Cadillac* and as Stage Manager for *Working*. She has always had an interest in theater and was lucky enough to find Lex-Ham. Heidi is a sophomore at Park High School in Cottage Grove.

Corby Ortmann (The Frog Prince: Prince Friedrich Johann Ludwig III) Coming from a diverse background in the theater at Saint Olaf College, Corby recently traveled to New York City for a production of his own play, *This is Murphy's Law* as part of the NYC Fringe Festival. He now returns to the stage to face his most challenging role to date - a Frog Prince. What will he find? Perhaps, himself.

Leah Osterhaus (The Frog Prince: Costumes) This is Leah's first production. Leah graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a degree in business and currently works for Target Corporation in the Twin Cities. In the rare moments that she is not sewing or working, Leah enjoys karate and spending time with her family. Leah would like to thank her boyfriend Clarke for putting up with all of the fabric scraps all over the house.

Edmund Quirin (The Frog Prince: costumes) Even though he is a graduate student in Plant Pathology, Ed is no stranger to theater. He has performed in such shows as *Pippin*, *Anything Goes*, *L'il Abner*, and *Pirates of Penzance*. He has also been a director, musical director, choreographer, set designer, artistic director, and producer for a number of shows and performing groups. This marks Ed's first show with Lex-Ham. Other costume designing credits include: *Once Upon a Mattress* (Brand X Musical Theater), *Pirates of Penzance*, *Iolanthe*, and *Patience* (Cornell Savoyards), *The Red Coat and Other Plays* (Center for Theatre Arts- Ithaca, NY), and *Angels in America: Millenium* (Risely Theatre). Ed is very excited to be a part of The Frog Prince and would like to thank Urban, Judy, and Nadya for giving him the chance to work on such a fun show. He would also like to thank his mom, who taught him how to sew and gave him his sewing machine, and James, who dealt with him while putting the costumes together.

Kathy Super (Props) My real identity: Prop Mistress/Thrift Store Annie/Antique Dweller/Halftime Crafter/Garbage Digger and the Friendly Brower. If you need me.. look for the car or house stuffed with the most unique crap. Call me at my home phone number (GET-THE-PROP)

Natasha Theiss (The Frog Prince: Althea the Wise) Natasha is pleased to announce this is her first experience and performance in acting. Previously, she was a National Anthem performer at St. Cloud State University (SCSU) Men's Hockey games 2000-2003. She has ventured a Norwegian SCSU Choir Tour in 2002, is a wedding vocalist (1999-Present), and is currently working on producing a demo tape. "I have longed to act and perform since high school, thank you to Lex-Ham Community Theater for giving me the encouragement and opportunity to do so!"

Nadya Trytan (The Frog Prince: Director) This is Nadya's first production with Lex-Ham. Nadya has a Master's Degree in Theatre from Kansas State University where she directed *The Elopement* and *Strindberg Tonight*. In 2001-2002, she worked as Director and Playwright for the Barrier Free Theatre in Manhattan, Kansas. Nadya currently works as a Drama Therapist in St. Paul.

Kasey Jean Tunell (Sorry, Wrong Number and The Actor's Nightmare: Stage Manager) Kasey is thrilled to be working with some of her favorite "boys and girls" on her Lex-Ham debut. Some favorite productions have been *Of Mice and Men* and *Evita* at the Phipps Center for the Arts, *Annie* and *Cripple of Innishman* at Duluth Playhouse, and *Little Shop of Horrors* at UW Superior. With a B.F.A. in Theatre Management and Direction, Kasey uses her knowledge working at The History Theatre and Ordway Center. Thanks to David and the cast, Dr. Goddess too, for always making my job so easy and fun. Remember, it's all Bill's fault!

Ross Vanderwert (The Frog Prince: Stage Manager) This is Ross's first show with the Lex-Ham Community Theater. He stage managed a musical at St. Lukes School in high school. While at Saint Olaf College, Ross participated in the production of *Ten Little Oles* and *This is Murphy's Law*. He has now returned to the safety of the backstage. In addition to stage managing, Ross also put together the set pieces for *The Frog Prince*.

Katrina Zahradka (The Frog Prince: Jester) Katrina is appearing in her first Lex-Ham performance. Other roles she has played include Wendy in *Peter Pan* and the Cowardly Lion in *The Wizard of Oz*. She was also the crown princess at the Minnesota Renaissance Festival for four years. In her spare time, Katrina enjoys unicycling, juggling, reading, playing with her kittens, and eating chocolate cake.

Please
remember to
turn off
all cell phones
or pagers
during the
performance.



Special thanks go to

Wilder Child Development Center
Concordia University - St Paul
Dayton's Bluff Park and Rec Center
Theatre de la Jeune Lune
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Twin Cities Theatre and Film (www.TCTheatreAndFilm.org)
Red Balloon Bookstore
Minnesota Children's Museum
Jon Stierwald
Nina Tuttle

Jack Rose: Publicity
Urban Landreman: Producer

Lex-Ham Community Theater

Shakespeare Reading Series

Join neighbors and friends for an informal reading of:

Henry VI, Part 2

Friday, May 13, 2005
1184 Portland Avenue, Saint Paul

6:30 p.m. – potluck supper
7:00 p.m. – sit down and read the play

Parts are reassigned at the start of each scene, so everyone gets lots of opportunities to read.

(Please bring your own copy of the play)



Wilder Child Development Center

Child Care for children ages 16 months until Kindergarten.
Open 6:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Developmentally appropriate curriculum, nutritious meals, monthly family events, field trips and MORE.

911 Lafond Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104 651-642-4090

Lex-Ham Community Arts Board of Directors

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Lex-Ham Community Theater

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, such as *Soul Gone Home* by Langston Hughes and *The Vegetable* by F. Scott Fitzgerald;
- Giving the regional and world premieres of works by local authors, such as *Bullets and Beauties* by Urban Landreman; and
- Reviving wonderful classics such as *The Philadelphia Story* by Philip Barry and *Under the Gaslight* by Augustin Daly.

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.

The theater is further involved with the community by offering acting classes through St. Paul Community Education and holding free informal Shakespeare Reading Series events. Call (651) 644-3366 to get involved.

Check out the theater's website at:

www.LexHamArts.org/theater

Upcoming Shows

2005

July
Sylvia-A.R. Gurney

November
All My Sons-Arthur Miller

See www.LexHamArts.org/theater for more info

Acting Classes

The Lex-Ham Community Theater offers acting classes for both children and adults in conjunction with both St. Paul Community Education and St. Paul Parks and Rec. Classes have included:

Beginning Acting
Advanced Beginning Acting
Shakespeare for Beginners
Passion Plays Performance
Acting Comedy
Improvisation
Audition Skills

The next session will start in May and June 2005.

To register for children's classes, call 651-325-2672

To register for adult classes, call 651-293-8811 or see www.commed.spps.org.