



CENTER REPERTORY COMPANY OF WALNUT CREEK

Michael Butler, Artistic Director Scott Denison, Managing Director

presents

2 Pianos 4 Hands

By Ted Dykstra and Richard Greenblatt

Cast

Mark Anders

Carl J. Danielsen

Scenic Designer

Scott Weldin

Original Sound Designer

David R. White

Sound Designer

Will McCandless

Original Lighting Designer

Don Darnutzer

Associate Lighting Designer

Jane Spencer

Casting Director

Bruce Elsperger

Original Costume Designer

Kish Finnegan

Stage Manager

Corrie Bennett

Directed by **Bruce K. Sevy**

2 Pianos 4 Hands was originally produced in April 1996 by Tarragon Theatre (Toronto, Canada), in association with Talking Fingers Inc., and Produced Off-Broadway, in London and throughout North America by Mirvish Productions, Toronto.

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January 29 - February 28, 2009

Leshner Center for the Arts

Margaret Leshner Theatre



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The Director in this production is a member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers

The Scenic Designer and Lighting Designer are members of United Scenic Artists Union



Mark Anders Carl J. Danielsen

MUSICAL NUMBERS

<i>D Minor Piano Concerto</i>	J. S. Bach
<i>Heart and Soul</i>	Hoagy Carmichael and Frank Loesser
<i>The Little Birch Canoe</i>	Lelia Fletcher
<i>By the Stream</i>	Richard Greenblatt
<i>Our Band Goes to Town</i>	arrangement by J. B. Duvernoy
<i>Sonatina No. 6 in F</i>	Beethoven
<i>Sonata Facile</i>	Mozart
<i>Duet in D Major</i>	Mozart
<i>Leyenda</i>	Albeniz
<i>Waldstein Sonata</i>	Beethoven
<i>Fantasia in C Minor</i>	Mozart
<i>Piano Concerto in A Minor</i>	Grieg
<i>Moonlight Sonata</i>	Beethoven
<i>Prelude in C Minor</i>	Rachmaninoff
<i>Minute Waltz</i>	Chopin
<i>Rondo for Two Pianos, Four Hands in C</i>	Chopin
<i>Fantasiestucke No. 2</i>	Schumann
<i>Prelude in D-Flat</i>	Chopin
<i>Mephisto Waltz No. 1</i>	Liszt
<i>Ballade No. 2 in F</i>	Chopin
<i>Medley of Pop Tunes</i>	Miscellaneous
<i>A-flat Impromptu</i>	Schubert
<i>My Funny Valentine</i>	Rodgers and Hart
<i>Mephisto Waltz</i>	Liszt
<i>D Minor Concerto 1st movement (Allegro)</i>	J. S. Bach

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

Mark Anders This is Mark Anders' debut at Center REP. His last two California appearances were at San Jose Rep, in the present play and in *Souvenir* with Patti Cohenour. Mr. Anders has been practicing 2 *Pianos 4 Hands* with Mr. Danielsen and Mr. Sevy intermittently for nearly eight years; you'd think he'd have it right by now. He co-devised and appeared with Mr. Danielsen in several incarnations of *A Marvelous Party*, an award-winning Noël Coward revue. In his native Seattle, where he resides, he has had a long and not too awfully checkered career, including roles in *Murderers*, *Hanging Lord Haw-Haw*, *Dirty Blonde*, *Souvenir*, *Noises Off*, *Gross Indecency*, and *Irma Vep*. Now that the American regional theatre is doing small-cast plays like this one, he is writing more, which doesn't pay any better but keeps his muse from dancing with some other guy. His daughter Gemma continues to astonish, and, now she is eighteen, admonish him.



