

CENTER REPERTORY COMPANY OF WALNUT CREEK

Michael Butler, Artistic Director Scott Denison, Managing Director

presents



Book by Joe Masteroff Music by Jerry Bock Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick

Based on Parfumerie by Miklos Laszlo Originally Directed on Broadway by Harold Prince
Originally Produced on Broadway by Harold Prince in Association with Lawrence N. Kasha and Philip C. McKenna Original Orchestrations by Don Walker Adapted by Frank Matosich, Jr.

Lighting Designer **Kurt Landisman** Sound Designer **Lewis Mead Dialect Coach** Lynne Soffer

Scenic Designer **Annie Smart** Costume Designer Victoria Livingston-Hall Stage Manager Corrie Bennett*

Properties Artisan Justin Cesarin Casting Director **Jennifer Perry** Wig Designer **Judy Disbrow**

Cast

Dane Paul Andres Noel Anthony* Evan Boomer Derek Travis Collard Jackson Davis*

Lynda DiVito* **Ryan Drummond*** Richard Farrell* **Zachary Franczak Emma Goldin**

Jason Hite Mary Kalita Brittany Ogle Sharon Rietkerk Kelsey Venter*

Musical Director Brandon Adams Directed and Choreographed by Robert Barry Fleming

She Loves Me

is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684 www.MTIShows.com

> September 3 - October 10, 2010 Lesher Center for the Arts Margaret Lesher Theatre













SONG LIST

ACT I

Good Morning, Good DaySipos, Arpad, Ritter, Kodaly, Georg Sounds While SellinaCustomers, Sipos, Kodaly, Georg Days Gone By...... Maraczek You Will Pay Through the Nose...... Maraczek No More CandyAmalia The First Letter - SummerGeorg The Second Letter - AutumnGeorg The Third Letter - WinterAmalia Tonight at Eight.....Georg I Don't Know His Name.....Amalia, Ritter PerspectiveSipos Goodbye, Georg......Customers, Clerks Will He Like Me?Amalia Ilona.....Kodaly, Sipos, Arpad I Resolve..... A Romantic AtmosphereWaiter Mr. Nowack, Will You Please?.....Amalia, Waiter Dear Friend

ACT II

Try Me	Arpad
Maraczek's Memories	Maraczek
Where's My Shoe	Amalia, Georg
Vanilla Ice Cream	Amalia
She Loves Me	Georg
A Trip to the Library	Ritter
Grand Knowing You	Kodaly
A Christmas Carol	Carolers
Twelve Days to ChristmasCarolers	s, Customers, Clerks
Finale	George, Amalia

TIME AND PLACE
A city in Europe.
The 1930s.

The Orchestra

Conductor/Keyb	oards	Brandon Adan	1:
Violin	Pamela C	Carey / Heghine Boloya	ır
Woodwinds	Lori Rodr	riguez / Steven Logote	ta
	Dan B	Bauer / Lenora Warkent	ir
Percussion		Frika Johnson	r

Dane Paul Andres (Bus Boy/Ensemble) is ecstatic to join the cast of She Loves Me being his second show with Center REPertory Company, being in their production of All Shook Up as well Favorites



production of All Shook Up as well. Favorites include: A Chorus Line as Paul (Tri-Valley Repertory), Flower Drum Song (American Musical Theatre Of San Jose), Seven Brides For Seven Brothers as Gideon (Woodminster Amphitheatre), Jesus Christ Superstar as Peter (Willows Theatre Company) & Disney's High School Musical as Ryan (Blue Moon Productions). Dane recently choreographed for Berkeley Playhouse's production of Aladdin and will be in Diablo Theater Company's Production of White Christmas. Please visit http://www.wix.com/dynamicsxxi/danepaulandres to find out more on upcoming shows & projects.

Noel Anthony* (*Steven Kodaly*) is thrilled to be making his Center REP debut with



Anthem at a San Francisco Giants game at AT&T Park.

This performance dedicated to mom, grandma, Brooke

and Mindy. All my love and devotion to Brittany. www.

