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THE VILLAGE PLAYERS THEATER

2740 Upton Ave.
Toledo Ohio
<http://www.thevillageplayers.org>

presents

A
FUNNY
THING
HAPPENED
ON THE WAY
TO THE
FORUM



The graphic depicts a stylized face. The nose is a thick, curved pink line. The eye is a solid black circle. The mouth is represented by a blue horizontal line above a vertical line, with a pink vertical line below it, suggesting lips. The overall style is bold and graphic.

Music and Lyrics by
Stephen Sondheim

Book by
**Burt Shevelove &
Larry Gelbart**

Produced by special arrangement with
Music Theatre International

Set Design by
Wes Skinner

Directed by
Brenda Sweeney

Produced by
**Jean Mills &
David Stives**

Light Design by
Dan Finkel

Musical Director
Debbie Wlodarski

Set Construction
**Steve Mierzejewski, Bob Smith,
John van der Meer & Don Weber**

There will be one fifteen minute intermission

Note: *Please turn all cell phones or pagers off during the show.*

CAST

Prologus/Pseudolus (Actor/Slave To Hero)	Don Weber
Senex (An Old Man)	Rick Hagg
Domina (His Wife)	Jean Mills
Hero (Son Of Senex And Domina; Loves Philia)	Andy Striph
Hysterium (Slave To Senex And Domina)	Brian Weisenburger
Erroneous (An Old Man)	Tom Davis
Miles Gloriosus (A Warrior)	Jim Latimer
Lycus (A Buyer And Seller Of Courtesans)	Greg Thomas
Philia, A Virgin	Sarah Braun
The Courtesans:	
Tintinabula	Megan Ray
Panacea	Dena Person
The Geminae	Lisa Barry & Elizabeth Piel
Vibrata	Libby Edwards
Gymnasia	Sarah Speelman
The Eunuchs/Proteans/Soldiers	Daniel Aikens, Rich Chesko, & Brandon Ware

Setting:

The time is two hundred years before the Christian era, a day in spring.
The place is a street in Rome in front of the houses of Erronius, Senex, and Lycus. The action is continuous with a single, 15 minute, intermission

Act I

1. Overture
2. Opening - Act I
3. Comedy Tonight Company
4. Love I Hear Hero
5. Free Pseudolus, Hero
6. The House Of Marcus Lycus Lycus, Courtesans
7. Lovely Hero, Philia
8. Pretty Little Picture Philia, Hero
9. Everybody Ought To Have A Maid Pseudolus, Senex, Lycus
10. I'm Calm Hysterium
11. Impossible Senex, Hero
12. Fanfares No. 1 Pseudolus, Miles Gloriosus, The Proteans
13. Bring Me My Bride Miles Gloriosus, Pseudolus, The Proteans
14. Fanfares No. 2
14. Finale - Act I Company

Act II

15. Entr'acte
16. Opening - Act 2
17. That Dirty Old Man Domina
18. That'll Show Him Philia
19. 'Lovely' Reprise Pseudolus, Hysterium
20. Funeral Sequence Pseudolus, The Proteans
21. Incidental Chords
22. Finale Ultimo: Comedy Tonight Company
23. Curtain Calls
24. Exit Music

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director: Brenda Sweeney
Assistant To Director: Marcia Weisenburger
Musical Director: Debbie Wlodarski
Musicians: Michael Callis & Debbie Wlodarski
Producers: Jean Mills & David Stives
Choreographer: Wes Skinner
 Assisted by: Megan Ray
Stage Manager: Pat Mahoney & Debbie Marinik
Lighting Design: Dan Finkel
 Light Crew: Marc Malley & Jeff Mills
Costume Co-ordinator: Kathie Weber
 Costume Crew: Susan Braun, Libby Edwards, Elizabeth Piel,
 Karen Ray, Loretta Skowronek, & Liz Speelman
Property Master: Sue Dennis
 Prop Crew: John Henry, Robert Ingram, & Ellison Weber
Set Construction: Steve Mierzejewski, Bob Smith,
 John van der Meer, & Don Weber
Set Design: Wes Skinner
Scenic Art: Wes Skinner, & John van der Meer
House Manager: Ann Veasey
Box Office Manager: Ann Veasey
Box Office Staff: Kimberley Bruggemann, Sandy Fry, Darlene Hatfield,
 Barbara Heindel, Sue Holliger, Carol Hojnacki, Rita Konecki,
 Debbie Krieger, Diane Nowakowski, Jinny Patterson, & Judy Wiederhold
Publicity: Laura Ahrens & Pam Kelso
Program: Laura Ahrens, Jake Gordy, & Frank Venda
Program Art & Cover Design: H.O.T. Graphics
Program Printing: The Copy Center
Marquee Sign: Larry Janney & Norb Mills
Theatre Photographer: Frank Venda

