



kanata theatre

presents



CAST

FRANCES
ANITA
JENNY
NATALIE
CLARA

Lorraine Gorman
Jennifer Brooks
Andrea Fajrajsl
Katie Buller
Margaret Harvey-O'Kelly

SETTING

Time: 1871

Place: Jenny's House of Joy, a whorehouse in the cattle town
of Baxter Springs, Kansas

Produced by special arrangement with Playwrights Canada Press.

There will be one intermission. Coffee, soft drinks and desserts are available.

Please be considerate: ensure that pagers and cellular phones are turned off.

The use of any media capture device during the performance is prohibited by law.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When I saw *Jenny's House of Joy* in the Lighthouse Theatre in Port Dover in 2006, I was taken with the play as a fine period piece which worked on several levels. The well-known humorous touch of playwright Norm Foster, was, of course, not at all unexpected. I have known the work of Canadian Foster for many years and have, in fact, acted in a couple of his plays. What surprised me more was the feeling for the times, as well as the understanding that he showed for the ladies who worked for Jenny. The strength of the play is not the lascivious nature of the whorehouse, but the fact that those who work in it are real human beings with real human feelings. Foster manages to get those feelings to be expressed in the characters that he has created. The challenge that we faced, was to get those feeling to be expressed in as straightforward a way as we could without lapsing into caricatures. The cast has worked extremely hard to achieve a true reflection of the era. This took place, after all, only 5 years after the end of the bloodiest war in American history, in an area which was, to all intents and purposes, unknown to the vast majority of the population of the country. It combines wit, humour, pathos, drama, hope and fear in a package which will, I hope, keep the audiences amused and entertained. I fully expect a lot of laughs, mixed together with a few tears. Most importantly, it is my hope that this play will brighten up an otherwise dull fortnight in February.

BIOGRAPHIES

JON ALKAN (Director) has appeared on stage at Kanata Theatre as Van Helsing in *The Death of Dracula*, as Harold in *Communicating Doors*, as the title character in *Rumplestiltskin - A Rockin' Musical*, and most recently as Jimmy in *Happy Birthday Dear Alice*. He has also acted in Tara Players productions of *Da* and *John Bull's Other Island*. Jon has had numerous roles at Savoy and Nepean Little Theatre and appeared as Fagin in Company of Musical Theatre's production of *Oliver!* He has previous directing experience in Saskatchewan but *Jenny's House of Joy* marks his directorial debut with Kanata Theatre.



JENNIFER BROOKS (Anita) is delighted to make her theatre debut with Kanata Theatre. After taking the last year off to travel across Australia, South Korea, and Thailand, Jennifer finally surrendered to her passion of acting and has been pursuing it since. This newcomer is excited (and nervous) for the challenge of acting in theatre as most of her work has been in film, modelling, and radio. When not avidly seeking acting opportunities, she is just enjoying being 25 years old and living life to its fullest!



KATIE BULLER (Natalie) is happy to be back on the Kanata Stage. She was most recently seen in Goya's *Strange Gods* and Tara Players *The Ballymore Reel*. On the Kanata stage, Katie is known for playing Maria in *The Heiress*, Fay in *Here on the Flight Path*, Claire in *Proof*, Stella Meredith in *The Uninvited*, Alice in *You Can't Take it With You*, Mina in *The Death of Dracula* and Faith in *Kindertransport*, to name a few. Behind the stage Katie has been Stage Manager, Assistant Stage Manager, props, lighting assistant, dresser and many other roles.



ANDREA FAJRAJSL (Jenny) was last seen on the Kanata Theatre stage as long-suffering wife Ruth Condomine in the 2007 production of *Blithe Spirit*. Earlier roles include aloof socialite Caroline Bramble in *Enchanted April*, Pamela of the harassed brother-and-sister duo in *The Uninvited*, Eliza Doolittle in *Pygmalion*, wiley Kate Hardcastle in *She Stoops to Conquer*, and several forays into Shakespeare and musical theatre. When not performing, Andrea is happy to help out with continuity, make-up, front-of-house and set-painting.



LARRAINE GORMAN (Frances) recently appeared on stage as Marion in *Postmortem*. She has also performed in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Enchanted April*, *The Inheritance* and *Murder by Misadventure*. Lorraine has worked back stage for more than 14 years in various capacities including stage management, production and co-direction, as well as serving on the Board of Directors. She occasionally composes and/or performs for other productions, and was the musical director, band leader and keyboardist for Kanata Theatre's three musicals - *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*, *Rock & Roll*, and *You'll Get Used To It - The War Show*.



MARGARET HARVEY-O'KELLY (Clara) has been involved in theatre since her early school days. She was last seen on stage as Mrs. Prynne in Tara Players' production of *Da*. As well as several productions with Tara, she also appeared as Kate in Ottawa Little Theatre's *Dancing at Lughnasa*. She recently directed *Thirst*, Tara Players' entry in the Eastern Ontario Drama League's one-act play festival (Most Promising New Director award). Margaret is delighted to be working again with Jon Alkan and with the wonderful cast of this play.



PRODUCTION STAFF

Production Manager	Gwen Knight
Stage Manager	Gwendy Tolley
Assistant Stage Managers	Tracey Nash, Sandy Quirt, Gordon Walls
Set Design	Peter Jefferson
Construction	Tony Francis
assisted by	Barry Caiger, Barry Forty, Rom Frigon, Geoff Holland, Bruce Knowles Earl McLaughlin, David Newing, Bill Williams
Set Painting	Susan V. Phillips
assisted by	Paul Behncke, Sean Behncke Gerry Thompson, Ann Williams, Sandy Wynne
Set Décor	Susan V. Phillips
assisted by	Kathy Rasmussen
Furnishings	Sandy Wynne
Costume Design	Eufon Williams
assisted by	Kathryn Clarke, Marilyn Valiquette
Seamstresses	Maxine Bell, Sandra Eaves Jackie Frigon, Anne-Marie Kelly Brenda Parr, Christine Walton Adell Hay, Susan Monaghan
Dressers	Bruce Knowles
Sound Design	Bob Carey, Calie McPhee
Lighting Design	Alan Quirt
assisted by	Sheryne Lalonde
Properties	Julia Lamperd, Lisa Murray
assisted by	Betty Francis, Janet Isserlin
Continuity	Adele Vickers, Ann Williams
Make-up	Beverley Brooks
assisted by	Tania Carriere, Lynda De Guire Susan Monaghan, Carrie Owen
Hairstylist	Carol Walkey
Green Room	Linda Webster
assisted by	Christine Walton
Publicity	Dwayne Aylward
Programme	Wendy Wagner
Box Office	Eufon Williams
Refreshments	Dwayne Aylward, Dayna MacDonald
House Managers	Susan V. Phillips, Gerry Thompson

Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of the House Manager.

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All KT members who volunteered after the publication deadline.