Evan Boomer (*Waiter*) is thrilled to be returning to Center REP for this production of *She Loves Me*. He is currently a senior at

noelanthonyescobar.com

CSU East Bay majoring in Communications and Theater Arts. Previous favorite credits include DTC's Curtains, Center REP's All Shook Up, BBBay's Into the Woods (Rapunzel's Prince), Starstruck Theater's Beauty and the Beast (Beast), and AMTSJ's The Wizard of Oz. He is also a proud member of the Fantasy Forum Actor's Ensemble. Evan sends all the thanks in the world to his amazing family, friends, Starstruck crew, Irvington Crew, and the Big Guy upstairs for their constant love and support.

Derek Travis Collard (*Mr. Keller/Ensemble***)** is thrilled to be making his Center REP debut with one of his favorite shows! Since moving to the Bay Area from NYC,



he has been seen recently in Jubilee (Fruity) with 42nd Street Moon and in Oliver! (Mr Sowerberry, Dr Grimwig, Fagin (u/s)) with CCMT. Other SF, NYC, Regional credits include: Wildcat, High Spirits (42nd Street Moon), Angels (Pre-Broadway Workshop), Christmas Carol (McCarter Theatre), Nunsense A-Men (Sister Amnesia), The Gold Wuthakee (Lincoln Center), A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum (Hysterium), You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown (Snoopy), Funny (Old Globe Theatre), Pageant (Miss Great Plains), Sweeney Todd (Tobias), Rocky Horror Show (Riff Raff), The Last Night of Ballyhoo (Peachy), The Mystery of Edwin Drood (Bazzard). Thanks to Craig for being an amazing support through this.

Jackson Davis* (*Ladislav Sipos*) is pleased to perform for the first time with Center REP. He most recently appeared in *Opus* at TheatreWorks, where he has worked



for many years in a variety of roles spanning musicals, comedies and dramas. Last fall he appeared at SF Playhouse in the world premier of First Day of School

by Billy Aronson which was named Best Original Script by the Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle. Among other Bay Area companies he has worked with are ACT (Happy End, Hans Christian Anderson), San Jose Rep (Mizlansky, The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial), Aurora Theater Co. (The Best Man), Marin Theater Co. (Lovers & Executioners, Company), the Magic (God of Hell), City Lights (The Return to Morality) 42nd Street Moon (Ben Franklin in Paris, Pipe Dream) and Playground. Regionally he has worked with Moving Target in New York City, Villanova Shakespeare Festival, and Missouri Summer Repertory.

Lynda DiVito* (*Ensemble/Dance Captain*) is thrilled to return to Center REP this season in *She Loves Me.* Last season Lynda played Mayor Mathilda in Center REP's production



of All Shook Up. Other Bay Area credits include; The Full Monty at AMTSJ, In this House (Bay Area Critics Circle award 2008) at Playhouse West. NYC Off Bway/International/ regional credits include; Cats/Jellylorum. Off Broadway Sheba/Leah. Oliver at Papermill Playhouse. Fiddler on the Roof at Riverside Theatre. Lynda toured throughout Europe in various different shows and was the lead singer for JamSquare, one of Holland's premiere dance bands.

Ryan Drummond* (*Georg Nowack*) is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University, Mr. Drummond's Bay Area credits include: *Hairspray* (Corny Collins) with Woodminster,



Jesus Christ Superstar (Pilate), Annie Get Your Gun (Frank Butler) (Shellie Award), and The Wedding Singer (Robbie) with The Willows, Caroline or Change (Stuart) with Theatreworks, and On The Town (Ozzie) and The Producers (Leo Bloom) (Shellie Award and Bay Area Critic's Circle Award) with Diablo Theatre Company. Other credits include many companies of Forever Plaid across the nation, How The Grinch Stole Christmas (The Old Globe Theatre), Zhivago and The Farnsworth Invention (The La Jolla Playhouse), and I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change (The Touring Circuit). Mr. Drummond's film and television credits include Bring It On (starring Kirsten Dunst), Trauma, and Baywatch. Also an Emmy-winning commercial actor, clown, certified mime instructor, and award-winning voiceover artist, Mr. Drummond is most widely known as the voice of "Sonic the Hedgehog" for Sega Gaming Corporation (1998-2004). Mr. Drummond is a proud member of Actor's Equity Association. He dedicates his performance to his magical son, Daniel, and also to his amazing wife Lisa, who is bringing his second son, Tommie David, into the world on opening night! Stop by the circus of www.RyanDrummond.com