THE DIRECTOR

Brenda Sweeney (*Director*) - Brenda returns to The Village Players to direct this production of *Forum*. She directed the hilarious *Angry Housewives* in 2004. Brenda has been involved in theatre since her high school days, but mostly as a performer. She has enjoyed being Luisa in *The Fantasticks*, Liza in *My Fair Lady*, Agnes in *I Do, I Do*, and Marian, the librarian in *Music Man*, since that is her daytime disguise. She works at De Veaux Junior High's library. Many people in Toledo may remember seeing her perform at the Westgate Dinner Theatre, at the Crowell Opera House in Adrian or at The Villagers in Maumee where she debuted her one-woman show about Edith Piaf.

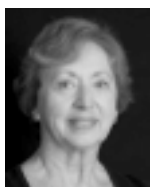


THE CAST



Don Weber (*Pseudolus*) -Don has many fond memories of ...Forum from 1983. "A surprising number of people from that production are once again involved. Sadly, it is impossible for one person to participate. John Zimmerman was a wonderful actor, friend, father and husband whose talent and heart vastly exceeded his sizable girth. His kind and generous heart gave out far too early and he is greatly missed by his many friends. Greg ("Lycus"), Rick ("Senex"), and I would like to dedicate our performances to the memory of John, our first Hysterium, and hope wherever you are "you're calm, you're calm, you're perfectly calm."

Rick Hagg (*Senex*) - Rick has an extensive theatre background in acting and directing. He played Tevye in 2700 performances of *Fiddler on the Roof* while on tour in the USA. He also spent a year as Daddy Warbucks in *Annie*. Rick's directing credits at The Village include our first performance of *Working* in 1981, *Lil' Abner*, and *Kiss Me, Kate*. Rick will be directing next season's *A Year with Frog and Toad*. Welcome back to The Village, Rick.



Jean Mills (*Domina*) - Current President of The Village Players, Jean has been active in theater since her grade school days in the Chicago area. Her most recent performance was as Alice Russell in *The Best Man*. Her favorite roles include Daisy in *Driving Miss Daisy* and Ethel in *On Golden Pond*. Jean is a special education teacher at Maumee High School.



Andy Striph (*Hero*) - Andy has been involved with the Cougar Review at Southview in 2006 and 2007. He has had roles in *The Music Man*, *Out of the Frying Pan*, and *Don't Drink the Water*. Welcome to The Village, Andy.

Brian Wiesenburger (*Hysterium*) - Brian is new to The Village in this production. He was involved in theatre at UT from 1981-83. Brian enjoys performing in bands and played from 1992-94 and 1998-2001. Welcome to The Village, Brian.



Tom Davis (*Errorius*) - Tom returns to the stage after last appearing in *Never Too Late*. Other Village show include *Of Mice and Men*, *Working* and *70, Girls, 70*. Tom has also appeared with the Toledo Rep in *Christmas Carol* and the Bedford Players in *Twelve Angry Men*. He is currently on stage everyday as the owner of the Blissfield General Store.

Jim Latimer (*Miles Gloriosus*) - Jim first appeared on The Village stage in *G. I. Jukebox*. He has also sung the roles of Mephistopheles in *Faust*, King Melchior in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, Colline in *La Boheme*, and Raimondo in *Lucia di Lammermore*. Jim is a minister who was a former gymnast.



Greg Thomas (*Lycus*) - Dr. Greg played the part of Senex in a 1983 production. Other roles and venues include the judge in *Sweeney Todd*, Curley in *Oklahoma*, and Billis in *South Pacific* at the Croswell Opera House. At BGSU he was the major general in *Pirates of Penzance*. Greg has performed numerous times with the Toledo Opera including; *Carmen*, *La Traviata*, *Don Pasquale*, *Rigoletto*, and *Aida*.

Sarah Braun (*Philia*) - Sarah graduated from BGSU where she performed in *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Into the Woods*. She played Dawn in *The Universal Language* and Luisa in *The Fantasticks*. Sarah has directed/choreographed ToDAY Productions' musicals the past few years, *Cotton Patch Gospel*, and *Bye, Bye, Birdie*. Welcome to The Village, Sarah.



Brandon Ware (*Protean/Soldier*) - Brandon returns for his third show with The Village. He is 21 years old and is interested in classic cars and painting. Brandon is an aspiring tattoo artist.

Megan Ray (*Tintinabula*) - Megan is a graduate of Whitmer High School. This is her eighth show at The Village. Previous shows include *Sly Fox*, *G. I. Jukebox*, *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, *A Little Night Music*, *Suds*, *The Sunshine Boys*, and *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. Other shows include *Grease*, *The Sound of Music*, and *Gypsy*. She would like to thank her friends and family for all their support. "I couldn't do it without you."



