

# Footlights

ILLUMINATING THE THEATRE COMMUNITY

It's time to play  
kvetch...



## Olive

*and the*  
BITTER HERBS  
by **Charles Busch**

July 8 - August 13  
2016

Directed by Kirk Larson  
Produced by Lori A. Marple-Pereslete

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

# OLIVE AND THE BITTER HERBS

by Charles Busch

Director

Kirk Larson

Producers

Lori A. Marple-Pereslete

Set Design  
Tony Pereslete

Lighting Design  
Robert Davis

Sound Design  
Bill Navarro

Costume Design  
Elizabeth  
Summerer

## Cast

(in order of appearance)

Olive.....Gail Bernardi

Wendy.....Alison Mattiza

Robert.....Ken MacFarlane

Trey.....Daniel Kruger

Sylvan.....Martin Feldman

## Setting

Olive's apartment living room in the East Thirties in Manhattan.

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



**Gail Bernardi** (Olive) – Gail is a long time member of Kentwood Players and has acted in and directed many shows at Kentwood and other Southern California theaters. Last year, Gail directed *4000 Miles* at Kentwood. She is thrilled to be working with Kirk and this wonderful cast in this hilarious play. This is the second Charles Busch play in which Gail has appeared. You may remember seeing her here in *Tale of the Allergist's Wife*. She hopes you enjoy the play.



**Martin Feldman** (Sylvan) – is kvelling to be back home with the Kentwood Players alongside this wonderful cast and creatives. Previous shows at Kentwood include the Governor/Innkeeper in *Man of La Mancha*, Lazer Wolf in *Fiddler on the Roof* and Mr. Bumble in *Oliver!* He recently performed in *Broadway Noir*, a new musical, at the Hollywood Fringe Festival and played Tevye in *Fiddler* (Long Beach Playhouse), Lazer Wolf in *Fiddler* (Norris Theatre), Mushnik in *Little Shop of Horrors* (SVCA), Judge Turpin in *Sweeney Todd* (Kelrik Productions at the El Portal), and Dr. Bartolo in *Le Nozze di Figaro* (Plovdiv, Bulgaria). In addition to performing, he is a vocal coach in Culver City and IT consultant. Continued thanks to family and friends!



**Daniel Kruger** (Trey) – is feeling as warm and runny as cheddar cheese to be a part of this production of *Olive and the Bitter Herbs*. A South Bay local, Daniel has performed in numerous theaters throughout Los Angeles and Orange County including the James Armstrong Theatre, South Bay CLO, Marsee Auditorium, El Segundo Performing Arts Center, Fullerton CLO, Downey CLO, Huntington Beach Theatre Co., and most recently as Dr. Carrasco in Kentwood Players production of *Man of La Mancha*. Some of his favorite credits include: *The Mousetrap* (Christopher Wren), *Bent* (Greta), *A Funny Thing Happened...* (Hysterium), *A Raisin in the Sun* (Karl Lindner), *The Pirates of Penzance* (Sergeant of Police), *Something's Afoot* (Nigel Rancour). Special thanks to his family, friends, cast and crew for their support.



**Ken MacFarlane** (Robert) – Ken is thrilled to be back on the Kentwood stage, previously appearing in *Six Degrees of Separation* and *Dracula*. Other LA theatre credits include *Mrs Warren's Profession*, *Murder-Madness-Mayhem*, *The Bad Seed*, *True West*, *The Misanthrope*, *Hamlet*, *Once Upon A Mattress*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*.



**Alison Mattiza** (Wendy) – Alison is extremely excited to be working with Kirk and this amazing cast and crew!!! Alison worked with Kirk on *Sordid Lives* in 2014 as well as on *Sabrina Fair* at Westminster Community Playhouse last summer. Other roles Alison has performed include Cassie in *A Chorus Line*, Roxie in *Chicago*, Adelaide in *Guys & Dolls* (which marked her Kentwood debut), Becca in *Rabbit Hole*, Lola in *Damn Yankees*, and Amy in *Company*. Alison has been a Kentwood member for over 20 years and is currently serving on the board as group sales chair. She is also very proud of her son Jack, who just finished his sophomore year in high school and may some day build the best roller coaster ever!!! Thank you to Jack and to West for humoring her theatrical passion!

## About the Director

**Kirk Larson** (Director) – Kirk is glad to be returning to Kentwood Players where he last directed *Sordid Lives*. Other shows he's proud to have directed here include *The Fantasticks*, *Father of the Bride*, and *Forever Plaid*. Kirk would like to thank his wonderful cast and crew for making this such a wonderful experience. Flames. GMJS.

## About the Producer

**Lori A. Marple-Pereslete** (Producer) – has been a Kentwood member for 15 years and currently serving as Production Manager and Kentwood's Properties Mistress. She won Producer of the year for *Into the Woods* and has produced many Kentwood productions including *Something's Afoot*, *Mame*, *Sordid Lives*, *The 39 Steps* and *Candide*. When not producing, Lori can usually be found backstage building and decorating sets, stage managing, or assisting other theatres in searching for props. She's very excited to be working with such a talented cast and production team. She hopes you enjoy the show. Thanks to Tony for being a wonderful husband!