Richard Farrell* (*Mr. Maraczek*) is delighted to be a part of Center REP's production of *She Loves Me.* He was last seen here in *Noises Off!* In the Bay Area he



has performed with Shakespeare Santa Cruz and in The San Francisco Opera's recent production of *Porgy and Bess*. He has appeared on stages throughout the country including Seattle Repertory Theatre, Cleveland Playhouse, The Alliance Theatre Company, GEVA Theatre Company, Arizona Theatre Company and off-Broadway with The Pearl Theatre Company. Richard was a company member with the Alabama Shakespeare Festival for five seasons where he was an associate artist and a company member of The Oregon Shakespeare Festival for twelve seasons. He recently played Dr. Watson in the premier production of *Holmes and Watson: A Musical Mystery* for the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre.

Zachary Franczak (*Ensemble*) is a SF BATCC award winning actor who has been performing around the bay for over 13 years. Recent roles include: Curly in CCMT's *Oklahomal*, Smoothy



in 42nd St. Moon's *Very Warm for May*, and Tommy in Ray of Light's *The Who's Tommy*. www.zacharyfranczak.com

Emma Goldin (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to be a part of the *She Loves Me* cast for her Center REP debut. She is a Walnut Creek native and a graduate of the University of California,



Davis. Recent roles include Laurey in Oklahoma!, Hope in Urinetown, Witch in Macbeth (all at UC Davis), and Snoopy in You're a Good Man Charlie Brown (Studio 301

Productions). She most recently performed at the Napa Valley Opera House in *The Best of Gilbert and Sullivan* for the opera house's 130th anniversary celebration. Last year, she was nominated for a Bay Area Critics' Circle Award for her portrayal of Claire de Loone in Diablo Theatre Company's production of *On the Town*. Ms. Goldin studies voice with Jane Randolph.

Jason Hite (Arpad Laszlo) is thrilled to be returning to Center REP where he played the role of Dean Hyde in their production of All Shook Up. Other notable roles include: Mike (world premiere of Girlfriend at Berkeley



Rep), Mark (Rent Golden State Theatre Productions), Billy Lawlor (42nd Street Contra Costa Musical Theatre), Rex (Lead Exit Stage Left). Trained with Young REP here at the Lesher Center and is a proud member of Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble. Love to my amazing friends and family who keep me grounded and driven.

Mary Kalita (*Ensemble*) is delighted to be making her Center REP debut! Bay Area creditsinclude *Singin'intheRain*(Lina) CMTSJ Marquee Production; *The Who's Tommy* (Sally Simpson) ROLT; *Cats* (Rumpleteazer)



and The Wedding Singer (Linda) Willows; Crazy For You (Tess), Little Shop of Horrors (Chiffon), Showboat (Ellie), and Thoroughly Modern Millie Broadway by the Bay; 42nd Street (Phyllis) CCMT; Pardon My English (Magda) and Mack & Mabel 42nd Street Moon; and The Producers DTC. She also created the role of Amber/Lurlene in Homeland, a new musical workshop performed at the Magic Theatre and subsequently at California Music Theatre in Sacramento. Midwest regional credits include Proof (Catherine); No, No Nanette; James and the Giant Peach (Spider); Grease (Marty); and A Christmas Carol. Mary holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from Millikin University.

Brittany Ogle (*Ilona Ritter*)is honored to be back at Center REP, having made her debut last Spring as Brooke in *Noises Off!* Select Credits include: Ulla in *The Producers*



(Foothill Music Theater), Hot Box Dancer/Sarah Brown Understudy in Guys and Dolls, Velma in West Side Story with American Idol's Diana DeGarmo and Bebe in A Chorus Line directed by original Broadway cast member Kay Cole, (American Musical Theater of San Jose), Holly in The Wedding Singer (The Willows), Rapunzel in Into the Woods (Broadway by the Bay) and Eva Peron in Evita - Best Actress Award (Tri-Valley Rep.) Brittany is a proud Theater Artists Institute Graduate and recipient of AMT's Ginny Award and Mim Babin Scholarship. Brittany's next endeavor will be the snarky musical adventure, Becoming Britney also with Center REP! Thanks to Robert, Brandon, Jenny and Michael, for this opportunity. Brittany is thrilled to share the stage with her love Noel. Love you MOM.

