kanata theatre

The Savannah Sipping Society

by

Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten

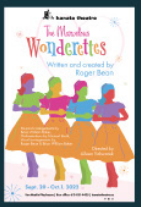
Directed by
Michael Gareau



"The Savannah Sipping Society is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York."

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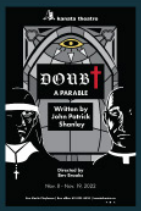
Presents its 2022 - 2023 Season



The Marvelous Wonderettes
Sept 20-Oct 1, 2022



Almost Maine
Jan 31-Feb 11, 2023



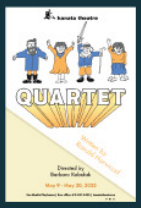
Doubt, A Parable
Nov 8-Nov 19, 2022



Having Relations
March 21-April 1, 2023



Just So
Dec 27-30, 2022
(The Holiday Play)
*not part of the regular season subscription package



Quartet
May 9-20, 2023

instagram/kanatatheatre
fb.com/kanatatheatre
twitter.com/kanatatheatre

General Inquiries:
info@kanatatheatre.ca

Tickets:
boxoffice@kanatatheatre.ca
Phone: 613-831-4435

CAST IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Randa Covington	DIANNA RENEE YORKE
Dot Haigler	SANDY WYNNE
Marlafaye Mosley	JENNIFER PFITZER
Jinx Jenkins	VIVIAN BURNS
Grandmother Covington	ILONA HENKELMAN

All roles understudied by Kathleen Walsh

SETTING

Time: The present

Most of the action takes place on the second storey verandah of a Savannah home over the process of about 6 months.

Act I

Scene 1: Late morning, the lobby of a yoga studio
Scene 2: A few days later, late afternoon and evening, on the verandah
Scene 3: One month later, late night, on the verandah
Scene 4: One week later, late afternoon, on the verandah

Act II

Scene 1: Many weeks later, late afternoon, on the verandah
Scene 2: Valentine's Day, late afternoon and evening, on the verandah
Scene 3: Six weeks later, on the verandah
Scene 4: One month later, a hotel balcony in Paris

Please be considerate: Ensure that mobile devices are turned off. The use of any media capture device during the performance is prohibited by law.

Kanata Theatre acknowledges with special appreciation the following friends who have provided items or services to the production:

Ace Dry Cleaners • Alex Henkelman Photography • Alan Dean Photography
Dave and Lynn Johnston • New Look Eyewear • Ottawa Little Theatre
Patrick Lepage • Ron Evans

and all Kanata Theatre members who volunteered after the publication deadline.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Manager	Susan Sinchak
Stage Manager	Val Bogan
assisted by	Sheryl Bell, Terry Leonard
Set Design	Heidi Roberts
Set Construction Chief	Heidi Roberts
assisted by	Shawn Battenhouse, Paul Behncke, Christy Bindhardt Mariana Cavelier, Jim Clarke, Enver Dokuzoguz Dean Flockton, Elisa Frost, Lionel King, Eric LeBolloch Clyde Le Guerrier, Mark Muench, Steve Roberts Kurt Strand, Larry Witol
Set Painting Co-ordinator	Elisa Frost
assisted by	Eleanor Baur, Melanie Baur, Christy Bindhardt Natalie Bishop, Mariana Cavelier, Joy Forbes Shelley Franklin, Barb Friesen, Barb Kobolak Tom Kobolak, Nicole MacLaren, Julia Sellars Shauna Lee Thompson, Sheila Trivisonno, Tony Walker
Music Composer	Kenny Hayes
Set Decor/Furnishings	Ross Dumontet, Ilona Henkelman, Susan Sinchak
Lighting Design	Bill McLaughlin
assisted by	Rob Puchyr, Anthony Rumsey, Alex Winstan
Electrical Installation of Sconces	Jim Mantle
Sound Design	Mike Hogan
assisted by	James Carriere
Costume Design	Maxine Ball
assisted by	Ross Dumontet, Saundra Eaves
Dressers	Kelly Fuoco, Rosalind Reid,Tiara Wallace
Properties	Kathleen Walsh
assisted by	Ilona Henkelman, Susan Sinchak
Continuity	Barry Caiger, Serita Fudlosid, Melanie Matheson Rosalind Reid, Ann Williams
Hair Design	Reba Sigler
assisted by	Anna Séguin, Julia Sellars
Make-up Design	Martha Johnstone
assisted by	Hilary Philebrown, Michele Makitra Robb
Green Room	Laurie Hogan
House Manager	Don Bell
Box Office Director	Jane Pick
Publicity	Clare Flockton
Programme	Sara Munroe

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

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

We go to the theatre to be entertained and hopefully through the magic of the stage, to be transported to a place where we can laugh, cry, and totally leave our worries and troubles behind, even if just for a brief moment. *The Savannah Sipping Society* is a story about four lonely women who, in the midst of their personal life crises, by mere chance, discover the value of true friendship. Although the theme might sound stereotypical, and its TV sitcom style offers no novelty, the play is hilariously funny and very entertaining – just the thing to help you forget all the challenges life has bombarded us with the last few years. So sit back, relax, raise a glass and enjoy! Yeehaw!

