

# FootLights

ILLUMINATING THE THEATRE COMMUNITY

*Kentwood Players presents*

## RAVENSCROFT



*By Don Nigro*

*Directed by Sheridan Cole Crawford*

*Produced by Larry Jones*

*September 11 – October 17, 2015*  
*Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.*

*Westchester Playhouse*  
*8301 Hindry Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90045*  
*(310) 645-5156 [www.kentwoodplayers.org](http://www.kentwoodplayers.org)*

*Presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.*

# RAVENSCROFT

by Don Nigro

Director

Sheridan Cole Crawford

Producer

Larry Jones

Set Design  
Jim Crawford

Lighting Design  
Richard Potthoff

Sound Design  
Susan Stangl

Costume Design  
Marie Olivas

Original Music by Alan Goldman and Susan Stangl

## Cast

(in order of appearance)

Inspector Ruffing ..... Scot Renfro

Marcy ..... Jessica Marshall-Gardiner

Mrs. Ravenscroft ..... Andrea Stradling

Gillian ..... Kati Schwartz

Dolly ..... Jennifer Marion

Mrs. French ..... Deborah Ishida

A remote manor house in a rural English county in  
December of the year 1905.

There will be a 15-minute intermission between Acts I and II.  
Decaf coffee will be served at the intermission, courtesy of Kentwood Players

Presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

## About the Cast



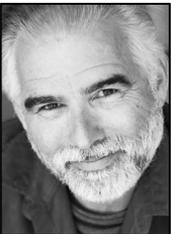
**Deborah Ishida** (Mrs. French) – is delighted to be back at Kentwood in the role of Mrs. French. Other roles at Kentwood include Mrs. Fisher in *Squabbles* and Inspector O'Reilly in *The Farndale Avenue...Murder Mystery*. Some favorite roles in other venues include Mrs. Watchett (*Time Machine*) and Duncan ("*The Scottish Play*"). She has also been in Ruskin Theater Cafe Plays, commercials, TV, and film. She is now crazy enough to perform stand-up comedy at The Comedy Store! A big shout out and love to children Rebecca and Keith, grandchildren Ethan and Emily, family, and friends. Kisses and hugs to Vincent.



**Jennifer Marion** (Dolly) – This is Jennifer's first production with Kentwood Players. She has found it an absolute joy to be a part of this company. Jennifer has been in other productions in LA and Orange County such as *Julius Caesar*, in which she played Cassius, at Citrus College, *A Comedy of Errors* as Dromio of Syracuse with Saddleback Players, and Gilmer in *Godspell* performed with Masquer Ministries. She is unbelievably grateful for the love and support from her husband, Daniel, her family and friends, who understand the phrase, "I can't. I have rehearsal." *Joshua 1:9*



**Jessica Marshall-Gardiner** (Marcy) – was born in Arizona but grew up in London, England, where she was classically trained in drama, singing, and dance. Appearing in her first film when she was five, Jessica went on to work steadily in film, television, and theatre. She played young Cosette in the Royal Shakespeare Company's *Les Miserables* and was Rebecca Gibbs in *Our Town*, alongside Alan Alda and Robert Sean Leonard. Jessica has worked consistently for the BBC, and she played Sophie in "Sophie's World," directed by Paul Greengrass (*The Bourne Supremacy*). Jessica is now very happy to make Los Angeles her home.



**Scot Renfro** (Inspector Ruffing) – was last seen on the Kentwood stage as the poor, confused Tito in *Lend Me a Tenor*. He also appeared in *Proof*, *As You Like It*, *The Odd Couple*, and more over the years. Thanks to Sheridan and this wonderful cast and crew for the opportunity to add Inspector Ruffing to the roster.



**Kati Schwartz** (Gillian) – New York/Regional theater includes: *August: Osage County* (Jean, Fulton Opera House), *Robin Hood* (Williamstown Theater Festival) *The Poor of New York* (Columbia Stages/Connelly Theatre), *The Tempest* (Ariel, Sterling Renaissance Festival), *Hair* (Jeannie, AWTP), *Waiting for Godot* (La Mama), *Two Noble Kinsmen* (Oxford Shakespeare Company). Film: *The Unspeakable Act*, *The Jane Games*. Kati is also a playwright, and her play *The Coward* premiered at Williamstown Theatre Festival in 2014.