Sharon Rietkerk (*Ensemble*) received a BA in Theatre, with Honors in Musical Theatre, from the University of California, Irvine. Recently Sharon appeared with Diablo Theatre Company in the Northern



California premier of *Curtains* as Nikki Harris. Other Bay Area credits include the Lamplighters' *My Fair Lady* (Eliza Doolittle) and *Iolanthe* (Phyllis), CCCT's *Lucky Stiff* (Annabel Glick), and the Napa Valley Opera House's 130th Anniversary Concert featuring the music of Gilbert and Sullivan. Other favorites include *Sweeney Todd* (Joanna), *Seussical* (Gertrude McFuzz), *The Music Man* (Marian Paroo), *Nine*, *Blood Brothers*, and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Sharon will return to Diablo Theatre Company as Judy Haynes in their upcoming production of *White Christmas* this November-December.

Kelsey Venter* (*Amalia Balash*)is so excited to be making her Center REP debut with *She Loves Me*! Bay Area credits include *The Threepenny Opera* (Polly Peachum) and



Seagull in the Hamptons (Nina) with Shotgun Players, Romeo & Juliet (Juliet) and Little Shop of Horrors (Audrey) with the ACT MFA program, and 'Tis Pity She's a Whore (Philotis) and A Christmas Carol (Martha Cratchit, Ghost of Christmas Past) with the American Conservatory Theater mainstage. Other regional credits include I Love You Because (Marcy) with North Coast Rep, Beehive: The 60's Musical and I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change with The Theatre in Old Town. Venter received her BA in Theatre from San Diego State University and her MFA in Acting from the American Conservatory Theater. Many thanks to RBF and Ryan for this amazing experience!

CREATIVE TEAM

Joe Masteroff (Book) is best known as the book writer for the Tony Award-winning Cabaret. Coming to New York from Philadelphia after attending Temple University and serving in the U.S. Air Force, he has been represented in New York City by the play The Warm Peninsula, the libretto for an operatic version of Eugene O'Neill's Desire Under the Elms and the book and lyrics for a recent production of Six Wives at the York Theatre Company.

Jerry Bock (Music) composed the music for The Body Beautiful (lyrics by Sheldon Harnick), Mr. Wonderful (starring Sammy Davis, Jr.), Fiorello! (winner of Broadway's Triple Crown: the Tony Award, the New York Critics Circle Award and the Pulitzer Prize - the fourth musical to do so), Tenderloin, She Loves Me (winner of Variety's poll of critics as Best Musical and Bock and Harnick as Best Composer and Lyricist), Fiddler on the Roof (nine Tony Awards, including Best Musical), The Apple Tree and The Rothchilds. More recently he composed the score for Sidney Lumet's film, A Stranger Among Us.

Sheldon Harnick (*Lyrics*) started as a violinist in Chicago, then moved to New York to pursue a theatrical career. In the 1950s, he contributed songs (e.g. "The Boston Beguine," "Merry Little Minuet") to revues on and off-Broadway. In 1957, he teamed with Jerry Bock to create a number of memorable musicals including *Fiorello!* (Tony Award, Pulitzer Prize), *She Loves Me* (Grammy), and *Fiddler on the Roof* (Tony Award). Other collaborations: *Rex* with Richard Rodgers, *A Christmas Carol* with Michel Legrand and *A Wonderful Life* with Joe Raposo. Member: Dramatists Guild, Song Writers Guild of America.

