



OPENING SEPTEMBER 23
AN ACT OF THE IMAGINATION



The 7th production of the 2016 Oyster Mill Playhouse Season, Bernard Slade's *An Act of the Imagination*, co-directed by Candilee Cain and Brian Stewart, opens September 23, 2016. The play is an artfully crafted maze of plot and character expositions which may or

may not turn out to be ultimately true.

The masterful suspense tale, riddled with shocks and surprises, involves Arthur Putnam, a successful mystery writer who has oddly departed from his comfortable genre and is writing a romance novel. The new book vividly chronicles an adulterous romance. Arthur's second wife, his son, and his editor find the honesty of the work remarkable since it is inconceivable that Arthur could ever have had such an affair. Then a woman, who is intent on blackmail and whose story is foolproof and airtight, comes on the scene. Murder, conspiracy, cunning, deceit and ingenious plotting ensue.

Patrons are advised that the production contains gunfire and a brief moment of graphic violence.

The cast is as follows:

ARTHUR PUTNAM	Greg Merkel
JULIA PUTNAM	Kathleen Tancelosky
DET. SGT. FRED BURCHITT	Robert Davis
SIMON PUTNAM	Jack Eilber
HOLLY ADAMS	Katie Merkel
BRENDA SIMMONS	Kass McGann
BROOKE CARMICHAEL	Megan McClain

Alice Kirkland is serving as Producer and Carol McDonough is the Stage Manager. The show opens on September 23rd and will run for three weekends.

SEP/OCT 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	01
02	03	04	05	06	07	08
09	10	11	12	13	14	15

Thursday, Friday and Saturday shows are at **8:00 PM**
Sunday matinees are at **2:00 PM**

IN THIS ISSUE

OPENING SEPTEMBER 23 — <i>AN ACT OF THE IMAGINATION</i>	1
SPOTLIGHT ON KASS MCGANN.....	1
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.....	2
CALLING ALL DIRECTORS.....	2
OYSTER MILL PARTNERS WITH CARLISLE THEATRE COMPANY.....	4
OYSTER MILL EXHIBITS AT PRIDE FESTIVAL.....	4
POSTCARD PATROL — VANYA/SONIA/MASHA/SPIKE.....	4
BYE BYE BIRDIE NEWS.....	5
CONGRATULATIONS TO CAST AND CREW OF VANYA/SONIA/MASHA/SPIKE.....	5

Spotlight On Kass McGann
by Mellissa Hurwitz

Kass McGann will be appearing at OMP for the first time in the role of Brenda Simmons in *An Act of the Imagination*, which opens on September 23, 2016. Kass began acting during her high school years in

Shamokin, Pennsylvania, and continued acting while a student at Bucknell University. She graduated from Bucknell with a degree in Japanese studies and spent the year after graduation living in Japan.

To focus on her career, Kass took a 22-year hiatus from acting. She started out in New York City, where due to her fluency in Japanese, she was an international money trader at the World Trade Center, until the firm for whom she worked closed their Tokyo office. After returning to Pennsylvania, Kass developed an interest in historical clothing from Ireland and she travelled to Dublin to study the exhibits at the National Museum of Ireland. Kass became an expert on the subject, giving lectures and learning how to make patterns for the historical pieces. In 2003 she started her own pattern company, for which her husband, Bob Davis, also works, and it has been their livelihood since its inception. Having her own company provided Kass with the flexibility to live anywhere, and several years ago they decided to move to St. Croix. Kass became involved in community theater there when Bob was asked to be the drummer for a production of *Dreamgirls*. They both started auditioning and appeared in many shows together for the three years that they lived in the Caribbean.

When Kass' mother began to have health issues, Kass and Bob moved back to Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania to be closer to her. Kass continued acting at the Courtyard Theater, which is housed in the Susquehanna Valley Mall. She and Bob had the leading roles in the Courtyard Theater production of *Rumors*. Now residing in the Harrisburg area, Kass is eager to continue performing at local theaters. She decided to audition for the role of Brenda Simmons because of her "linguistic penchant" (the character has a Welsh accent). In addition to Japanese, Kass is fluent in French, Irish Gaelic, and American Sign Language. When the script called for one of the lines to be delivered in Welsh, yet was written in English, Kass taught herself enough Welsh to be able to do it. She is having a great time with the show, which her husband is also in, and she is looking forward to auditioning for future shows, especially comedies and farces, which are her favorite to perform in.