## About the Designers

**Tony Pereslete** (Set Design) – Tony laughed out loud when he first read *Olive and the Bitter Herbs*. This play will have you in stitches. He is proud and excited to be involved in this production. Tony has designed sets for many great Kentwood Players such as *Into the Woods*, *Mame*, *The 39 Steps*, *The Fantasticks*, *The Miracle Worker*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Rainmaker*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and others.

**Robert Davis** (Lighting Design) – Robert is thrilled to return to light the stage of the Westchester Playhouse, and he wishes to thank Kirk for the chance to work together on *Olive and the Bitter Herbs*. Recent SoCal lighting credits include *Into the Woods*, *Sordid Lives*, *California Suite*, *The 39 Steps*, and *Oliver!* here at the Westchester Playhouse, *Copenhagen* at The Attic, and *Play It Again Sam* at the Morgan-Wixson Theatre. Robert holds a BFA in Theatre Arts from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. When not hanging from the rafters he busies himself narrating audiobooks. Much love to JP, always.

**Bill Navarro** (Sound Design) – Bill has over thirty years of experience in radio, television and movies. He's voiced characters for the Little Lulu and Captain Future cartoons. He's worked sound for *Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid*, *The Man with Two Brains*; *Young Warriors*, *Distortions*, and *Dismembered*. Back in the '70s he helped produced the then rock and roll KRLA Radio Series "The Credibility Gap" and was a network announcer for KYPA Radio, heard on seven stations across the country.

**Elizabeth Summerer** (Costume Design) – Elizabeth has helped to design costumes for such shows as *The Great American Trailer Park Musical*, *Sabrina Fair*, *Into the Woods*, *She Loves Me*, *City of Angels*, *Dracula*, *Seussical the Musical* among others. She is proud to be part of such an awesome costume team alongside her BFF Jon! Special thanks to the cast for being such troopers and a shout out to the other production staff!! SKS/FLAMES MM

## Production Staff

Stage Manager .....	Jerilynn Kacena
Script Supervisor.....	Charlotte Lee Gunter, Colleen Okida
Booth Crew .....	Mel Miller, Virginia Mekkelson
Set Decoration Design .....	Lori A. Marple-Pereslete
Original Graphic Design .....	West Maatita
Lobby Design.....	Michael Cohen
Master Builders.....	Jim Crawford, George Kondreck
Set Painting .....	Daniel Kruger, Lori A. Marple-Pereslete
Wig Design .....	Jon Sparks
Properties .....	Lori A. Marple-Pereselete
Publicity Photos .....	Shari Barrett
Audition Assistance .....	Catherine Rahm, Virginia Mekkelson, Max Stormes
Box Office.....	April Kacena, Lundyn Lightburn

## Strike Crew and Work Sunday

Alta Abbott, Greg Abbott, Miriam Amster, Samantha Barrios, Gail Bernardi, William Carter, Geanne Clarke, Arlene Cohen, Sheldon Cohen, Sheridan Cole, Jim Crawford, Robert Davis, Marty Feldman, Samuel Goldman, Michael Grinde, Marlene Grinde, Glen Kacena, Jerilynn Kacena, Daniel Kruger, Kirk Larson, Gretchen Luna, Ben Lupejkis, West Maatita, Lori A. Marple-Pereslete, Alison Mattiza, Virginia Mekkelson, Melvin Miller, Eddie Ed O'Brien, Dave Parke, Tony Pereslete, Adina Silo, Jon Sparks, Max Stormes, Lynn Warech, Susan Weisbarth

## Special Thanks

Jim Crawford, Shawn Summerer, and Daniel Ardel  
(Assistant Manager at BTS Thrift Store, Culver City)



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There is no louder sound in a theatre than the rattle of cellophane.  
*Please unwrap your candy or cough drops before the play begins.*

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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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Tickets MUST be paid for by cash, check or VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER  
at the time reservations are made.

## Kentwood Players Coming Attractions

*Wait Until Dark*, a Mystery/Drama  
Frederick Knott  
Adapted by Jeffrey Hatcher  
September 9 – October 15, 2016  
Director: Kathy Dershimer

*Young Frankenstein*, a Musical  
Book by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan  
Music and Lyrics by Mel Brooks  
November 11 – December 17, 2016  
Director: Alison Mattiza

*The Imaginary Invalid*, a Comedy  
by Molière  
Adapted from the translation  
by Charles Heron Wall  
January 13 – February 18, 2017  
Director: Susan Stangl

*Big Fish*, a Musical  
Book by John August  
Music and Lyrics by Andrew Lippa  
Based on the novel by Daniel Wallace  
March 17 – April 22, 2017  
Director: Catherine Rahm

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