

Southport Dramatic Club

A SERVANT TO TWO MASTERS

A FARCE BY CARLO GOLDONI
ADAPTED BY LEE HALL
EDITED BY JOSEPH FARRELL
FROM A LITERAL TRANSLATION BY GWENDA PANDOLFI

DIRECTED BY STEPHEN HUGHES-ALTY

9TH-17TH MAY 2014

7.45PM



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Contains strong
language

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DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I was delighted to be asked to direct 'A Servant to Two Masters'. It is not often, as amateur directors, we get to work with such classic material. This script, originally written in 1743, has been adapted by the wonderful Lee Hall whose other work includes the screenplays for 'Billy Elliot' and 'War Horse'. His madcap interpretation of this great Italian comedy of errors has everything: lovers, lawyers, servants, masters, rissoles and spotted dick!

Betrothed couple, Silvio and Clarice, are devastated when Clarice's previous fiancé, Florindo reappears, back from the dead. In this wild farce things and people, are not what they seem - disguises, deceptions and tricks produce a whirlwind of mass confusion. At the



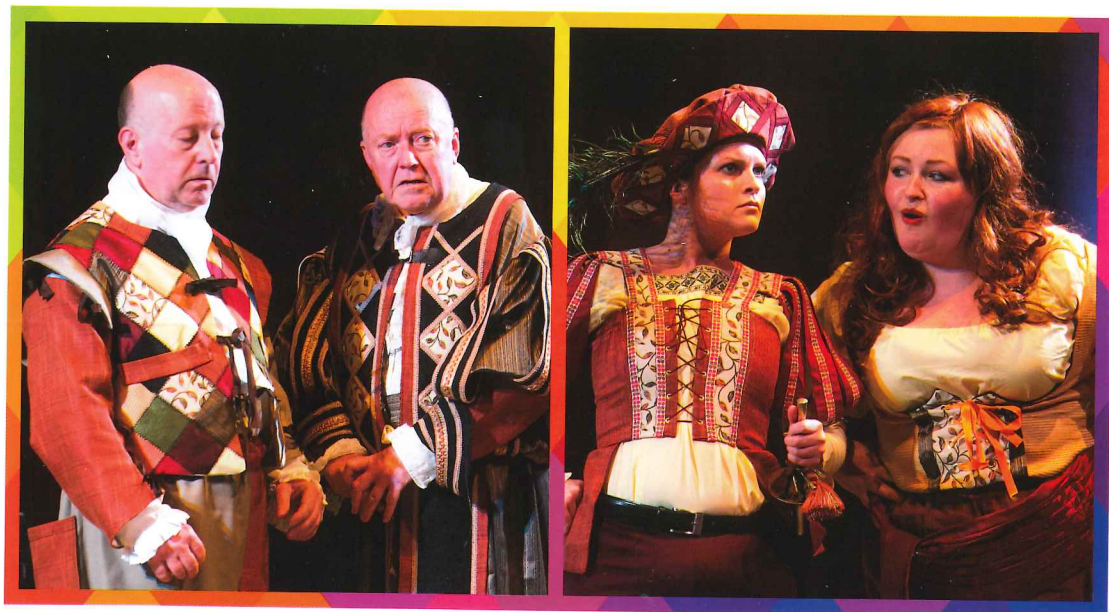
STEPHEN HUGHES-ALTY
DIRECTOR

centre of this mirth is Truffaldino, the scheming, and perpetually hungry, servant who concocts a zany scheme to double his wages (and his meals) by serving two masters at once.

I am indebted to so many people who have helped bring the play from page to stage. Firstly I must thank

my valiant cast who have improvised, characterized, learned lines and even helped move scenery in order to bring the production to life. Their efforts above and beyond the call of duty are very much appreciated. Secondly I must thank all the other members who have contributed to this production from backstage to front of house, from selecting the play to publicising and selling it. Finally, as always, I must thank you, our audience for turning off the television, stepping away from your computers and choosing to support live theatre. I sincerely hope you won't be disappointed.