Dena Person (*Panacea*) - As a new transplant to Toledo, this is Dena's first performance at The Village. Her previous experience on stage includes middle school musicals and a stint as a back-up-hip-hop dancer with a small dance group in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Dena is looking forward to getting more involved in community theatre. Welcome to The Village, Dena!

Elizabeth Piel (*A Gemina*) - Elizabeth is a graduate of St. Ursula Academy. In May 2006, she graduated from Valparaiso University, where she accumulated a great deal of theatre experience, both on and off stage. Presently, she is a Visual Trimmer at Macy's. Locally, she has performed in *A Christmas Carol* with The Toledo Rep. Welcome to The Village, Elizabeth.



Lisa Barry (*A Gemina*) - Lisa is a graduate of St. Ursula Academy and a proud Toledo native. She has danced competitively on regional and national levels. In the fall she will be transferring to Ohio State University to continue to pursue a degree in dance. No stranger to the stage, but when it comes to singing she's a "shower superstar!" Welcome to The Village, Lisa!

Libby Edwards (*Vibrata*) - Libby's first experience in theatre was at The Village Players in 1971. Since then she has enjoyed performing in dinner theatre, community theatre and college dramas. Welcome back, Libby.



Sara Speelman (*Gymnasia*) - Sara has been away from theatre for a long time. Recently she has been involved with ToDAY Productions, working behind the scenes. This is her first performance with The Village. Sara is currently studying to become a social worker, and "speaks" sign-language. Welcome to The Village, Sara!

Daniel Aikens (*Protean/Soldier*) - Brian has performed in a number of plays and musicals. Highlights include performing in *The Wiz*, *Comin' Around the Mountain*, and *Quick Tricks*. Daniel attends the Performing Arts School of Metropolitan Toledo. Welcome to The Village, Daniel.



Rich Chesko (*Protean/Soldier*) - A retired Project Manager from First Energy's Davis Besse Nuclear Power Station, Rich is performing for the first time. He has been active as a Scout Master for Troop 123 and has been a member of the Point Place United Church of Christ Choir for more than 25 years. Rich wants to thank his wife, Becky, for her support in his first theatre endeavor. Welcome to The Village, Rich.

SPECIAL THANKS

NANCY DAVIS, MAUMEE HIGH SCHOOL ART DEPARTMENT

SANDY CAFFRO

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

THE CHILDREN'S THEATRE WORKSHOP

KEVIN CHARLES HAIR ARTISTRY

The Village Players' 2007-2008 51st Season

Wrong For Each Other (Comedy)

Written by Norm Foster

September 7-22, 2007

Directed by John Henry

Four years after a painful divorce, Rudy and Nora happen upon each other at a local restaurant. This chance meeting becomes a reunion lunch and an occasion to rehash their relationship with all of its highs and lows. Will this bring them back together?

A Year With Frog and Toad (Musical)

Book and Lyrics by Willie Reale

Music by Robert Reale

Book by Arnold Lobel

November 2-17, 2007

Directed by Rick Hagg

Tried and true friends Frog and Toad navigate through an adventure-filled year, joined by some colorful companions along the way. Set to a jazzy score, this Tony nominated family musical lovingly captures the spirit of this unlikely friendship as it blossoms and grows.

Tuesdays With Morrie (Drama)

Written by Jeffery Hatcher and Mitch Albom

January 11-26, 2008

Directed by Larry Farley

Mitch Albom, an accomplished journalist, rediscovers Morrie Schwartz, his former college professor, in the last months of the older man's life. Knowing Morrie is dying of Lou Gehrig's Disease, Mitch resumes his Tuesday visits, just as he did in college. Their rekindled relationship turns into one final class: "Lessons in How to Live."

Let's Murder Marcia (Comedy)

Written by Monk Ferris

Feb. 29 - March 15, 2008

Directed by Pat Mahoney

A happy housewife, named Marcia, is obsessed with murder mysteries. The laughs begin when she overhears a conversation, which leads her to believe that family members are planning her demise. She attempts to turn the tables on the would be murderers only leading to confusion in the household.

Don't Dress For Dinner (Farce)

Written by Marc Camoletti

May 2-17, 2008

(Matinee May 4th)

Directed by Norb Mills

This farcical concoction involves a married couple, an old friend, a voluptuous mistress and an outlandish cook who's enlisted to take on different identities in a succession of lies, deceptions and misunderstandings. The plot is a recipe for hilarious confusion with more twists than a corkscrew.

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Millie Williams
Dave and Carol Zenk
Mary Zraik

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Debbie Bercher
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George and Kayrl Boos
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