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Tacoma Little Theatre Since 1948 ogray lumber company

## **Director's Notes**

It's winter and we could all use a little fun in our lives. A Flea in Her Ear is a crazy, slamming doors, mistaken identity farce that has been my pleasure to work on. I can't believe we are at opening. These weeks have flown by working on crazy stuff like "if this actor goes through that door, can he come out this door?" or "what accent should we use here?", "is it funnier to kick someone like this?" or "what voice sounds funnier?"

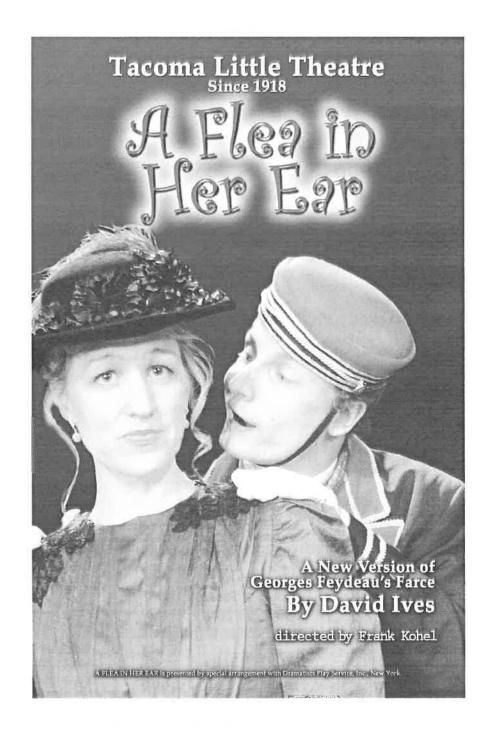
I can't say enough wonderful things about the cast you are going to see tonight. Each and every one of them has given me 110% and I couldn't ask for a finer cast to work with. My thanks to Tacoma Little Theatre, Scott Campbell, Brie Yost, Matt, Dane, Mike, Frances, Jen and each and every crew member that has given so much to make this show happen.

And finally, I have to thank the heart and soul of our show, Jennifer Niehaus-Rivers. Whether laughing at our jokes, helping set up the folding chairs that made up our rehearsal set, telling me when what I tried really wasn't working or one million other things that she has done to make this show happen. My gratitude for all you do, thank you.

So sit back and forget about winter for a few minutes and enjoy springtime in Paris, 1907.



Frank Kohel Director



#### Cast

(In order of appearance)

Victor Chandebise/Poche	Alex Smith
Raymonde Chandebise	Heidi Walworth-Horn
Camille Chandebise	
Lucienne Homenides De Histangua	
Don Carlos Homenides De Histangua	
Dr. Finache	Kerry Bringman
Romain Tournel	Mark Peterson
Antoinette	.Maggie Ferguson-Wagstaffe
Etienne	
Ferraillon	Robert Osborn
Olympia	Liz Tomski
Eugenie	Laura Nichol
Baptiste	Curtis Beech
Rugby	

## **Setting**

Paris, 1907



A day in June at the Chandebise drawing room.

A 15 minute Intermission (Refreshments are available in the lobby)

Act Two
The Frisky Puss Hotel

A 10 minute Intermission (Refreshments are available in the lobby)

## **Act Three**

Back at the Chandebise darwing room, later that day.

210 North I Street (253) 272-2281

Box Office Hours: 3-7 Tuesday-Saturday

Visit Our Website www.tacomalittletheatre.com

And Join TLT's Email List for Ticket Deals! Show Announcements! and general information on how to get involved!!

## **Artistic Staff**

District	
Director	
Stage Manager	Jennifer Niehaus-Rivers
Set Designer	Dane Goulet
Costume Designer	Frances Rankos
Light Designer	Nathaniel Quinn
Sound Designer	Brie Yost
Technical Director/Master Carpenter	Matt Osier
Set Construction	Mike Valentine and Frank Christian
Properties	Jen Ankrum
Paint/Set Dressing	
Assistant Stage ManagersSa	arahann Rickner and Cassy Suratos
Language ConsultantsHei	di Walworth-Horn and Laura Nichol
Fight Choreographer	Alex Smith
Light Board Operator	Sophie Nevin
Sound Board Operator	Jennifer Niehaus-Rivers
Hang and Focus	Nathanial Quinn
Programs	Kelly Herremans
Photography	Dean Lapin
Lobby Display	Chad Russell

## **Special Thanks**

Lakewood Playhouse, Tacoma Opera, Tyson's Hair and Northwest Costume

## **Tacoma Little Theatre Staff**

Office Manager	Loralei Ives-Keeler
Operations Director	
Associate Artisitic Director	
Box Office Assistants	
	and Scott Smith

## **Tacoma Little Theatre Board of Directors**

President	George McClure
	Jennifer Niehaus-Rivers
	Avance Byrd
	Micheal O'Hara

Randy Clark, Christian Geye, Jennifer Lackman, Barbara Neeb and John Wilkin

## **About the Cast**



Josh Bateman (Rugby) was born and raised in Michigan where he attended Grand Valley State University to become an elementary education teacher. Shortly after he completed school he joined the Army where he is currently still working until the end of March 2011. He was in a H.S. production of Clockwork which fuled his desire to act and after 11 years of wanting to pursue acting he's finally listening to his heart and following his dreams. He would like to thank his family and friends who provide him with love and support every day. "Without you I have no idea who or what I would be, your continued support gives me the confidence to know that no matter what I do I will succeed. Thank you, I truly do love you all."