Stephen Hughes-Alty,
Director



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CARLO GOLDONI

Carlo Goldoni was born in 1707 in Venice to parents Margherita and Giulio.

From a young age Goldoni was drawn towards the theatre; as a child his toys were puppets and his books were plays.

In 1723 his father enrolled him at the University of Pavia as a law student. Whilst studying there Goldoni took the tonsure and wore clerical dress. However in his third year at Pavia he composed a poem which made fun of the women of the town and led to his expulsion.

In 1727 he returned to his law studies in Modena and completed his degree. He then worked as a law clerk at Chioggia and Feltre where he questioned suspects, some of whom were under torture. Although Goldoni was settled as a lawyer, he was still attracted to the



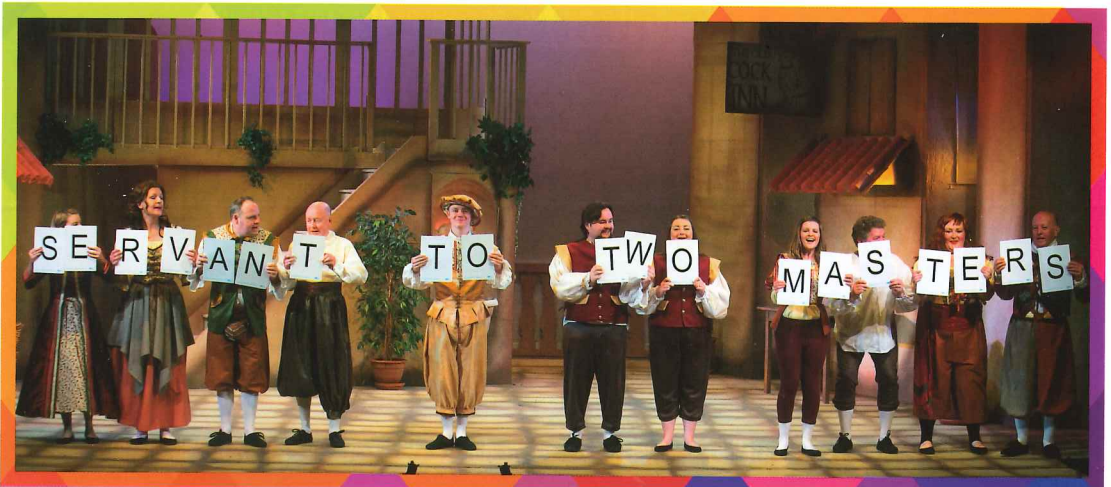
CARLO GOLDONI
AUTHOR

theatre. His first work *'Amalassunta'* written in 1732 was a failure. In 1734 he was engaged by Grimani to work at the San Samuele Theatre in Venice for the Imer Company. His career as a playwright is dated from this time. In 1736 Goldoni met his wife and lifelong partner, Nicoletta Connio.

His first real comedy was *L'umo di mondo* (*'The Man of the World'*) written in 1738.

In 1750-51 Goldoni wrote sixteen comedies for the season which included some of his masterpieces: *'The Coffeehouse'*, *'Pamela'*, *'The Comic Theatre'*, *'The Liar'*, *'The Gambler'* and *'The True Friend'*. Goldoni's fellow playwright, Carlo Gozzi criticised him in 1757 when, in a pamphlet, he accused Goldoni of destroying Italian theatrical tradition.

In 1762 Goldoni accepted an invitation to be in charge of the Comedie Italienne at the Royal Court in Paris, which came with a pension. Goldoni settled in Paris where he wrote plays and his memoirs. In 1765 he wrote *'The Fan'* which was his last masterpiece. During the French Revolution Goldoni lost his pension. He died in poverty on February 7th, 1793.