Robert Barry Fleming (Director/Choreographer) Professional directing and choreography credits include: All Shook Up (Center REP - 2010 SF Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Award for Best Direction of a Musical), Ain't Misbehavin' (Center REP - Shellie Award for Best Direction of a Musical), The Little Dog Laughed (The Diversionary), The Game of Love and Chance (San Jose Rep), Thunder Knockin' On the Door (ACT-Seattle), Twelfth Night (Alabama Shakespeare Festival); Educational: Erik Ehn's The Saint Plays including Assent/Irish Love Ray (world premiere) and Marat/ Sade (University of San Diego BA/MFA productions, respectively); Upcoming in 2011: Stick Fly (Mo'olelo Performing Arts Company) and Blues in the Night (Center REP). Robert has served as dialect and vocal coach for projects as diverse as Bonnie and Clyde directed by Jeff Calhoun and The Adding Machine directed by Daniel Aukin at The La Jolla Playhouse, A View from the Bridge and Death of a Salesman at the Arena Stage and Duncan Sheik's Whisper House at the Old Globe. His professional acting credits include Ragtime and Stand-Up Tragedy (Broadway), Insurrection: Holding History (The Public/ NYSF), and productions at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival, The Old Globe, The Guthrie. Film/TV credits include L. A. Confidential, Twilight of the Golds, and the Disney Channel's Adventures in Wonderland (series regular). Robert is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Theatre Arts Department at the University of San

Brandon Adams (*Musical Director*) recently music directed *A Marvelous Party* at Center REP. Favorite musicals he has music directed in the Bay Area include: *Old Wicked Songs, The Grass Harp, Hooray for What?, Nymph Errant, Do I Hear a Waltz?, Musical of Musicals, the Musical, My Fair Lady, Brigadoon, Will Rogers Follies and <i>Sweeney Todd.* Brandon has worked at Woodminster, 42nd Street Moon, Foothill Music Theatre, SF State and Broadway By the Bay. He studied choral conducting at Indiana University (M.M.) and Dartmouth College (B.A.). Brandon teaches music at the Pacific Boychoir Academy and the Urban School of San Francisco.

Annie Smart (Scenic Designer) Originally from London, Annie designed sets and costumes for the premieres of Caryl Churchill's Fen, Ice Cream and Hot Fudge, A Mouthful of Birds and The Skriker, and shows for the Royal Court, Joint Stock Group and the National Theatre. Now a Bay Area resident, local shows include: Othello, The Tempest, Man and Superman, An Ideal Husband, Private Lives, Pastures of Heaven (Cal Shakes); A Long Day's Journey into Night, The Weir (San Jose Rep); Brooklyn Boy, Theophilus North, Auctioning The Ainsleys (TheatreWorks); The Threepenny Opera, A Doll's House, Night and Day (ACT); and for Berkeley Rep: Big Love, Suddenly Last Summer, Fetes de la Nuit, Passing Strange, To The Lighthouse, Heartbreak House, Yellowjackets, In the Next Room (also The Lyric Theatre NY), Tiny Kushner (also The London Tricycle) and Taking Over (also The Public Theater NY). Annie teaches costume design at UC Berkeley.

Kurt Landisman (Lighting Designer) Local audiences will be familiar with his work through past productions designed for Center REP including Noises Off, All Shook Up, Cabaret, Ain't Misbehavin', Musical of Musicals (The Musical!), A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Mousetrap, How the Other Half Loves, Around the World in 80 Days, and Fugitive Kind. His designs have been seen throughout the Bay Area at many theaters including San Francisco Opera, ACT, Berkeley Rep, San Jose Rep, Theatreworks, California Shakespeare Festival, The Magic Theatre, and Marin Theatre Company. Locally his work has garnered 16 Bay Area Critics Circle Awards, 5 LA Dramalogue Awards and 4 Shellie Awards. Nationally, his work has been seen at many regional opera & ballet companies, including the Los Angeles Opera, Minnesota Opera, Virginia Opera, Tulsa Opera, and Ballet Arizona. His designs have also been presented off-Broadway, represented at Circle Rep, and the Douglas Fairbanks Theatres. Other designs internationally include world premieres of plays by Sam Shepard in Japan, and Singapore, as well as the San Francisco Opera in Shanghai, China, and the Moscow Circus in Tokyo, Japan.

