

KENTWOOD PLAYERS PRESENTS

ANGEL STREET

aka GAS LIGHT



A Victorian Melodrama
by Patrick Hamilton

Directed by Delbert Spain

November 13 through December 19, 1998

Westchester Playhouse
8301 Hindry Avenue
Westchester, California 90045
(310) 645-5156

ANGEL STREET

aka GAS LIGHT
A Victorian Melodrama
by Patrick Hamilton

DIRECTOR
DELBERT SPAIN
Assistant Director
JEANNE BASCOM

PRODUCERS
JIM CRAWFORD
HAL FISHER

Set Design & Decoration
Michael Cohen

Costume Design
Make Believe, Inc.

Light & Sound Design
Richard Potthoff

CAST

(In order of appearance)

Bella Manningham.....Mary Dryden
Jack Manningham.....Dave Parke
Nancy.....Sybil Grieb
Elizabeth.....Barbara Boone
Sergeant Rough.....Bruce B. Mathews
Police Officers.....Jim Crawford, Hal Fisher,
Van Mattiza, Bob Sherman

Setting: The entire action of the play occurs in a house on Angel Street, located in the Pimlico district of London.

Time: 1880

There will be one 15 minute intermission between Act I and Act II.

Decaf will be served at intermission, courtesy of Kentwood Players

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

This play was originally called *Gas Light*, and gas lights do indeed figure significantly in it. In our age, few people know and understand just what the structure of a gas light was. There was a mantle made originally of cloth and asbestos. It was tied on to the gas outlet and set afire. Before the cloth was completely burned off the gas was turned on and the very delicate asbestos bulb was formed. It burned white hot, and its light put out a glow that was the equivalent of an incandescent bulb of 200 or so watts. The intensity of the light depended on two things: the manual valve that controlled the feeding of gas and the pressure of the gas in the lines.

This melodrama is one of the gems that have come to us from the decade of the thirties. As nearly all plays of that era, this was originally performed in three acts, allowing for two intermissions; theater going was a bit more social than it is today.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Delbert Spain - He has been involved in theater, community and Equity 99-Seat, nearly all of his adult life. His early experience was chiefly in radio drama. Favorite stage roles include Reverend Brown in *Inherit the Wind*, Polonius in *Hamlet*, Shylock in *The Merchant*

of Venice, and Norman in *On Golden Pond*. The genres of melodrama and mystery are some of his favorites for directing, and previous directing projects include *Dial M for Murder*, *Sorry, Wrong Number*, and *The Mousetrap*. At the Globe Playhouse in West Hollywood he directed *Julius Caesar*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *Richard III*, and *Macbeth*, winning a Drama-Logue award in Direction for the last. He has also produced a translation of Moliere's *Le Misanthrope* in heroic verse. His proudest achievement has been his *Shakespeare Sounded Soundly: The Verse Structure and the Language*, published in 1988.

ABOUT THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Jeanne Bascom - Schooled in opera, radio and theater, Jeanne started as a choral and oratorio soloist and dance band singer. Favorite musical roles have been Ruth in *Milk and Honey*, Vera in *Pal Joey*, and Madam Armfeldt in *A Little Night Music*. Dramatic roles include Hecate in *Macbeth*, Mama Wheelis in *Daddy's Dyin' Who's Got the Will?*, and Magda in *The Night of January Sixteenth*. She has worked as assistant to this director before. During her fourteen year membership at Kentwood, she has served on the board and as Dinner Dance Chairman, produced, designed costumes and set decorations, gathered props, and sang in *On A Clear Day...* and *Man of La Mancha*. Oh yes, Jeanne is married to the director.

ABOUT THE PRODUCERS

Jim Crawford - Jim appreciates making his co-producing debut with the ever-helpful Hal Fisher and crew of *Angel Street*. He has enjoyed learning various aspects of theatre with the many dedicated Kentwood members the past few years. He hopes to equal this experience in the future.

Hal Fisher - Having tried his hand at acting (*Cabaret* "#1", Tenth man "#1" and *Andersonville Trial*), stage managing (*Steel Magnolias*), ushering and booth crew, Hal decided to tackle producing. Has is a 30⁺-year member.

ABOUT THE CAST

(in alphabetical order)

Barbara Boone (Elizabeth) - This is Barbara's fifth play with the Kentwood Players, the others being *Cemetery Club*, *Cabaret*, *Anastasia*, and *Man of La Mancha*. She has appeared in musical comedies at local community theaters including *The King and I*, *Oklahoma*, *The Music Man*, and *My Fair Lady*. Her favorite role so far has been Veta in *Harvey*. She is delighted to be in this production at Kentwood with such a fun group of people.

Mary Dryden (Bella Manningham) - Mary Dryden made her first appearance on stage as a ballerina at the age of three. Her dance background coupled with her degrees in Elizabethan drama led her to the London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art, where she

received her theatre diploma in 1984. Dual citizenship has enabled her to perform in Britain as well as the United States, and allowed her to assimilate both the English and the American approaches to acting. This is her second portrayal of Bella Manningham, the first having been acted at Theatre Palisades for which she was honored with the Best Actress award for the 1994 season. Kentwood audiences may remember her as Louise in Ken Ludwig's *Postmortem* in 1996, and she appeared earlier this year to critical acclaim as Myra in *Deathtrap* with the Palos Verdes Players. Feature films include *Private Collections*, *A Situation*, *The Sophia Replacement* and Eddie Murphy's *The Nutty Professor*.