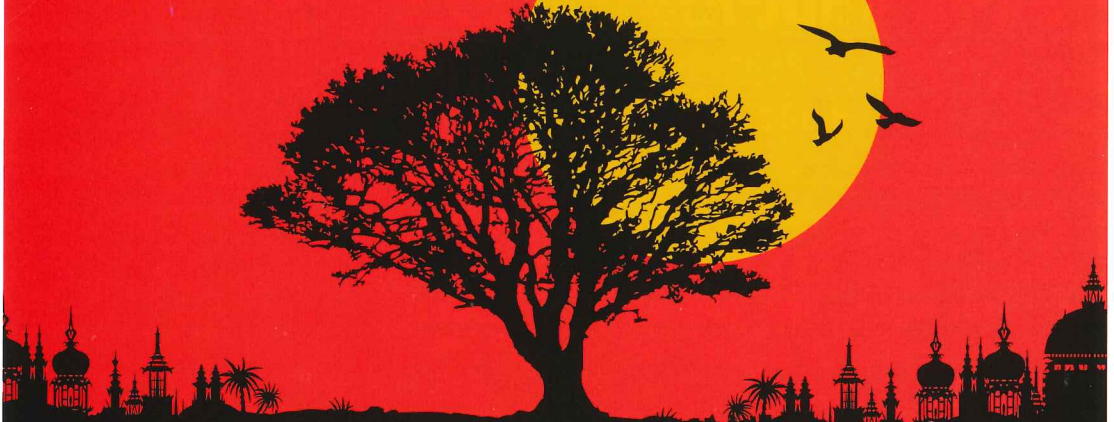


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A SERVANT TO TWO MASTERS

This comedy was written in 1743 by the Italian playwright Carlo Goldoni at the request of the actor Antonio Sacchi, one of the great Truffaldinos in history. The original production was staged in Milan. Large sections of the original drafts were kept for improvisation. The revised version produced in 1753 is the version used today. It is recorded that Mozart admired the work and wanted to turn it into a comic opera.

In the play Truffaldino attempts to serve two masters at the same time which results in some amusing consequences. The characters

in 'A Servant To Two Masters' come from stock characters in Commedia dell'arte which originated in Venice in the 1600s. It was a well-liked type of street theatre and usually came from improvised scenarios between characters, who were masters, servants and lovers. Commedia dell'arte would be performed by actors who went from town to town wherever they could find an audience.

'A Servant to Two Masters' is not considered to be true Commedia dell'arte because it has a script whereas true Commedia dell'arte is improvised without a script.

The play has been performed all over the world. It was adapted by the National Theatre, London, in 2011 in a production called 'One Man, Two Guvnors' written by Richard Bean, with a 1963 Brighton set replacing the Italian setting of 'A Servant To Two Masters'. The hit production also toured the U.K. It opened in the West End in 2011 and Broadway in 2012 and starred James Corden.

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SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

The action takes place in and around Mr. Pantaloon Persimoni's house in Venice and the inn next door.

The time is now... but three hundred years ago... approximately.
Just before lunch.

There will be one interval of twenty minutes

We recommend that you beat the rush and pre-order your drinks in the bar prior to the performance

The Little Theatre - Home of the Southport Dramatic Club.

The SDC wishes to ensure that all our patrons enjoy a comfortable, enjoyable and safe visit to our theatre. We should be grateful for your co-operation in helping us to achieve this. Please note the following:

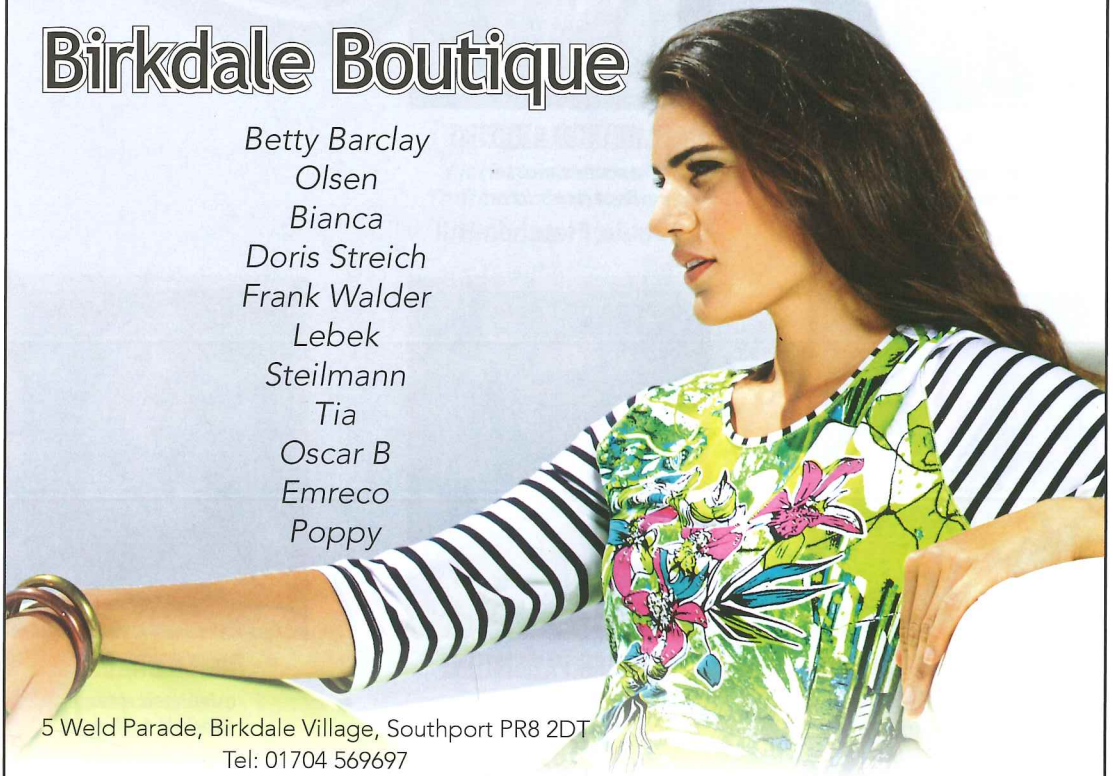
- Should you arrive after the performance has started, you will be guided to your seats when a suitable opportunity occurs.
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Designated Premises Supervisor, Alan Newport

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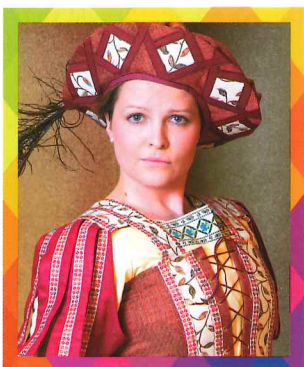
Betty Barclay
Olsen
Bianca
Doris Streich
Frank Walder
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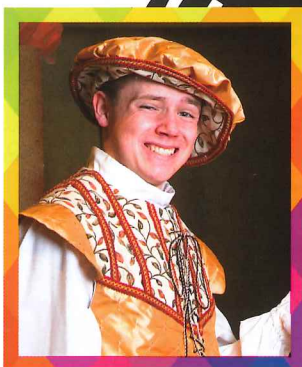
5 Weld Parade, Birkdale Village, Southport PR8 2DT
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TRUFFALDINO
the servant
Ted Bullen



BEATRICE RASPIONI
a master, disguised as her brother, Federigo, who is slain
Kerry Baratinsky



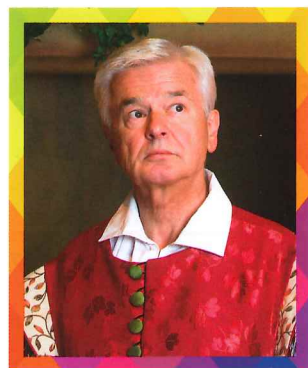
FLORINDO ARETUSI
another master, Beatrice's lover
Robbie Fletcher-Hill