Victoria Livingston-Hall (Costume Designer) is pleased to return to Center REP for She Loves Me. She just recently designed Noises Off, directed by Timothy Near, Witness for the Prosecution, directed by Artistic Director Michael Butler and Cabaret (Shellie Award) directed by Mindy Cooper. Victoria has a diverse background in design including industrial design, interior design, scenic and costume design. Costuming has been her focus for the last five years here and abroad. Her work in London includes, The Long Hard Goodbye- film, Olympia at the Baron's Court Theatre, S.N.U.B.- feature film-Angry Badger Pictures, Striklem, The National Film and Television School, British Society of Cinemotographers BSC Test Shoot, Viv Skillset Screen Academy, Midsummer Murders for Virgin Media and she assisted at the Holland Park Opera productions of Lakme and La Traviata. Recent work in the bay area includes the A Seagull in the Hamptons for Shotgun Players, the ReOrient Festival for Golden Thread Productions, Abe Lincoln's Big Gay Dance Party for SF Playhouse and the NYFringe Festival, among other shows for Crowded Fire Theatre Co. The Magic Theatre, and Theatre Artaud.

Lewis Mead (*Sound Designer*) Broadway Credits include: *Tom Sawyer, The King and I, Urinetown* and *Wonderful Town*. Touring credits include *A Chorus Line, Dreamgirls* and recently Julie Andrew's new musical *The Gift of Music*. Founder and owner of Autograph A2D a distribution company located in New York with offices in London. Autograph A2D distributes Digico D5T products and Ljudesign Scandinavia Loud Speakers. Founder and owner of Syntonic Design Group. Syntonic designs, and supplies audio rental and sales for theatrical and corporate theater.

Judy Disbrow (*Wig Designer*) and her company Theatrical Hairgoods have provided wigs for theatrical productions for over 30 years. She has worked with companies throughout the United States including Diablo Theatre Company, CCMT, La Jolla Playhouse, Arkansas Repertory Theatre, San Francisco Opera, Portland Opera, Florida Grand Opera, as well as many others.

Lynne Soffer (*Dialect Coach*) has been the dialect/text coach on over 180 productions for theatres including A.C.T., Berkeley Rep, Seattle Rep, San Jose Rep, Cal Shakes, The Old Globe (San Diego), Dallas Theatre Center, Magic Theatre, Marin Theatre Company, Aurora Theatre, Word for Word, PCPA Theaterfest, and the World Premiere of Moisés Kaufman's *The Laramie Project* at the Denver Center, New York and Berkeley, and for several films. As an instructor of acting, text and speech, Ms. Soffer has taught for many schools and theatre companies throughout the country in addition to working as an actor in theaters from Maine to Alaska. For Center REP she has appeared as Mrs. Higgins in *Pygmalion* and has been dialect coach for several productions.

Justin Cesarin (*Properties Artisan*) is happy to be back for his seventh production with Center REP, most recently having worked on *All Shook Up & Cabaret*. When not at the REP, he is a production design consultant in the Bay Area and Los Angeles, otherwise he's found in the garden. He would like to thank Rosie for her assistance with this show and her love & support.

Corrie Bennett* (Stage Manager) is delighted to be back for a third season at Center REP. Past stage management credits include A Marvelous Party, Witness For The Prosecution, Enchanted April and 2 Pianos, 4 Hands (Center Rep), Animals Out Of Paper, Shining City (SF Playhouse), and Dead Mother (TJT). Corrie fostered her Bay Area career at the Magic Theatre, highlights include: The Joan Rivers Theatre Project Workshop, A Long Christmas Ride Home, as well as Frozen at Marin Theatre Company, ACT's workshopping of The Tosca Project and Keith Hennessy's Circo Zero. Corrie studied Feminist Theatre at Antioch College and is the Production Manager for Homo A Go Go, a music/film/arts/and activism festival in San Francisco.

Joe Coe* (Assistant Stage Manager) This is Joe's third season with Center REP and he couldn't be happier to be a part of such an amazing team of professionals and friends! Joe has had the pleasure of working with such companies as Berkeley Repertory Theatre, American Conservatory Theatre, Summer Repertory Theatre, Suicide Kings touring production of In Spite of Everything, Boston Conservatory, SpeakEasy Stage Company, and Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre. Joe would like to thank all of his colleagues here at the LCA for a great season and for making it such a joy to work here!