Carl J. Danielsen is a native of Oakland and bay area audiences have seen him as the Cat in the Hat, *Seussical*, *Barnum*, *Barnum*, *Cosmo*, *Singing in the Rain*, John Adams, 1776, *Lumiere*, *Beauty and the Beast* and many other roles at Woodminster Ampitheatre. Carl was also in the long running *Cole!* which began at San Jose Rep, then moved onto Marines Memorial Theatre on the Square and the Henry Fonda in LA. (2 Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle awards (for acting and musical direction) and a Dramalogue award). Other local credits include: *World Goes 'Round*, TheatreWorks (BATCC award); *Taming of the Shrew*, *Oh, Kay!*, SF Shakespeare (BATCC award). Carl has lived in New York for the past 14 years and his credits there include the recent off Broadway show, *Enter Laughing*, York Theatre; *The Big Voice: God or Merman?*; *Trolls*, Actors Playhouse; *Edgar*, *King Lear*, Hudson Guild. Regional: *Souvenir*, La Mirada, Flat Rock Playhouse and Media Theatre, PA; *A Marvelous Party*, Northlight Theatre, IL (Jeff Award for Best Actor, Chicago), Laguna Beach Playhouse, GeVA, Rochester, NY; *Homer, Morning's At Seven*, Caldwell Theatre; *Oedipus Rex*, Denver Theatre Center; *A Dream Play*, Cleveland Playhouse; *Room Service*, Barrington Stage; *Don*, *Singing in the Rain*, Bobby, *Crazy for You*, Shenandoah Summer Music Theatre; *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, Florida Studio Theatre. Carl is proud to be a part of the Our Time Theatre company in NYC, an artistic home for people who stutter. TV: *Law and Order*, *Quit Claim*. Training: Webber Douglas Academy of Drama, UK. BA in



music from Cal Berkeley. Piano studies with Barbara Shearer. Member (composer) of BMI workshop, Harrington Award. Listen to composition samples at myspace.com/carldanielsen

CREATIVE TEAM

Bruce K. Sevy (Director) is the Associate Artistic Director and Director of New Play Development at the Denver Center Theatre Company, where he recently directed productions of *All My Sons*, *Mrs. Warren's Profession* and *Doubt* while expanding the company's new play program – the Colorado New Play Summit – commissioning and producing new plays from over twenty recognized and rising playwrights. Other productions for DCTC include *Master Class*, *Cat On a Hot Tin Roof*, *The Little Foxes*, *Molly Sweeney*, *Amy's View*, *Valley Song*, *Dinner With Friends*, *The Cripple of Inishmaan*, *Pride and Prejudice* and several other premieres. Mr. Sevy held the same positions at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival where he directed productions of *Titus Andronicus*, *Othello*, *As You Like It*, *A Doll's House*, *The Real Thing*, and *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*. He has directed for Arizona Theatre Company, The Cleveland Play House, Virginia Stage Company, Northlight Theatre (Chicago), San Jose Repertory Theatre, Coconut Grove Playhouse, Pioneer Theatre Company; A Contemporary Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre and Intiman Theatre in Seattle; the Kimo Theatre in Albuquerque, Utah Shakespearean Festival, Capital Repertory Theatre, the Lark Theatre in New York, the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center and the Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts in California. Mr. Sevy has served on panels for the Washington State Arts Commission, Artists Trust, Theatre Communications Group, Massachusetts Cultural Council, ATHE and has been a reader for the O'Neill Theatre Center.