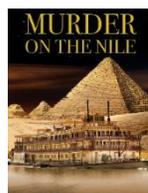
General Membership Meeting

In accordance with the Oyster Mill Playhouse bylaws, a meeting of the General Membership will be held on Sunday, September 25, 2016 starting at 4:00 pm. The purpose of the September membership meeting is to review the current financial state of the organization. **All members are encouraged to attend.**



Calling all Directors

Oyster Mill Playhouse is soliciting applications for Directors for the 2017 Season. A director for the 3rd show of the Season, *Superior Donuts*, has already been selected. The remaining shows of the 2017 Season for which we seek directors are as follows:



Murder on the Nile — Mystery
Dame Agatha Christie, the Queen of Crime, returns to Oyster Mill Playhouse with, *Murder on the Nile*. A newlywed couple embarks on their honeymoon voyage on a paddle steamer down the Nile accompanied by a bevy of memorable characters.

Performance Dates: 1/27/17 – 2/12/17

Audition Dates: 11/13/16 & 11/14/16

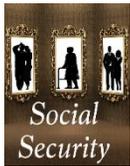
The Spitfire Grill — Musical
Based on the award-winning film of the same name, *The Spitfire Grill*, follows the journey of a young woman just released from prison who decides to start her life anew in



a rural Wisconsin town. Her arrival triggers a journey within the town itself toward its own tenuous reawakening. The folk and bluegrass tinged score is unlike that for any other musical.

Performance Dates: 3/10/17 – 3/26/17

Audition Dates: 12/11/16 & 12/12/16



Social Security — Comedy
This lively comedy focuses on trendy Manhattan art gallery owners Barbara and David Kahn, whose life is upended when Barbara's sister

Trudy deposits their eccentric mother Sophie on the couple's doorstep while she and her husband Martin head to Buffalo to rescue their sexually precocious college student daughter from a ménage-a-trois with two men.

Performance Dates: 6/2/17 – 6/18/17
Audition Dates: 4/2/16 – 4/3/17

Hollywood Arms Comedy/Drama

Written by Carrie Hamilton and her mother, Carol Burnett, this work is based on Carol Burnett's real life funny and moving story of three generations of women living on welfare in a one-room apartment, one block north of Hollywood Boulevard. It's a story about shattered hopes and realized Hollywood dreams.



Performance Dates: 7/7/17 – 7/23/17
Audition Dates: 5/14/17 & 5/15/17



Taking Leave — Drama
In the middle of the night, Eliot Pryne, professor of English Literature—specialty Shakespeare—is packing what he thinks is a suitcase and

leaving what he thinks is a hotel. In the early stages of Alzheimer's disease, he is "taking leave" of the real world and painfully transitioning to a new one. His alter-ego, seen only by the audience, charts this final voyage speaking as Eliot once did when he was the leading authority on Shakespeare's *King Lear*.

Performance Dates: 8/11/17 – 8/28/17
Audition Dates: 6/11/17 & 6/12/17

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels—Musical

The *Sunday Times* critic called *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* "a scandalous delight." This colorful musical is set in the glitzy world of the French Riviera where casino culture is rife. Master con-artist Lawrence Jameson makes a living tricking old, rich ladies into giving him their money. But when he takes young con-artist Freddy under his wing, they decide the town just isn't big enough for the two of them, they challenge each other to a bet.



Performance Dates: 9/22/17 – 10/8/17
Audition Dates: 7/9/17 & 7/10/17



Jeeves Intervenes — Comedy
1920s high-society London is once again thrown into chaos by hapless playboy Bertie Wooster, this time in cahoots with his old school chum

Eustace Bassington-Bassington. The two hatch a brilliant plan to dupe their meddling relatives in order to save Bertie from an undesired marriage and Eustace from an unwanted job in India. But will the ever-faithful manservant Jeeves be able to rescue these bumbling fools from themselves? A delightful romp full of deception and disguise.

Performance Dates: 11/3/17 – 11/19/17
Audition Dates: 8/20/17 & 8/21/17

Please forward your statement of interest and any questions to directors2017@oystermill.com. Please include which show(s) you are interested in directing, your contact information, and your availability for an interview.

Individuals interested in serving as musical director and/or vocal director for the two Season 2017 musical productions should also apply. Any questions can also be forwarded to the same above address.



Oyster Mill Exhibits at Pride Festival of Central PA

By Keith Bowerman

On Saturday, July 30, the Oyster Mill Playhouse came together with several major local businesses and civic groups to participate in the 24th Annual Pride Festival of Central PA.

