

DRAPER ARTS COUNCIL UPCOMING SHOWS

Christmas in the Heart of a Child

November 27 to December 7

Show times 7:30 p.m.

(Saturday Matinee at 2 p.m. December 5)

Summit Academy Auditorium

1225 East 13200 South

Six heart-warming tales from the Christmas season, featuring music and story from real Draper families.

- *The Little Match Girl*
- *The Gift of the Magi*
- *The Littlest Angel*
- *Santa and the Gimnee Gimnee*
- *The Little Drummer Boy*
- *The Nutcracker*

Tickets go on sale at the website (www.draperartscouncil.org) two weeks before the first performance. Tickets are \$7 for children under 12, \$10 for adults.

Coming...in 2010

A spring **Youth Show** and then ***Joseph and the Amazing***

Technicolor Dreamcoat. More information on the 2010 season will be available shortly. Be sure to check the website (www.draperartscouncil.org) regularly, and ask to be put on our e-mail list.



**DRAPER ARTS COUNCIL
PRESENTS**

TWO ONE-ACT PLAYS

BY

A.A. MILNE

Before the Flood



The Man

**in the Bowler Hat:
A Terribly Exciting Affair**

Directed by Gordon S. Jones

November 6-7, 2009

7:30 p.m.

**DRAPER HISTORIC THEATRE
12366 South 900 East**

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Like most people of my generation, all I knew of A.A. Milne was the Pooh books and the children's poems. But Milne was also a critic, essayist, novelist, and, for the first half of the 20th century, one of Britain's most prominent playwrights. Almost all of his writing was for adults, as these two plays are.

In 1965 I bought *Year In, Year Out* in New York for a quarter. In terms of money spent per hour of enjoyment, that was probably the best buy I ever made. Since then I have done my best to bring Milne's writing to a wider audience.

In *Before the Flood*, Milne's last play, we have a semi-serious look at family and interpersonal relationships, but with Milne's typical wry approach.

The Man in the Bowler Hat: A Terribly Exciting Affair was one of Milne's first plays, and it lets us play around with what life might be like if it were at least as exciting as the average television soap opera.

I'd like to thank the Board of the Draper Arts Council for their willingness to indulge this interest of mine. Also, huge thanks to the Board of the Draper Historic Theatre for their stage and their cooperation. Long may they thrive!

— Gordon S. Jones

Many thanks to the Davis Arts Council for their use of the set for *Before the Flood*.



ABOUT THE DRAPER ARTS COUNCIL

The Draper Arts Council is a group of civic-minded Draperites who get together to promote and support the arts in Draper. The Council is a committee of and provides advice to the Draper Community Foundation (our parent organization) and to the City Council (our primary source of financial support) on the artistic needs and desires of the broader Draper community. Please think about lending us your support. www.draperartscouncil.org

DRAPER ARTS COUNCIL

Mike Weaver (President), Gordon Jones (Secretary), Leslie Johnson, Gaile Dupree, Vanessa Nelson, Scott McDonald, Lori Russell

DRAPER COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Leslie Johnson (President), Lamont Smith (Treasurer), Jeff Stenquist, Mike Weaver, Marsha Vaudrey, Bill Colbert, Katie Shell, Glen Sisam, Ken Murdock, Brad Wright, Josh Steinle, Chris Anderson, Ron Smith

DRAPER CITY COUNCIL

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DRAPER
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DRAPER
Journal

Before the Flood

Cast and production team bios

Cast (in order of appearance)

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Kerin (Shem's wife) | Nancy Parker Merrill |
| Hannah (Noah's wife) | Denise Gull |
| Shem (the eldest son) | Russell Merrill |
| Ham (the middle son) | Brett Howell |
| Japheth (the youngest son) | David Fleming |
| Meribal (Japheth's wife) | Lauren Baird |
| Ayasha (Ham's wife) | Jennifer Mason |
| Noah | Merrill Dodge |
| Nathaneel (a neighbor) | David Lach |
| Trizah (Meribal's mother) | Kathy Lee |

The Man in the Bowler Hat: A Terribly Exciting Affair

Cast (in order of appearance)

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Mary | Jeanette Jones |
| John | Chris Jones |
| The Hero | Bob Bedore |
| The Heroine | Kate Bedore |
| The Chief Villain | Tim Schomberg |
| A Bad Man | Jason Jones |
| Production team (for both plays) | |
| Director | Gordon S. Jones |
| Assistant Director | Haley Bown |
| Set Design and Construction | Jacob Bruner |
| Light Design | David Bruner |
| Light and sound operations | Kassie Gull |

Nancy Parker Merrill (Kerin) is happy to be performing again with her husband, Russell. They last appeared (as husband and wife) in Taylorsville Arts Council's production of *Oklahoma!* Nancy has worked with various theater companies throughout the Salt Lake Valley, filling in as actor, props master, and music director. She would like to thank her family and the E-flat minor scale.