Ted Dykstra (Co-writer) Ted has received Dora Mavor Moore Award nominations as an actor, director, writer, producer and composer, and was awarded Doras for *Fire* in both 2008 and 1989 (Acting) and 2 *Pianos 4 Hands* (producing), as well as a Chalmers Award for writing (2P4H). Co-writer of 2P4H, he has performed it in 11 Canadian cities (including 4 Toronto runs) as well as in New York, Washington DC, London's West End and Tokyo, Japan. He has also directed productions of 2P4H across the US, as well as in Australia and Hong Kong. He has played leading roles on every major stage in Canada, including three years of leading roles at the Shaw Festival and three years of leading roles at the Stratford Festival. Some of his favourite memories are the title roles in *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *Hamlet* and *Amadeus*, Cousin Kevin in *The Who's Tommy* (Dora nomination), Daffyd Llewellyn in *A Chorus of Disapproval* (Dora Nomination), Bottom in *Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Ariel in *The Tempest*. He has acted in dozens of movies and television shows, and just received a Gemini Award for his performance in *Shattered City: The Halifax Explosion*. He has composed music for theatres across the country. He is a founding member of Toronto's Soulpepper Theatre, where he has directed several productions, including *Under Milkwood*, *Leaving Home*, *Salt Water Moon*, *Fool for Love* and *The Dumb Waiter*. He has directed numerous other productions in Toronto including *Cinderella* (Elgin Theatre), *Frost/Nixon* (CanStage), *Little Shop of Horrors* (CanStage), *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (CanStage), *Aladdin* (Dora nomination, Elgin Theatre/National Tour), *Snow White and the Group of Seven* (Elgin Theatre); *Tequila Vampire Matinee* (Dora Nomination), *Bully*, *Science Fiction* and Scott Thompson's *Lowest Show on Earth*. For Halifax's Neptune Theatre he has directed *A Few Good Men*, *The Diary of Anne Frank* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Upcoming, he will be directing *Tuesdays with Morrie* for The Harold Green Jewish Theatre Company. Ted also wrote and directed *Mordecai Richler: A Celebration for the CBC* and is currently writing a new musical *Evangeline* commissioned by David Mirvish. He is the proud husband of Juno Award winning singer Melanie Doane, and ecstatic father of their two children, Theo and Rosie.

Richard Greenblatt (Co-Writer) was born in Montreal and started taking piano lessons with Dorothy Morton at the age of seven. He studied acting at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, England. Since his return to Canada in 1975, he has been acting, directing, writing and composing music for theatre, radio, television and film across the country and abroad. He has played leading roles in regional theatres (The Fool in *King Lear*, the title role in *Spinoza*, amongst many others) and in Toronto (George in *Possible Worlds*, Creon in *Antigone*, Sam Baum in *Adam Baum and the Jew Movie*, etc.). He has appeared in feature films (*Stardom*, *Shadow Dancing*, etc.) and has played numerous roles on television. He has performed 2 *Pianos 4 Hands* with Ted Dykstra over 750 times, including 6 months Off-Broadway at The Promenade in New York City, ten weeks in the West End of London, and three weeks in Tokyo. He has directed over 80 productions for the stage, the vast majority being original works, and has been a co-writer on some of the most successful new plays in recent Canadian theatre history including *The Theory of Relatives, i.d.*, and *Sibs*, which was also made into a CBC

movie. Most recently, he has performed in a new collaboration with Diane Flacks entitled *Care* (Tarragon Theatre), performed his one-man play *Letters from Lehrer* (CanStage), featuring the work of song stylist Tom Lehrer, and directed both *Danny - King of the Basement* and *Wrecked* for Roseneath Theatre. He has won four Dora Awards and two Chalmers Awards as well as receiving numerous other nominations. He has taught both acting and directing at most of the theatre training institutions in Canada.

Scott Weldin (Scenic Designer) originally designed the scenery for 2 *Pianos, 4 Hands* for Arizona Theatre Company in 2003. His design for this show has been used for numerous productions, including those at the Seattle Repertory Theatre, Denver Center Theatre Company, and San Jose Repertory Theatre. Mr. Weldin designed over 220 productions for theatres elsewhere including the Alley Theatre I Houston, Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Childsplay Theatre in Arizona, Seattle Children's Theatre, People's Light and Theatre in Pennsylvania, Portland Center Stage, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Missouri Repertory Theatre, The Goodman Theatre in Chicago, off Broadway at the Westside Arts Theatre in New York and at the American University in Cairo. Mr. Weldin passed away (of brain cancer) in 2006.