**Andrea Stradling** (Mrs. Ravenscroft) – is delighted to return to the Westchester Playhouse where she most recently played Mrs. Marchmont in *An Ideal Husband*. Following that, she appeared as Edith Wilkins in *Dear Ruth* at Glendale Center Theatre. In 2012, Andrea portrayed Karen/Muriel/Norma in *Plaza Suite* at the Morgan-Wixson, for which she was awarded a Best Leading Actress SCENIE from StageSceneLA. Other local roles include Ruth in *Blithe Spirit* (Woody Award), Joanna Markham in *Move Over, Mrs. Markham* and Fiona Foster in *How the Other Half Loves*. Andrea sends love to husband, Nicholas (who has lately been avoiding all staircases), beautiful daughter,

Tierney, and Pamela, a very fat cat.

## About the Director

**Sheridan Cole Crawford** (Director) – After directing comedies, dramas, mysteries, romances, and a musical right here at Kentwood, Sheridan now enjoys the challenge of directing a play that does not conveniently fall into any given genre. Like life, *Ravenscroft* explores our relationships with people, death, secrets, truth, love, family—you name it—without providing any pat answers. The journey, not the final destination, is what it's all about, and it's been a pleasure traveling that road with an outstanding cast, crew, designers, and Kentwood supporters young and old, far and wide.

## About the Producer

**Larry Jones** (Producer) – Lifetime Kentwood Players member, actor, producer, and director Larry Jones is excited about working with director Sheridan Cole Crawford and the talented cast and crew of *Ravenscroft*. Favorite plays include *Biloxi Blues*, *Barefoot in the Park* and *The Odd Couple* for directing; *Wait Until Dark*, *Moon Over Buffalo*, *Arsenic and Old Lace* for acting; and *Becky's New Car*, *California Suite*, and *Ravenscroft* for producing. Larry would like to thank the crew for signing on and helping with this show.

## About the Designers

**Jim Crawford** (Set Design) – Jim has done many tasks for Kentwood from sorting screws and unclogging toilets to acting, singing, and producing. This is the eighth show he has set designed. Like most theater jobs, it is a very collaborative effort. He thanks Sheridan Cole and the Work Sunday crew for their assistance. This design attempts to express Don Nigro's interesting and challenging ideas about the interplay between the conscious foreground and unconscious background by reducing barriers toward our discovery of "truth." Enjoy.

**Richard Potthoff** (Lighting Design) – *Ravenscroft* marks Richard's 30th anniversary as a Kentwood member. He is a past president and has served on the Board in many capacities. He looks forward to getting back in the "techie" saddle.

**Susan Stangl** (Sound Design & Original Music) – directed the SCENIE award-winning *Becky's New Car*, appeared in *I Remember Mama*, *Rain*, *Blood Brothers*, and *Sordid Lives*, and designed sound for 40 shows—all at Kentwood Players. She plays Cinderella's stepmother in another Don Nigro play, *Cinderella Waltz*, running concurrently at the Morgan-Wixson Theatre.

**Marie Olivas** (Costume Design) – After costuming several Kentwood Kids productions, Marie is now helping costume Kentwood Players' main-stage productions. Past costuming credits include *Ragtime*, *An Ideal Husband*, *Mame*, and *Brighton Beach Memoirs*. Thank you, Sheridan, for the many hours you have spent with me organizing the Green Room. You have been the most instrumental mentor on my journey towards "Costume Designer."

**Alan Goldman** (Original Music) – is a multi-instrumentalist, songwriter, and composer, having written such tunes as *We'd Have a Great Relationship If It Weren't for You* and *The King of Romance*. His recording sessions and weekly jazz jams at The G Spot are legendary.

## Director's Note

Playwright Don Nigro invites the audience to explore the play and murder investigation through the eyes and mind of Inspector Ruffing. The rather unusual set reflects both the mind and the subconscious of the detective. Although he may be interviewing only one woman at a time in the master's study, the other "suspects" are always lurking in his subconscious, so they never leave the stage but remain as a rather hazy image in the background. When they move into the light, they move to the forefront of Ruffing's consciousness.

Nigro is also interested in putting a new slant on the popular English murder mystery genre where all the loose ends are neatly tied up at the end. He feels the human mind, like an old house, is a labyrinth full of mystery and surprise, and that the exploration of all these twists and turns in the story are more compelling than the final answer itself. So enjoy the twists and turns.