Curtis Beech (Baptiste) "What a great cast and show!" This is Curtis' 4th production at TLT. Curtis was seen most recently in Frost/Nixon, and previous shows include The Crucible and Orphan Train. He also appeared in A Bagful of Miracles and My Old Friends at TMP. "Many thanks and love to those who believe in me."



Kerry Bringman (Dr. Finache) After a 25-year hiatus from acting, this marks Kerry's tenth play in the local area. He was last seen as Inspector Lee in Sherlock Holmes and the Doom of Devilsmoore at The Lakewood Playhouse. His TLT credits include Major Barbara, A Christmas Story, The Orphan Train, The Crucible, Dear Santa, Much Ado About Nothing, Auntie Mame, and Wait Until Dark. Originally from Florida, he currently lives in Puyallup and works as a civil servant and adjunct professor in Adult Education and Development for Southern Illinois University at the McChord Field Campus. Thanks to Korey and Kody for all their support.

## **About the Cast**



Maggie Ferguson-Wagstaffe (Antoinette) has had a delightful time working on this show with TLT! Most recently she was seen as Sister Jenny Memphis in Penguins 4: Suffer the Children at Annex Theatre in Seattle. Last year she had the privilege of playing Hotspur in Henry IV part 1 and Elizabeth in Richard III. Her favorite roles include Dolly in You Never Can Tell and Mrs. Bennet in Pride and Prejudice, both performed while she was attending the University of Michigan earning her BFA in Theatre Performance. As always, thanks and love to Kevin.



Josh Johnson (Etienne) is excited to be back on the TLT stage again this season. He was last seen in the ensemble of TLT's production of Frost/Nixon. Some past roles have included El Gallo in The Fantasticks (Pierce College Theatre Dept.), Ira Stone in Laughter on the 23rd Floor (Pierce College Drama Club), the Drummer in Macbeth (Lakewood Playhouse), as well as ensemble roles in Fiddler on the Roof, The Three Musketeers, and Pirates of Penzance all at the Lakewood Playhouse. He is currently a student at Pierce College and plans to transfer to the University of Washington.



Paul Neet (Camille Chandebise) has studied and performed at Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY; the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center in Waterford, CT; Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA; and the St. Petersburg Theater Arts Academy in Russia. His play *Tick* was produced at Ithaca College. He has taught and directed with Stage Door Theater Company in Enumclaw, WA. Paul graduated from Ithaca College in 2008 with a degree in Drama and Writing. This is his second show at TLT — he previously appeared in *Frost/Nixon* in the ensemble.

### **About the Cast**



Laura Nichol (Eugenie) This is Laura's first show at TLT. A Wisconsin native, she graduated from the University of WI-Milwaukee in 2007 with a BA in French & Francophone Studies after completing her studies abroad in Paris. She grew up with the arts, performing in school and community productions, and put it largely on hold during college. Laura has a long and varied dance background, and currently favors dances of the jazz era, like the Lindy Hop and Charleston. She is enjoying her time in Washington and her theater debut at TLT, but still hopes to return to Europe in the next few years. She would like to thank her husband, Trevor, and The Daves for their flexibility and support.



Robert Osborn (Ferraillon) A Flea In Her Ear marks Robert's debut at TLT. He has previously performed onstage in Indianapolis, Spokane, and last spring's Shakespeare-a-thon with the group Shakespeare in the Parking Lot. His hobbies include gardening and volunteering.



Rachel Permann (Lucienne) is happy to perform at TLT for the first time. You may have seen her in Romeo and Juliet, As You Like It, Stardust, or Taming of the Shrew with Harlequin Productions in Olympia. She is also a Seattle Time's Footlight Award Winner for her portrayal of Helen in Artattack's production of Fat Pig and can be seen as one of the faces of King County Recycling. Rachel studied acting at Univ. of Colorado (Boulder) and in the advanced and master classes at T. Schreiber Studio (NYC). Rachel writes, directs, and coaches as well. For my Beloved!



Mark Peterson (Romain Tournel) Once again it is an honor to have the chance to contribute to the arts in Tacoma. Thank you for supporting local theatre and the ancient art of storytelling.