Alex Logemann (*Deck Manager*) is celebrating his 23rd show backstage with Center REP. Alex has been backstage for nine seasons and is beyond pleased to be continuing wearing all black for such an amazing group. Alex has also crewed shows for Contra Costa Musical Theatre and with Diablo Theatre Company (DLOC). He wishes to express how much fun it is to do theatre here in Walnut Creek and is very thankful for our community. Our theatre family is an overflowing fountain of support and it is truly remarkable. Alex is excited to see what the future holds for Center REP and wants you to please join him as we 'celebrate the power of the human imagination'!

Michael Butler (Artistic Director) is in his fifth 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, Enchanted April, Witness For The Prosecution, and A Number, as well as acted in REP's productions of The Mousetrap and Noises Off. His directing work has also been seen at San Jose Rep, Cleveland Playhouse, Seattle Rep, Laguna Playhouse, 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 been the General Manager for the Lesher Center for the Arts since it opened 20 years ago and has worked for the Arts in this area for 38 years. Scott has directed over 150 productions, including The Wizard of Oz, the musical hit . Cinderella and Disney's Beauty and the Beast and for the past 14 seasons Center REP's A Christmas Carol as well as all Fantasy Forum productions since 1972. Scott has also designed lights for over 250 productions, including the national touring production of Sylvia. In 1979 he created the Shellie Awards, which annually honors outstanding performing arts achievement in Contra Costa County. Under Denison's guidance the Lesher Center for the Arts presents over 900 public events each year. He coordinates performing arts activities with over 85 producers and producing organizations. Scott created the Chevron Family Theatre Festival which hosted over 7,000 guests last year. He is also the Managing Director of the Center REPertory Company producing professional productions each season; and is the director and co-founder of Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble, an adult family performing arts company which presents programs for the young and young at heart. Scott will also be directing The Lady with All the Answers for REP and CCMT's Hairspray in the Spring.

THANK YOU TO OUR OPENING NIGHT DINNER SPONSORS:

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Center REPertory Company

Managing Director - Scott Denison Artistic Director - Michael Butler

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Joe Coe Deck Manager Alex Logemann
Production Assistants Sofia Dertimanis **Kel Mac Cormac** Kourtney McCrary Erin O'Donoghue John Valentine Kyle Valentine Ádministration Assistant to the Managing Director Gail Pfeifer

Program Linda Nomura

Production

OUR SPONSORS

Chevron (Season Sponsor) has been the leading corporate sponsor of Center REP and the Lesher Center for the Arts for the past nine years. In fact, Chevron has been a partner of the LCA since the beginning, providing funding for capital improvements, event sponsorships and more. Chevron generously supports every Center REP show throughout the season, and is the primary sponsor for events including the Chevron Family Theatre Festival in July. Chevron has proven itself not just as a generous supporter, but also a valued friend of the arts.

Diablo Regional Arts Association (DRAA) (Season Partner) is both the primary fundraising organization of the Lesher Center for the Arts (LCA) and the City of Walnut Creek's appointed curator for the LCA's audience outreach. DRAA's role in the community is all about building partnerships with the focused goal of enhancing artistic quality at the LCA and providing opportunities for everyone to enjoy the arts. Through partnerships with the LCA and its producers, individual donors, corporate and foundation sponsors and the City of Walnut Creek, DRAA plays a vital role in advancing the arts for the betterment of the community. Please visit us online at www.draa.org.

Contra Costa Times (Season Media Sponsor) In the East Bay, the largest newspaper of the Bay Area News Group is the Contra Costa Times and its sister editions, the West County Times, Valley Times, San Ramon Valley Times and East County Times. The Times, was judged the best newspaper in its circulation category in the state five times in a six-year period by the California Newspaper Publishers Association. In 2005, it won the prestigious national Freedom of Information Award from Associated Press Managing Editors. And, in 2007, it was honored by the California Newspaper Publishers Association for its leadership on public records.

ABOUT CENTER REPERTORY COMPANY

Center REP is the resident, professional theatre company of the Lesher Center for the Arts. Our season consists of eight 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. Many of the actors in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association or are Equity Membership candidates; many of our directors and designers are members of professional unions. 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 Lesher Theatre here at the Lesher Center for the Arts. Thank you for your support!