Sheridan Cole Crawford  
September 2015

## Production Staff

Stage Manager .....	Lynn Gutstadt
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Ellen Taurich
Dialect Consultant .....	Gail Bernardi
Script Supervisor .....	Charlotte Lee Gunter
Booth Crew .....	Nikki Corso, Jerilyn Kacena
Set Decoration Design .....	Sheridan Cole Crawford
Original Graphic/Lobby Design .....	Michael Cohen
Master Builder and Painter .....	Jim Crawford
Properties .....	Sheldon Cohen
Publicity Photos .....	Shari Barrett, Larry Jones
Audition Assistance .....	James Manley Green, Marie Olivas, Kira Sherman, ..... Jeanne Spain, Max Stormes
Hospitality Coordinator .....	Janet Lee Rodriguez
Box Office .....	April Kacena

## Strike Crew and Work Sunday

Miriam Amster, Gail Bernardi, Barbara Brophey, Doug Carlson, William Carter, Geanne Clarke, Arlene Cohen, Maria Cohen, Michael Cohen, Sheldon Cohen, Nikki Corso, Jim Crawford, Sheridan Cole Crawford, Kathy Dersheimer, Samuel Goldman, Debbie Goldman, Marlene Grinde, Michael Grinde, Charlotte Lee Gunter, Lynn Gutstadt, Barbara Haberman, Deborah Ishida, Ruth Jackson, Shellee James, Larry Jones, Glen Kacena, Jerilynn Kacena, Gretchen Luna, Daniel Marion, Jennifer Marion, Lori Marple-Pereslete, Jessica Marshall-Gardiner, Virginia Mekkelson, Melvin Miller, Barry Nackos, Marie Olivas, Dave Parke, Tony Pereslete, Lee Polak, Richard Potthoff, Scot Renfro, Valerie Ruel, Kira Sherman, Hazel Sherman, Andrea Stradling, Lynn Warech

## Special Thanks

Deborah Ishida and Jeanne Spain for the loan of furniture; Wendy Morgan for the loan of the rug; Scot Renfro for assistance with set decoration and for his restoration of the Kentwood marquee and sign; Heather Barnett for hair and makeup; Maria Cohen for the Work Sunday repast and committee members Barbara Brophey, Arlene Cohen, Ruth Jackson, Shellee James; Gail Bernardi; Lori A. Marple-Pereslete; John Spence; and Jim Crawford

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During the performance please turn your pagers to silent,  
and turn off your cell phones and alarms on your digital watches.  
There is no louder sound in a theatre than the rattle of cellophane.  
*Please unwrap your candy or cough drops before the play begins.*

Kentwood Players is a Member of the  
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You are invited to meet and greet cast members  
after the performance in the Lobby.

For up to date info about Kentwood Players visit our website

[www.kentwoodplayers.org](http://www.kentwoodplayers.org)

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If you plan to attend a performance with a group of at least  
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## Reservations are Necessary

Please call (310) 645-5156 between 4:00pm – 7:00pm WEDNESDAY – SATURDAY  
Tickets MUST be paid for by cash, check or VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER  
at the time reservations are made.

## Kentwood Players Coming Attractions

### *Something's Afoot*, a Musical

Book, Music and Lyrics by James McDonald,  
David Vos, and Robert Gerlach  
Additional Music by Ed Linderman  
November 13 – December 19, 2015  
Director: Catherine Rahm

### *A Raisin in the Sun*

A Drama by Lorraine Hansberry  
January 8 – February 13, 2016  
Director: Harold Dershimer

### *Man of La Mancha*, a Musical

Book by Dale Wasserman  
Music by Mitch Leigh, Lyrics by Joe Darion  
March 11 – April 16, 2016  
Director: Susan Goldman Weisbarth

### *Clybourne Park*

A Drama by Bruce Norris  
May 13 – June 18, 2016  
Director: George L. Rametta

### *Olive and the Bitter Herbs*

A Comedy by Charles Busch  
July 8 – August 13, 2016  
Director: Kirk Larson

### *Wait Until Dark*

A Mystery/Drama by Frederick Knott  
Adapted by Jeffrey Hatcher  
September 9 – October 15, 2016  
Director: Kathy Dershimer

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