

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, *The Vegetable* by F. Scott Fitzgerald; and *Motomorphosis* by Vaclav Havel.
- 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 Women* by Clare Boothe Luce, *Under the Gaslight* by Augustin Daly, and *All My Sons* by Arthur Miller.
- Winning awards for Outstanding Performance by an Actor (Shad Cooper) and Sound Design (David Lind) at the 2003 and 2005 Minnesota Association of Community Theatres Play Festivals

The theater offers many opportunities for people to get involved at any level or time commitment. Opportunities range from attending an evening reading of a play written by Shakespeare or which won the Pulitzer Prize in Drama to enrolling in a beginning or advanced acting class.

To get involved contact theater@LexHamArts.org or www.LexHamArts.org/theater

Special Thanks Go To

Irish Fair of Minnesota
Concordia University-St. Paul
Mike Casey
Chad Horrmann
Matthew Landreman
Harvard University's Hollis Library

The Belle of Boolavogue

by

Seamus Burke



7:30 p.m., Saturday, August 11 - Concordia University-St. Paul
1:00 p.m., Sunday, August 12 - Irish Fair of Minnesota

Lex-Ham Community Theater

The Belle of Boolavogue

by
Seamus Burke

Cast and Crew

Hemlock Cassidy, a widow Sarah Chamberlain
Maureen Cassidy, Hemlock's daughter Kjersten Johnson
Dinny Bolger Franklin Heller
Larry Sheridan Paul Sterling-Rockswold
Larry Dineen Jamison Russell
Biddy Dineen Lori Martin

Director Amanda Sterling-Rockswold
Stage Managers Erin Howlett
. Tiffany Niehaus
Costume Designer Renae Redenius
Props Kathy Super
Set Sara Van Vrede
Producer Urban Landreman

Seamus Burke

Seamus Burke was a prolific writer of short comedies during the first half of the 20th century. Irish newspapers of the time described his works as “side-splitting comedy”, “certainly a winner”, and “this hilarious comedy kept the audience roaring with laughter”. A few of his other works include: *Cassidy's Chair*, *Peg Monaghan's Mistake*, and *Murphy's International Hotel*.

Amanda Sterling-Rockswold (Director) – Amanda is honored (and exhausted) to have been asked to direct a true Irish gem of a play for Lex-Ham Community Theater while simultaneously directing a dark, British drama for her own theatre company (Tenth Muse Theatre) at the Minnesota Fringe Festival. Some of Amanda's previous directing credits include *Bent*, *Why We Have a Body*, *No Exit*, *Beyond Therapy*, and *The Trial of God*.

Cast

Sarah Chamberlain (Hemlock) - Sarah is excited to return from a three-year theatre hiatus (she was pregnant a lot) to play Hemlock, a “hatchet-faced” old woman (definitely a boost to the self esteem). Sarah's favorite past roles have included Vladimir in *Waiting for Godot*, Charlotte in *Beyond Therapy*, and Estelle in *No Exit*.

Franklin Heller (Dinny) - Franklin is very excited to be in his first Lex-Ham production. Franklin has recently performed in: *The Odd Couple* (Murray) with PBR Players, *Miracle on 34th Street*. (Mr. Mara), *Annie Get Your Gun* (Sitting Bull), and *You Can't Take It With You* (Boris) with Lyric Arts Co.; *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (Mr. Barrymore) with Gallery Theatre Co; *The Music Man* (Mayor Shinn) with Lakeshore Players; and *Illinois Jane and the Pyramid of Peril* (No Beard the Pirate) at the Minnesota Fringe Festival. He has also performed improvised comedy with Stevie Ray's Improv in the Park.

Kjersten Johnson (Maureen) - Kjersten is excited to be acting once again with Lex-Ham Community Theater. You may have last seen her as Mary Haines in their production of *The Women*. Since then she has played a variety of roles with other local theatre groups. She also loves to serve on her church's drama team where she first caught the acting bug.

Lori Martin (Biddy) - Lori is excited to be appearing in Lex Ham's production of Belle of Boolavogue. She discovered her love of acting when she won a trip to NYC and studied acting with Bobbi Berger. Since then you may have seen her in the role of May West & Brenda Trent in Lex Ham's 2007 production of *Talk in the Town*, Stella in the Phipps Center 2006 production of *45 Seconds from Broadway* and Ms. Logan in the 2004 production of Lex Ham's *Solid Gold Cadillac*. She would like to thank her family and friends, especially her sons, Neil and Carl for always supporting her and offering their encouragement!

Jamison Russell (Larry Dineen) - Jamison is a filmmaker and writer and has acted in a number of college and amateur theater productions. He has played, not all in one show, a taxi driver, a balloon pilot, a womanizing therapist, the Elephant Man's doctor, a Bigfoot expert, Roger Ebert, Humphrey Bogart, and David Attenborough. He thanks Lex-Ham and the lovely show director, Amanda, for her continuing friendship and creative energy.

Paul Sterling-Rockswold (Larry Sheridan) - Paul has enjoyed the stage for a very long time... from putting on plays in the basement (charging a nickel and wearing pots and pans on his head) to starring roles in college productions of *The Pirates of Penzance* and *Annie Get Your Gun* to writing and directing his own show during Seminary... Paul is honored to now be playing the role of Larry Sheridan the love-sick electrician.