Russell Merrill (Shem) is very excited to have this chance to work with this great cast and production team, but especially to have a chance to work with his wife, Nancy. He has enjoyed community theater work with West Jordan, Taylorsville, and the Draper Historic Theatre. This is his first time with Draper Arts Council, and he is really enjoying it.

Brett Howell (Ham) After 18 years away, Brett Howell returned to theater earlier this summer in the role of Rev. Toop in *See How They Run*. Brett looks forward to spending time on this and other Utah community theatre stages.

David Lach (Nathaneel) David works mostly in film, and finds it a treat to work with a great group of actors on stage. Having worked with several of tonight's cast folks before he is sure that this play will be fun both for the cast and the audience.

Kathy Lee (Trizah) Kathy has been acting since the age of three, but after 28 years teaching, she now has time to do serious community theatre and she is having a wonderful time.

Merrill Dodge (Noah) Merrill has participated in theater since he was 12, playing such roles as Teyye and Brigham Young. He has also directed many plays, most recently Arsenic and Old Lace at the Sugar Factory Playhouse.

Denise Gull (Hannah) Denise loves theater. She likes to direct as well as act (and help with anything in between) in the theater realm. Most frequently she is involved with the SCERA theater in Oren, the Sugar Factory Playhouse in West Jordan and the Timpanogos High School theater department.

Jennifer Mason (Ayasha) Jennifer has performed in several shows in West Jordan, most recently appearing as Elaine Harper in "Arsenic and Old Lace." 2009 has been a wonderful year of theater for Jennifer, and she's grateful for the opportunity to be in this production at Draper Historic Theater.

David Fleming (Japheth) David is a computer whiz part time and a full-time student at SLCC, where is studying the theater (if he passes Gordon's political science class). He plans to transfer to the U of U to major in Theater with a focus on Actor Development.

Lauren Baird (Meribal) Lauren is a part-time student working towards getting a degree in American literature and English, hoping to become an editor or a publisher someday. This is her acting debut.

Jeanette Jones (Mary) Jeanette claims to have a very ordinary life, but with a rather extraordinary husband and eight extraordinary children, that's not likely. She directs the Renaissance Academy Storytelling Festival yearly, but this is her first time on the "real" stage.

Chris Jones (John) Disclaims being extraordinary, but he does seem to do an extraordinary number of things, from brokering real estate loans to publishing a newspaper, to, well... there you are.

Bob Bedore (The Hero) Bob has done theatre in Utah for 30 years now and has been fortunate enough to perform on almost every stage. He also does stand-up and improv comedy (Quick Wits and The Thrillionaires) and has a best-selling book on improv. His most fortunate blessing is a wonderful family that let's him "act out" from time to time.

Kate Bedore (The Heroine) Kate is pleased to be on the stage once again! She has recently developed a passion for community theater, playing roles such as Queen Aggravain in "Once Upon a Mattress," Rita in "Lucky Stiff," and an ugly old pirate and hag in "Robin Hood: The Legendary Comedy." She thanks her wonderful family and friends for all of their love and support.

Tim Schonburg (The Chief Villain) E. Timothy Schonburg started at the old Egyptian Theatre in Park City, then performed in several independent film theatres in Utah. In California he performed in several independent film productions. Back in Utah, he has completed "Arsenic and Old Lace" at the Sugar Factory Theatre.

Jason Jones (The Bad Man) Jason comes from a dramatic family, so his presence on stage is no surprise. He last appeared in Draper in *The Music Man* (Quartet) for DAC.

Jacob Bruner (Sets Design and Construction) Jacob designs and builds sets, acts, sings, and directs in community theaters all up and down the state. He most recently played the flute and sang in Holladay Arts Council's

Riddigore.

David Bruner (Lighting Design) In that family, what could David do but be involved in every aspect of theater?

Kassie Gull (Light and Sound Operator) Does everything around the theater, including acting, but not this time. Thanks to her for her patience.

Before the Flood

A play in one act

by A.A. Milne

Scene 1: Noah's living/dining room 2348 B.C. (according to Bishop Ussher)

Scene 2: The same, a few months later

Scene 3: The same, a few days later

There will be a 15-minute intermission between plays

The Man in the Bowler Hat: A Terribly Exciting Affair

A play in one act

by A.A. Milne

The time: anytime when the unexpected might occur to the unsuspecting.

The scene: the unsuspecting Mary and John's sitting room, late evening.