Sybil Grieb (Nancy) - Sybil first performed at Kentwood in the musical *Can-Can*. A graduate of Hamilton Music Academy, she starred in their production of *Mame*. Sybil studied theater and dance at American Center for Musical Theater Training and Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Arts in London where she played Lady Macbeth in *Macbeth*. Last summer Sybil was one of 14 students from around the world to perform for the Royal Family of Monaco. Last year Sybil wrote, directed and performed *Beyond The Resume*, a one-woman musical theater tribute to Theater Palisades. Since then Sybil has studied at NYU - Tisch School of Arts majoring in Musical Theater and is now a part time student at UCLA.

Bruce B. Mathews (Sergeant Rough) - Mr. Mathews has been involved with theatre in Los Angeles for 25 years. He began acting while at the University of California, Riverside where he was a member of the MFA program as an undergraduate. He won the Inland Center Theatre Guild Award for Best Actor for his portrayal of Jaco in the musical *Carnival*. Mr. Mathews trained and worked at American Theatre Arts in Hollywood, where he participated in the original productions of *The Gin Game* and *Devour the Snow*. He won Drama-Logue awards for lighting design for productions of *The Physicist* and *Rimers of Eldritch*. Some of his most recent roles include: Salieri in *Amadeus*, Martin Dysart in *Equus*, Friar Lawrence in *Romeo and Juliet*, Iago in *Othello* and Jaquis in *As You Like It*. He was last seen at Kentwood as Paravicini in *The Mousetrap*.

Dave Parke (Jack Manningham) - Dave has been a Kentwood Player for just over a year and has been actively connected with every production since joining, either as an actor, stage manager, set builder or painter. This is the third role of his life and he says he is still having "more fun than a human being should be allowed to have." He wants to thank his "real" and "Kentwood" families for being so supportive and for putting up with him.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Managers/Stage Crew.....Bob Sherman, Jim Crawford,
Hal Fisher, Van Mattiza
Booth Crew.....Mel Barmazel, John Cavallo, Sheldon Cohen
Master Builder.....Sheldon Metz
Set Construction.....Dave Whale, Michael Cohen, Jim Crawford
Dave Parke, Bruce Mathews, Scot Renfro,
Jack Weintraub, Ben Lupejkis
Hand Props.....Sheridan Cole
Original Graphic Design.....Linda Parke
Publicity Photos.....Shellee James
Lobby Decoration.....Linda Parke
Audition Assistants.....George Rametta, Lauren Jarvis,
Charlotte Schildkret, Dave Parke, Jr., Hal Fisher, Sheridan Cole
Hospitality.....Arlene Cohen
Box Office.....Joseph Franzone II




STRIKE CREW & WORK SUNDAY

Miriam Amster, Tony Barlett, Mel Barmazel, Gail Bernardi,
Tom & Barbara Brophay, Patricia Butler, Eileen Cipriano,
Maria Cohen, Sheldon Cohen, Sheridan Cole, Joe Fagan, Shellee
James, Ben Lupejkis, Barbara McMurray, Treva Merritt, Vicki
Miller, Calia Mintzer, David Parke Jr., Sally Pierce, Lee Polak,
Tara Potthoff, Scot Renfro, Charlotte Schildkret,
Al & Muriel Sidell, Jack Weintraub, Ron Wisansky
and the entire cast and crew of *Angel Street*.

SPECIAL THANKS

Bill Wilday of Morgan Wixson Theater for antique sofa
Theater Palisades for Miss Dryden's gown
Del & Jeanne Spain of Antiques and Almost for
some props and set pieces
Sheridan Cole for additional set pieces



 You are invited to meet and greet cast members after the
performance in the Green Room. Please use the outside
 stairway at the rear of the theater. 



KENTWOOD PLAYERS COMING ATTRACTIONS

THE COVER OF LIFE

by R. T. Robinson

January 15 - February 20, 1999

Director: Sheldon Metz

CHEATERS

by Michael Jacobs

March 12 - April 17, 1999

Director: Lynne Ingram

THE HEIRESS

by Ruth & Augustus Goetz

May 7 - June 12, 1999

Director: Gail Bernardi

LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS

by Neil Simon

July 9 - August 14, 1999

Director: Toni La Monica

NUNSENSE

Book, Music & Lyrics

by Dan Goggins

September 10 - October 23, 1999

Director: Jeff Wallach

ARSENIC AND OLD LACE

by Joseph Kesserling

November 12 - December 18, 1999

Director: Sheridan Cole

SPECIAL THEATRE PARTIES

A special Theatre Party planned for your organization or group can be a financial success as well as an entertaining evening (or matinee) at the theatre.

For further information call: Calia Mintzer (310) 837-3609

RESERVATIONS ARE NECESSARY

Please call (310) 645-5156 between 4:00pm - 7:00pm

TUESDAY through SATURDAY

Reservations MUST be paid for by cash, check, member coupon, or season subscriber coupon one week after they are made.

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