The stated aim of the festival is to increase positive visibility of the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender community of central Pennsylvania by providing opportunities to express and celebrate diverse perspectives, emphasizing acceptance of all individuals regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. These are values shared by Oyster Mill, which encourages inclusion in all of its theatre opportunities for all who want to be involved, regardless of race, color, religion, and sexual orientation.

Despite the not-so-perfect weather conditions, the enthusiasm of the festival-goers was infectious. Our staff spoke with several thousand attendees about upcoming opportunities for entertainment, participation, and education at the Playhouse, and the response was overwhelmingly positive. We also had the opportunity to see several old friends, and to network with even more new ones!

Participation in the festival was a very positive experience, and we are proud to have been a part of it!

Postcard Patrol

Thanks to the following who toiled enthusiastically to label the publicity postcards for *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*:

Aliza Bardfield ✉ *Allison Barno*
Michael Beckstein ✉ *Denise Carman*
Susan Wray Danowitz ✉ *Marte Engle*
Lily Hess ✉ *Chris Holbert*
Stephen Martin ✉ *Megan McClain*
Joyce O'Donnell

OYSTER MILL PARTNERS WITH CARLISLE THEATRE COMPANY

TO OFFER —

A SEASON OF ENTERTAINMENT ON THE WEST SHORE

The diversity of live theatre entertainment available at these two community theatres during the 2017 Season is enormous. Oyster Mill Playhouse is offering a lineup of:

Murder on the Nile

Spitfire Grill

Superior Donuts

Social Security

Hollywood Arms

Taking Leave

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels

Jeeves Intervenes

plus an evening of staged readings of the works of local playwrights in the middle of the season

Carlisle Theatre Company is presenting:

Disenchanted

Sister Act

Bat Boy the Musical

Catch Me If You Can

Legally Blonde the Musical

Oyster Mill Playhouse is joining with the Carlisle Theatre Company to offer a raffle prize of two (2) full 2017 season tickets to both theatres — a combined value of \$ 436!!

Tickets are \$ 10 apiece and available at both theatres through November 20, 2016. The winner will be chosen at random from the combined entries and contacted by telephone within 2 weeks of the close of the raffle.

There is no limit on the number of entries. All proceeds will be distributed equally between the two theatres. Contact the OMP box office with any questions.

**LAST SHOW OF THE 2016 SEASON
BYE BYE BIRDIE**



Many talented young performers and several talented adults attended the three days of auditions held by *Birdie* Director Bob Casey with the help of Musical Director Lindy Mack. Casey is busy assembling a cast to fill the multiple roles and ensemble of this classic musical comedy. Look for

a complete cast to be announced on the Oyster Mill Playhouse Facebook page.

Casey and Producer Lois Heagy are also still looking for a vocal director for the production. Anyone interested in serving in that capacity should contact Lois at (717) 591-8071.

The show will run for three weekends starting on November 4, 2016, with the potential of some mid-week benefit performances.

NOVEMBER 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Thursday, Friday and Saturday shows are at **8:00 PM**
Sunday matinees are at **2:00 PM**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CAST & CREW
OF THE HIGHLY ACCLAIMED
VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE**

Kudos to Director Lois Heagy and her cast and crew for an excellent production of the poignant comedy, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, which played to delighted audiences through August 28th. Read the review at <http://www.broadwayworld.com/central-pa/article/BWW-Review-VANYA-SONIA-MASHA-AND-SPIKE-Visit-Oyster-Mill-20160827>

The stellar cast consisted of:

VANYA	Bernard DiCasimiro
SONIA	Beverly Spangler
MASHA	Susan Wray Danowitz
SPIKE	TC Via
CASSANDRA	Denise Carman
NINA	Kat Allison

Supporting Lois and her cast were the very able production crew:

Stage Manager/ Light Technician	Colleen Barno
Producer	Aliza Bardfield
Sound Design	Megan McClain & Lois Heagy
Sound Technician	Janice Van Meter
Lighting Design	Stephen F. J Martin, assisted by John Kaufman
Set Design	Lois Heagy
Set Dressing	HMOR Designs
Set Construction	David Maletz, Rick Eisenhart, Ron Nason, Susan Oscilowski
Scenic Painter	Susan Oscilowski
Props	Judy Razvillas & Cast
Costumes	Norine Bahnweg, Cheryl Petroff
Opening Night Reception	Mary McGill

**AND DON'T FORGET TO LIKE
US ON FACEBOOK**