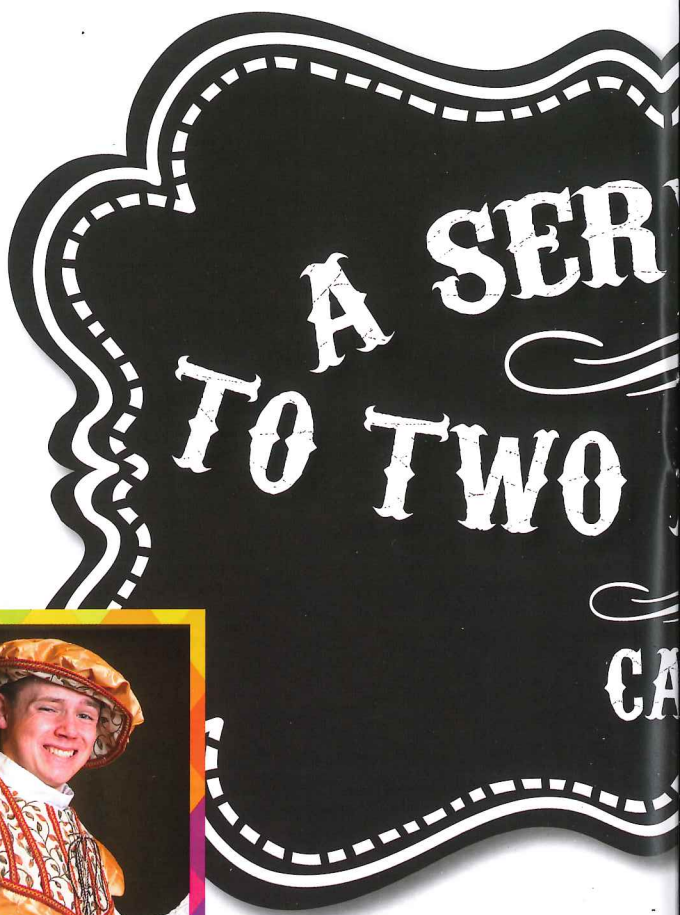
PANTALOON PARSIMONI
an old man, likes money
Mike Stowell



CLARICE PARSIMONI
Pantaloon's daughter, betrothed to Silvio
Emily Meadow



DR. LOMBARDI
a learned man, Silvio's father
Mike Yates



WANT MASTERS ST



SILVIO LOMBARDI
betrothed to Clarice
Adrian Roberts



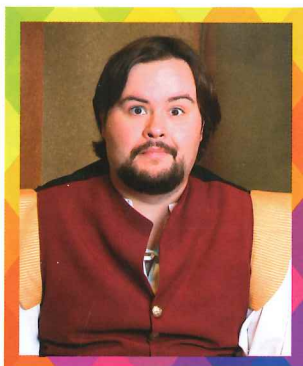
SMERALDINA
*Clarice's maidservant,
Truffaldino's love interest*
Philippa Hipwell



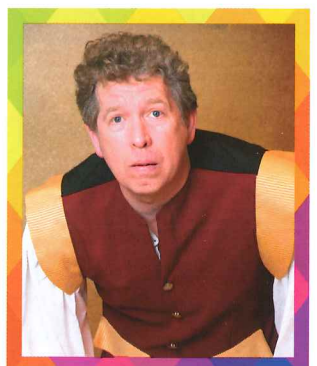
MISTRESS BRIGHELLA
*an innkeeper, purveyor of
fine food and drink*
Jenny Corcoran



