

FootLights

ILLUMINATING THE THEATRE COMMUNITY

KENTWOOD PLAYERS PRESENTS

a **dark** drama with **comedic** overtones

july 14
thru
august 19
2017



a play by
neil simon

the
GINGERbread
Lady

directed by
drew fitzsimmons

produced by
jenny boone
& lynngutstadt

by Special Arrangement with
Samuel French, Inc.

Westchester Playhouse • 8301 Hindry Ave. Los Angeles, CA. 90045

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THE GINGERBREAD LADY

by Neil Simon

Director
Drew Fitzsimmons

Assistant Director
Katie Harfoush

Producers
Jenny Boone and Lynn Gutstadt

Set Design
Drew Fitzsimmons

Lighting and Sound Design
Bruce Starrett

Costume Design
Sheridan Cole

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Jimmy Perry Ken MacFarlane
Manuel Al Gomez
Toby Landau Genous Novin
Evy Meara Lezlie Moore
Polly Meara Sara Bozin
Lou Tanner Marco Garcia Ballare

A Brownstone Apartment in the West Seventies in the early 1970s

Act I Mid-November—Late Afternoon

Act II Three Weeks Later—About 9:00 P.M.

Act III The Following Morning

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

Produced by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

About the Cast



Marco Garcia Ballare (Lou Tanner) – Marco was last seen on the Actor’s Co-Op stage in *Summer & Smoke* as Mr. Gonzalez. Marco trained at Playhouse West acting studio. Favorite roles include The Director in *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, Mike in *Petty Theft* (directed by Ken MacFarlane), and Uncle Juan-Juan in *Novio Boy*. He is grateful for the support of his tribe: Janice, River and Mars, and thanks you for supporting live theatre!



Sara Bozin (Polly Meara) – Sara is thrilled to be making her Kentwood Players debut! She has been in several shows over the years such as *Into the Woods* (Cinderella), *The Music Man* (Marian Paroo), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Kitty), *Peter Pan* (Wendy) and *The Little Mermaid* (Ariel) to name just a few! She is currently studying theater at Cal State University Fullerton, works as a princess party performer in her spare time, and actually does really enjoy Sara Lee cheesecake. She would like to thank Drew, her family, the cast, and everyone involved at Kentwood Players for this incredible opportunity. Enjoy the show!



Al Gomez (Manuel) – Aside from being an up and coming actor that graduated from the University of Southern California, Al loves mint chocolate chip ice cream and to mix in milk with said ice cream for more of a soft serve feel. He prefers soymilk to regular dairy milk despite not being lactose intolerant, but either works. This is his first show with Kentwood Players and he is thrilled to be part of such a talented cast of actors. He has studied with Groundlings and at the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco.



Ken MacFarlane (Jimmy Perry) – Ken is thrilled to be back at Kentwood Players, previously appearing in *Olive and The Bitter Herbs*, *Dracula* and *Six Degrees of Separation*. Other acting credits include, *Murder-Madness-Mayhem*, *The Bad Seed*, *True West*, *The Misanthrope*, *Hamlet*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Enemy of the People*.



Lezlie Moore (Evy Meara) – Lezlie Moore is the most beautiful, talented, and hardworking actress in Hollywood ... according to her husband. She was humbled to be chosen to play Evy Meara in this production. Then she remembered that Evy is a washed up, alcoholic cabaret singer who swears a lot and became even more humbled. Since she had the privilege of sharing the stage with the amazing cast of *The Imaginary Invalid* this past winter, this marks Lezlie's second performance with Kentwood Players. She hopes there will be many more in the future.



Genous Novin (Toby Landau) – As a young child, Genous flew over the Atlantic and landed in the Midwest. During college her heart strings began pulling her towards the California Coast. She enjoyed a few years of lucrative work in commercials and music videos. Then she traded the work for family when she met and married the one man who calmed her frantic heart, Pablo. Together they had Ginger and River and embarked on a homeschooling journey. In between chauffeuring her children to dance rehearsals, synchronized swim lessons, art, STEM classes, horseback and orchestra practice she is a poet, a photographer and currently working on her memoir, *Born In Iran--Made In America*. This is her first play.

About the Production Staff

Drew Fitzsimmons (Director/Set Designer) – Drew is proud to celebrate 15 years as a Kentwood Player with this beautiful play, and is truly honored by this first-rate cast and crew. Drew's directing career began with the Kentwood Kids performing arts program and has skyrocketed since then. He has risen to the ranks of Artistic Director of the San Pedro Theatre Club and has designed and built sets for stage, film, and television all over LA. His last Kentwood production was Lee Blessing's *Fortinbras*. He currently is one of the cofounders of The Other House L.A. school of performing arts, in Westchester. He loves to talk about his accomplishments. If you see him in the lobby, just ask.

Jenny Boone (Producer) – Jenny most recently produced last season's *Wait Until Dark*, and is happy to be producing again and working with Drew, Lynn and an amazing team. A lifetime member, Jenny has been active on Kentwood's stage since appearing in *Inherit the Wind* in 1973, behind the scenes producing, stage managing, operating lights and sound on many productions, and serving on Kentwood's Board of Directors in various capacities. With love and gratitude to Larry, Brandon and Erin for all their support and patience!