Don Darnutzer (Lighting Designer) designed the lighting for the Tony nominated Broadway show *It Ain't Nothin' But The Blues*. He also designed the Off-Broadway shows *Hank Williams: Lost Highway*, *The Immigrant* and *John Denver's Almost Heaven*. Mr. Darnutzer has worked for The Guthrie Theatre, The Denver Center Theater Company, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Mark Taper Forum, B.B. King's Blues Club in NYC, The Shakespeare Theatre, The American Conservatory Theatre, The Arena Stage, The Old Globe Theater, The Alley Theater, Geffen Playhouse, Kansas City Repertory Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Arizona Theatre Company, Cleveland Play House, Palm Beach Opera, Minnesota Orchestra, Minnesota Opera Company, Portland Opera, Opera Omaha, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, San Jose Repertory, Saint Louis Repertory Theatre and Geva Theatre.

Jane Spencer (Associate Lighting Designer) is pleased to be working on 2P4H again! Favorite design credits include *Doubt*, *The Pillowman* and *Jesus Hates Me* at Denver Center Theatre Company, *I Am My Own Wife* at Theatreworks, WMKS at Missouri Repertory Theatre, *It Ain't Nothin' But The Blues* at Theatre Aspen and *Ruthless* for Omaha Playhouse in her home state, Nebraska. In her spare time Jane lights exhibits for the Denver Art Museum, including *Artisans and Kings: Selected Treasures from the Louvre and Inspiring Impressionism*. Jane received her MFA in lighting and costume design from University of Missouri Kansas City.

David R. White (Original Sound Designer) has designed sound for over 50 productions at the Denver Center Theatre Company. As the resident sound designer at PCPA Solvang Theaterfest he designed sound for over 100 productions as well as lights. He has designed sound, lights or scenery for Aspen Theatre in the Park, the Mark Taper Forum, the Acoma Center, the Vogue Theatre, the Solvang Backstage Theatre, the National Theatre Conservatory, the Allan Hancock College Dance Department and Youth Company, and Stories on Stage. Mr. White was a featured designer in the magazine *Entertainment Design* for his sound design for the world premiere production of *Tantalus*. He has taught various classes in theatre design at PCPA, Cal Poly, and Webster University. David is currently the recording engineer for the Denver Municipal Band.

Will McCandless (Sound Designer) is a sound designer and engineer based in San Francisco. Recent sound design credits include *Song for Coretta* (Brava Theater), *Doubt* (Center REP), *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris* (Marin Theatre Co.), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Center REP), *Territories* (Magic Theatre), *Intimate Apparel* (Solano College Theatre), *How the Other Half Loves* (Center REP), *David Copperfield* (A.C.T. Conservatory), and *Assassins* (Custom Made Theatre). Will is also a collective member of the San Francisco Mime Troupe and engineered the sound for *Red State*, *Making a Killing*, and *Godfellas*. Will is a recipient of the 2008 Landisman Fellowship. The Landisman Fellowship supports theatre designers and technicians and is a program of Theatre Bay Area. Will would like to give a special thank you to the Landisman family for making this program possible.

Kish Finnegan (Original Costume Designer) is pleased to see her work come home to the Bay Area. Kish grew up in San Jose and credits the beginning of her artistic career to the many elementary school art projects made entirely of IBM computer punch cards! (Yes, That WAS a long time ago) After moving to Los Angeles, Kish graduated from CalArts and worked in both

theatre and film: from animated bears to MTV, winning the Los Angeles Drama-Logue Award for her work at The Chamber Theatre in Studio City. She now resides in Tucson Arizona and designs for several regional theatres including: Arizona Theatre Company, Childsplay, and Arts for All, a company that celebrates the talents of kids with and without disabilities. Most recent design credits include: *Hair*, *Seussical*, *Junie B Jones*, *Go Dog Go*, *Touch The Names*, *Tuesdays With Morrie*, *The Origins Of Happiness in Latin*, and *Sabunana*. Her most unique designs have been seen underwater at the Sea and Island Expo in Japan as well as various aquacades in Australia, Spain, The Canary Islands and Las Vegas.