HEAD WAITER
*not too bright,
loud and bossy*
Sian Woolley



WAITER
*even less bright,
does as he's told*
Simon Hawkins



THE PORTER
*was slow even in his day,
which was many years ago*
Brendan Gillow



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Lighting	Team LX
Sound	Brian Hodge
Scenic Artist	Bob Jessamine
Set Design	Syd Coley
Stage Crew	Lindsay Haywood & Andy Booth
Set Construction	The SDC Construction Team & The Cast
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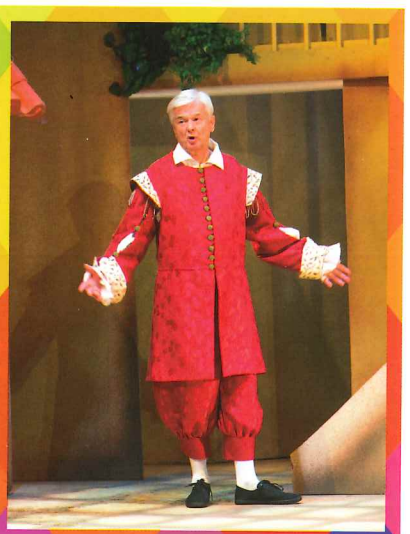
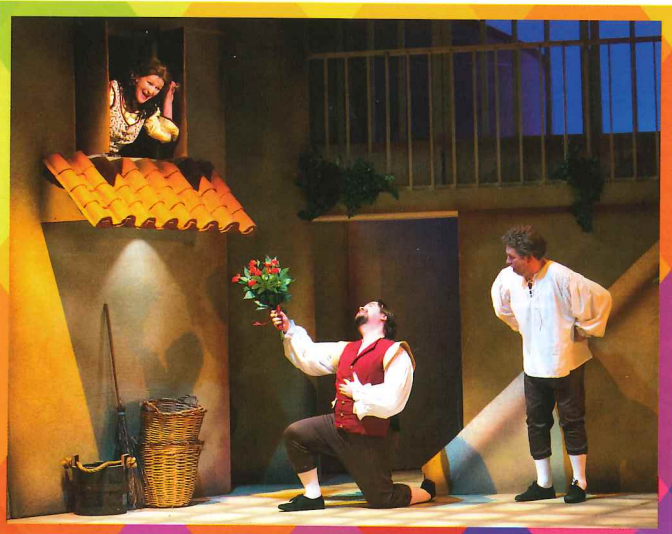
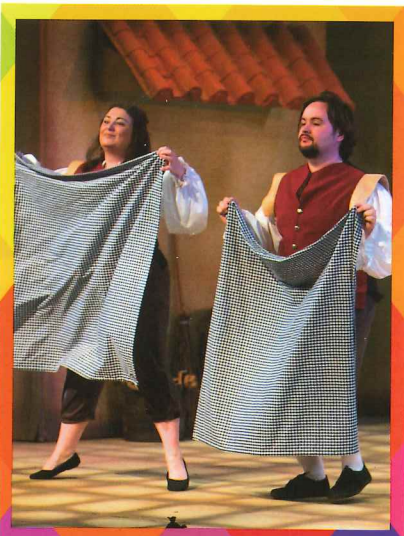
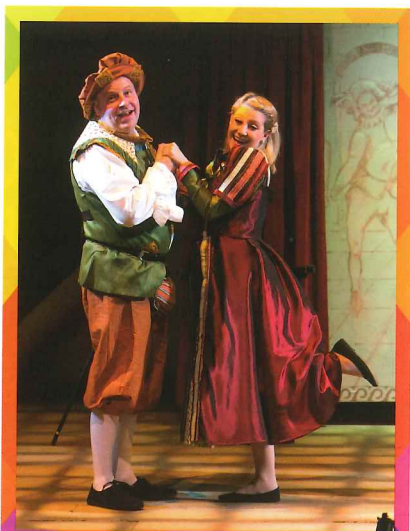
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THE CAST OF '75



In April 1975 the Southport Dramatic Club produced '*The Servant of Two Masters*'. At that time the version was adapted by David Turner and Paul Lapworth and produced for the S.D.C by Jocelyn Bell. Several members of the cast of '75 are still active members of the club today.