## **About the Cast**



**Mike Slease (Don Carlos)** has worked on theater stages in and around Tacoma for the past 35 years.



Alex Smith (Victor Chandebise/Poche) A recent graduate from Whitworth University where he received a B.A. in Performance and Technical theatre, Alex is a self-proclaimed 'Theatrician': One that joyfully wedges himself into every aspect of theatre, be it behind, in front of, above, or on the stage. Recent shows include Almost, Maine With Gold From Straw Theatre Company, Joe's Diner 1, 2 and Blue Plate Special, The Mousetrap and Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead at Lakewood Playhouse, Macbeth in Seattle, and a slew of local youth and main stage productions designing, instructing and building. Thanks to our talented crew, my family, and my compatriots onstage!



Liz Tomski (Olympia) This is Liz's first show at TLT. A retired Office Manager, Liz has been acting for the past six years. Some of her favorite roles include the Wicked Witch in *The Wizard of Oz*, Eulalie Shinn in *The Music Man*, and Grandma Tzeitel in *Fiddler on the Roof*. She wants to thank her friends and especially Mark, her husband, for their continued support. Enjoy the show!



Heidi Walworth-Horn (Raymonde Chandebise) performed in many plays and musicals during her youth in Oregon, but this is only her second production with TLT. You may have seen her as Grace Farrell in the musical *Annie* at TLT in December. During the day, Heidi is an English and history teacher in the University Place School District. She would like to thank Jennifer Rivers for encouraging her to take risks, and especially Joe, Jack and Anna for their support and willingness to let her go have fun at the theater.

## About the Artistic Staff

Frank Kohel (Director) is very happy Scott Campbell asked him to direct this amazing show. Last year Frank directed *Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks* at TLT's Second Stage with the amazing team of O'Hare & O'Hara. This production won him a nomination as 2010 Broadway World Seattle Theatre Awards Best Director. Active in theatre for over 30 years, his varied career has included a national tour, singing in clubs in both Los Angeles & New York City, danced at Disneyland, choreographed a USO Tour of the Orient, directed plays and musicals in California, Washington & Idaho. Locally Frank's directing & choreographic work has been seen at the Burien Little Theatre, Capital Playhouse '24, Artswest, Performance Circle, Lakewood Players and Coeur d'Alene Summer Theatre. Favorite shows include *Long Days Journey Into Night, Cotton Patch Gospel, She Loves Me*, and *Isn't It Romantic.* "Thank you to my talented cast and crew for their hard work. It has been my pleasure to work with each one of you!"

Jennifer Niehaus-Rivers (Stage Manager) is so happy to stage manage her first mainstage show at TLT, after working backstage on *Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks* and *Annie* last year at TLT. She directed her first show at nineteen years old as part of Village Theatre's Kidstage in Issaquah. Past credits include directing the all-campus musical variety show *Songfest* at her alma mater, the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. Jennifer is currently the Drama Instructor at St. Patrick School in Tacoma, and taught and directed *Annie*, *Jr*. in the TLT Summer Youth Program. Jennifer wants to thank the wonderful Frank Kohel, the talented and enthusiastic cast and crew, and TLT's invaluable staff. She especially wants to thank Mike & Dylan for their love and support.

Nathaniel Quinn (Light Designer) currently holds his BA in Theatre Education 6-12 and has recently moved to the WA area for theatre experience to help get him into U. Idaho Moscow's MFA in Directing program. He previously designed lights and stage managed for *Annie* here at TLT and stage manged *Sherlock Holmes and the Doom of Devilsmoor* at LPH, and as a last minute cast member onstage.

**Frances Rankos (Costume Designer)** is a frequent costume designer at TLT, Lakewood Playhouse, and other area theatres including Tacoma Opera. Some of her past designs include *A Christmas Story, Tom Sawyer, The Pirates of Penzance, Anne of Green Gables, Seussical,* and *Black Coffee* and *Annie.* 

#### About the Artistic Staff cont.

Dane Goulet (Scenic Designer) can't seem to stop being someone's carpenter, ever since he discovered you could be in plays and build things at the same time. After graduating from the University of Puget Sound with a degree in Theatre Arts, Dane got a real job as a production framer (not what he studied), and spends his nights as a totally different kind of carpenter for whoever needs someone to swing a hammer.

Matt Osier (Technical Director) began his career at TLT. through the youth program several years ago. He has performed every back stage duty at one time or another. He was the Master Carpenter for Much Ado About Nothing and Leading Ladies, Set Decorator for Give 'em Hell, Harry and Lighting Designer for Dear Santa, Shirley Valentine, and The Crucible, and Technical Director for On Golden Pond, The Star-Spangled Girl, Lend Me a Tenor, A Christmas Story, Over the River and Through the Woods, Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks, The Incredible Undersea Trial of Joseph P. Lawnboy, Noises Off, Brunch, Sleuth and Annie.

**Mike "Fig" Figueroa (Props/Set Dressing)** This is Mike Fig's second theatrical experience since moving to Tacoma from Las Vegas, "What a great theater and crew! Everyone has been really great to work with." Enjoy tonight's performance and thank you for joining us at TLT for *A Flea in Her Ear*.