Lynn Gutstadt (Producer) – Lynn keeps busy in all areas of Kentwood Players, her new second home. She has performed in *Young Frankenstein* (Shoeshine "Boy", Ensemble), *Something's Afoot* (Dr. Grayburn) and *Mame* (Sally Cato, Ensemble). Behind the scenes, she has served as Stage Manager for *Ravenscroft* and Assistant Stage Manager for *Clybourne Park*, and was recently elected President of the KP Board of Directors after serving a year as Treasurer. Lynn has a B.A. in Theater from UC Riverside and an M.A. in Communication Research from Stanford University. Love and thanks to Patrick and Megan for tolerating my theater addiction!

Bruce Starrett (Lighting and Sound Design) – Bruce has been working with Drew whenever possible since 2009. Drew has a complete creative vision for his shows and Bruce enjoys the particular technical and creative challenges that Drew throws at him in every production. This time it's lighting a set with no walls and music that - well, I won't give it away. But it's been fun! Bruce's recent lighting credits include *Wait Until Dark* and *A Raisin in the Sun* for Kentwood Players, *Major Barbara* with Infinite Jest Theatre Company, and *Flat Stanley* at the Morgan-Wixson. Bruce has been a Kentwood member since 2009 and is currently serving as the theater's Technical Manager. Thanks to Drew, Jenny, and Lynn for the opportunity, and to the cast for their talent and hard work.

Sheridan Cole (Costume Design) – Sheridan has enjoyed a variety of jobs in her 46-year tenure as a member of the Kentwood Players. Besides costuming, she has produced, acted in, and directed several productions, including the 2009-10 "best play" winner, *A Little Night Music*. She is currently on the Board serving as Season Tickets chairperson and thanks our many subscribers for their years of loyalty and support of the Kentwood Players. Enjoy the show!

Director's Notes

There are many thoughts and emotions regarding addiction and abuse, but when the day comes that the addict finally seeks out help, their entire life has been stripped to the bone and they're a shadow of their former selves. Your existence becomes...threadbare. But a strange thing happens just before the thread snaps. Honesty. A moment of truth. Simon's play perfectly captures both the comedic and tragic reality of that moment of truth. A rollercoaster of feeling. A sensual battery. We all have our weaknesses and Simon teaches us to both respect them and laugh at them. Nobody is perfect and when you really love someone, they can often seem the least perfect of all. When you find a loved one, in their moments of truth, don't talk to them... listen to them. All honesty has ever required was an ear. Just one. Enjoy.

Production Staff

Stage Manager	Amy Witkowski, Phil Iadevaia
Assistant Stage Manager	Katie Harfoush
Script Supervisor	Katie Harfoush
Booth Crew	Jenny Boone, Katie Harfoush, Phil Iadevaia, Amy Witkowski
Set Decoration Design	Drew Fitzsimmons
Original Graphic Design	West Maatita
Lobby Design	Jenny Boone, Lynn Gutstadt
Master Builder	Jim Crawford
Set Construction	Marco Garcia Ballare, Drew Fitzsimmons, Myron Klafter, George Kondreck
Set Painting	Lauren Jarvis, George Rametta, Susan Weisbarth
Costume Assistance	Anne Klafter, Daniel Kruger
Makeup and Hair	Jon Sparks
Properties	Jenny Boone, Lynn Gutstadt
Publicity Photos	Shari Barrett
Audition Assistance	Max Stormes, Hilary Fitzsimmons, James Manley Green
Hospitality Coordinator	Lisa Bennet
Box Office	April Kacena

Strike Crew and Work Sunday

Miriam Amster, Ginger Arviso, Paul Arviso, River Arviso, Jenny Boone, Doug Carlson, William Carter, Geanne Clarke, Jim Crawford, Marty Feldman, Drew Fitzsimmons, Marco Garcia, Alvaro Gomez, Samuel Goldman, Marlene Grinde, Lynn Gutstadt, Lauren Jarvis, Glen Kacena, Jerilynn Kacena, Myron Klafter, George Kondreck, Daniel Kruger, Gretchen Luna, Lori Marple-Pereslete, Ken MacFarlane, Melvin Miller, Genous Novin, Dave Parke, Tony Pereslete, Lee Polak, George Rametta, Amy Witkowski

Special Thanks

Hollister Starrett for sound recording

Thank you from Drew

Hilary Fitzsimmons for lending an ear, Hollister Starrett's musical genius, Melodie S. Rivers... you know why, Family and Friends for love and support, and to the incomparable Annette Warren for being Drew's own Gingerbread Lady.



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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
LAX COASTAL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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

Special Theatre Parties

If you plan to attend a performance with a group of at least
ten friends, family members, or co-workers,
special group rates apply if you book your tickets in advance.
For more information please call (310) 216-9094.

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

Farragut North

A Political Thriller by Beau Willimon
September 8 – October 14, 2017
Director: Sherry Coon

Avenue Q, a Musical

Music and Lyrics by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx
Book by Jeff Whitty
November 10 – December 16, 2017
Director: Susan Goldman Weisbarth

The Crucible

A Drama by Arthur Miller
January 12 – February 17, 2018
Director: George L. Rametta

Sister Act, a Musical

Music by Alan Menken
Lyrics by Glenn Slater
Book by Cheri Steinkellner and Bill Steinkellner
Additional Book Material by Douglas Carter Beane
March 16 – April 21, 2018
Director: Ben Lupejkis

Match

A Drama by Stephen Belber
May 11 – June 16, 2018
Director: Bruce Starrett

TBA

July 13 – August 18, 2018

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