Doctor Lombardi, a Venetian lawyer	Mike Stowell
Pantalone, a rich Venetian merchant.....	Bill Finn
Smeraldina, Clarice's maid	Paulina Wall
Brighella an innkeeper	Ray Mann
Silvio, son of Lombardi in love with Clarice.....	Roger Guntripp
Clarice, Pantalone's daughter	Annette Farrant
Maidservant to Pantalone	Maria D'Alessandro
Truffaldino, a servant	Ian Sharp
Beatrice Rasponi of Turin	Jay Jobling
Florindo Aretusi, of Turin in love with Beatrice	Arnold Gorse
First Porter.....	Doug Linsley
Second Porter	Harold Dobbs
Young Waiter.....	Charles Preston
Fat Waiter	Doug Linsley
Old Waiter	Harold Dobbs

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Celia Timmington
Director

NOW IN REHEARSAL

Agnes of God

A Psychological Mystery Thriller

By John Pelmeier

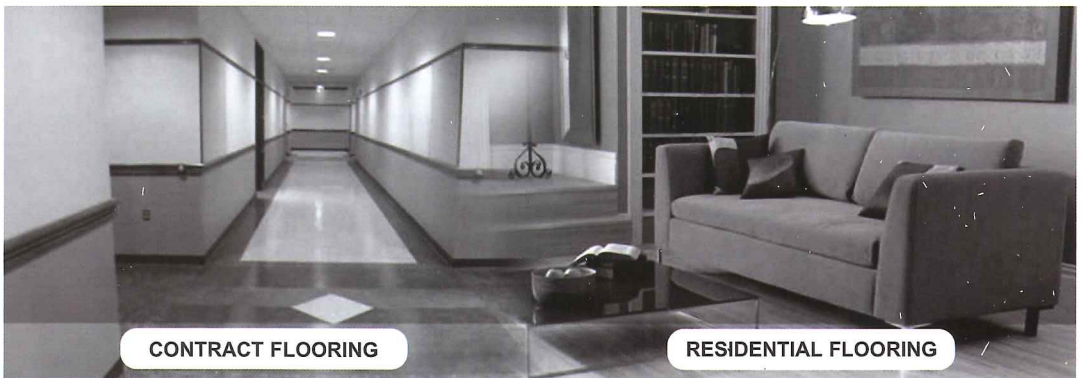
Directed by Celia Timmington

I am extremely pleased to be directing 'Agnes of God' as the Bar Production for this season. It is a play for accomplished actors, we have them. Our audience will be challenged to listen and think. One newspaper described this play as "riveting, powerful, electrifying drama"; let's hope we can do justice to that.

Summoned to a convent, Dr. Martha Livingstone, a court appointed psychiatrist, is charged with assessing the sanity of a young novice nun accused of murdering her newborn. Miriam Ruth, the Mother Superior, determinedly keeps Agnes from the doctor, arousing Livingstone's suspicions further. Who killed the infant and who fathered the tiny victim? Livingstone's questions force all three women to re-examine the meaning of faith and the power of love leading to a dramatic, compelling climax. Add to this story the fact that the young nun has "the voice of an Angel"; you will witness that voice.

Without question our audience will talk about this production long after they have left the theatre. We look forward to you joining us.

Celia Timmington, Director



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Book and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II

**SDC Bar/Studio
Production**



Box Office Opens:
27th May 2014 at 11.00am

3rd - 7th June 2014
Agnes of God

A Psychological Mystery Thriller
by John Pielmeier
Directed by Celia Timmington

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Southport Dramatic Club

AN SDC BAR/STUDIO PRODUCTION

Agnes of God

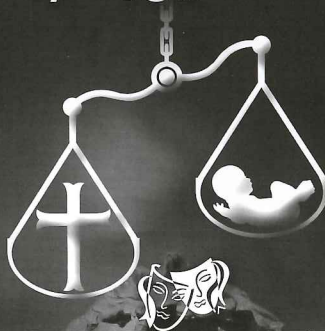
A Psychological Mystery Thriller

By John Pielmeier

Directed by Celia Timmington

3rd - 7th June 2014

7.45pm



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