Corrie Bennett (Stage Manager) is delighted by this opportunity to join Center REPeritory Company for the first time. She has recently worked with SF Playhouse on *Shining City* and *Dead Mother* with Traveling Jewish Theatre. She has been a part of many productions at the Magic Theatre, including some favorites: *God of Hell*, and *A long Christmas Ride Home*, as well as *Frozen* at Marin Theatre Company, and ACT's *The Tosca Project*. Corrie studied Feminist Theatre at Antioch College and is also the Production Manager for *Homo A Go Go*, a DIY music/film/arts/and activism festival.

Joe Coe (Assistant Stage Manager) This is Joe's third production with Center REP and couldn't be happier to be a part of such an amazing team of professionals and friends! When he isn't busy with REP, he moonlights as a technician here at the Leshler Center for the Arts. This is Joe's third year in the bay area and has worked with such companies as Berkeley Repertory Theatre, American Conservatory Theatre, Summer Repertory Theatre and Youth Speaks. Joe would like to thank all his wonderful friends here at the LCA for making it such a joy to work here!

Michael Butler (Artistic Director) is in his third season as Artistic Director of Center REP, where he directed *Around the World in 80 Days*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *How the Other Half Loves*, *Hank Williams: Lost Highway*, *Nixon's Nixon*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, as well as playing Paravicini in REP's production of *The Mousetrap*. His directing work has also been seen at San Jose Rep, Cleveland Playhouse, Seattle Rep, Marin Theatre Company, Aurora Theatre Company, San Jose Stage, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, and The Juilliard School, of which he is a graduate. As an actor, Michael has worked on Broadway and off, in regional theatres, film and television. He is a published songwriter and the co-writer and composer of numerous music-theatre pieces, which he has directed and performed in NY, LA, and at festivals in India and Morocco. In his career as a performer he has also danced with the Erick Hawkins Dance Company, portrayed the villainous Pierre LeChance on *The Guiding Light*, and played guitar and harmonica in many rock, blues, and country western bands at all the notable dives in NYC.

Scott Denison (Managing Director) has directed over 150 productions, including Center REP's highly successful production *The Wizard of Oz* and CCMT's *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Cinderella* and the last ten productions of *A Christmas Carol*. Mr. Denison is the director and co-founder of Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble, and the creator of the Contra Costa County Shellie Awards. He has also designed lights for over 250 productions, including Center REP's production of *Hank Williams: Lost Highway*, *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *Cowgirls*, *Suds*, *Shirley Valentine* and *Dear Liar*, and CCMT's *Titanic* and *Guys and Dolls*. As General Manager of the Leshler Center for the Arts, he coordinates over 900 events annually.

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ABOUT CENTER REPERTORY COMPANY

Center REP is the resident, professional theatre company of the Leshler Center for the Arts. Our season consists of six productions a year – a variety of musicals, dramas and comedies, both classic and contemporary, that continually strive to reach new levels of artistic excellence and professional standards.

Our **mission** is to celebrate the power of the human imagination by producing emotionally engaging, intellectually involving, and visually astonishing live theatre, and through Outreach and Education programs, to enrich and advance the cultural life of the communities we serve.

What does it mean to be a producing theatre? We hire the finest professional directors, actors and designers to create our productions at Center REP. These are not touring productions – they're conceived and developed here, the sets and costumes are built in our shops, and the actors rehearse in our rehearsal hall. Whether the production is a Bay Area premiere or a Shakespearean classic, each is devised to be a one of a kind, artistic creation that will be a unique theatre experience for our audience.

What does it mean to be a professional theatre? It means that all our artists and artisans are career theatre-practitioners. The actors in this production of *2 Pianos 4 Hands* are members of Actors' Equity Association; the director is a member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers; many of our designers are members of United Scenic Artists. All do theatre because it is their profession and their passion.

We are very proud to have the opportunity to produce professional theatre for our community in the beautiful Margaret Leshler Theatre here at the Leshler Center for the Arts. Thank you for your support!



Center REPeritory Company

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Artistic Director - Michael Butler

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