SYNOPSIS

The Savannah Sipping Society is one of those delightful, laugh-out-loud comedies, very much akin to a modern day Golden Girls. Four very unique Southern women, all needing an escape from their day-to-day routines, are drawn together by Fate—and an impromptu happy hour—and decide it's high time to reclaim the enthusiasm for life they've all lost through the years. Over the course of six months, filled with laughter, hilarious misadventures, and an abundance of liquid libation, these middle-aged women successfully bond and find the confidence to jumpstart their new lives, realizing it's never too late to make "new" old friends.

BIOGRAPHIES



MICHAEL GAREAU (Director) is happy to be back at Kanata after having directed *Anne of Green Gables* in 2017 and *A Comedy of Tenors* in 2019. He has also volunteered in the Servery and the Box Office and has spent the last two years on the Kanata Board as the Director, Plays. Michael has been involved with local community theatre for 50 years as a performer and director. Recent directorial projects include the Orpheus production of *Sister Act* and the TotoToo production of *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*. Other shows he has directed include *Fiddler on the Roof* and *The Who's Tommy*, both for Orpheus. He was awarded the Capital Critics Circle Lifetime Achievement Award for his longstanding artistic endeavors as a local theatre director in 2016 and has been fortunate to win their Best Director Award twice for *Into the Woods* in 2011 and *A Christmas Carol* in 2007. Michael would like to thank his wonderful cast and amazing Savannah Team for all their support.



VIVIAN BURNS (Jinx Jenkins) is delighted to be performing her first show with Kanata Theatre. In August 2020, she performed in *Midsummer* [a play with songs], the only professional theatre running in Canada at the time of opening (pandemic). Other recent credits include *Dancing at Lughnasa* (Three Sisters), *Minding Frankie* (SevenThirty Productions), *It's a Wonderful Life* (Plosive Productions) and Timmy the Dog Disappears (Black Sheep). You may also have seen Vivian flying on stage in Mary Poppins (ASNY) or turning into an ogre in Shrek (Orpheus).



JENNIFER PFITZER (Marlafaye) first appeared on the Kanata Theatre stage this past fall as the mosquito in the 10-minute play *Mosquito*. Before that, she appeared in many productions with amateur theatre groups in Almonte, Carleton Place and Perth; including Rose in *Les Belles Soeurs*, Fairy Thundercloud in the musical *Sleeping Beauty*, Lucille in *Cemetery Club* and the limestone quarry (yes, a quarry!) in *A Peak at Pakenham*. When not on stage, Jenny enjoys graphic design, hiking, gardening, and jigsaw puzzles.



SANDY WYNNE (Dot Haigler) has enjoyed treading the boards at Kanata Theatre for a quarter of a century. Among her roles, she has played a nun with a shady past, a home-wrecking dog, a spunky swim team captain and a scandal-craving aristocrat. Most recently, in *A Comedy of Tenors*, she took on the role of Racon, a sultry Russian operatic diva in love with a tenor. Her directing credits include: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, *4000 Miles*, *The 39 Steps* and *Proof.* Sandy is thrilled to work with the gals of the "sipping society" and their supportive production team.



DIANNA RENEE YORKE (Randa Covington) started acting when she was only a young girl. She has performed with many Ottawa companies, including Ottawa Little Theatre, Orpheus, Goya, Pink Slipper Productions, Tara Players and now Kanata Theatre. She has had the honour of playing roles that run the gamut of a teary drunk, honourable schoolteacher, come-hither vamp and a vengeful ghost. Most recently, Dianna enjoyed being a part of Ottawa Little Theatre's production of *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, where she paid a small tribute to Katharine Hepburn.

COVID-19 AND KANATA THEATRE

Kanata Theatre is thrilled to have you back to enjoy our productions.

To keep everyone safe, and ensure we all stop the spread of COVID-19, we ask you to please comply with Ottawa Public Health and Ontario Ministry of Health guidelines while in the theatre.

All patrons must be at least double-vaccinated to attend this production. All cast and crew are at a minimum double-vaccinated.

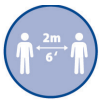
Being COVID Wise will help keep patrons, theatre volunteers, safer during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Wear a Mask



While within the Ron Maslin Playhouse, and during the show, please wear a mask or face covering that covers your mouth, nose and chin.

Stay Two Metres Apart



While this may not be completely possible within the theatre during the performance, as much as possible, ensure that you keep two metres (six feet) apart in the hallways and foyer.

Exercise Proper Hand Hygiene



Proper hand sanitizing helps prevent the spread of not only COVID-19 but other germs as well.

Thank you very much for your efforts to help keep our community healthy!



Intermission

There will be one *20-minute* intermission.
Please remain in your seat unless you need to use the washroom.

TICKET POLICY

Due to Covid-19, the Box Office is closed to in-person traffic. All tickets may be purchased online only at kanatatheatre.ca.

No exchanges will be accepted at this time. Nor will we be accepting past credits for this show.

If you are unable to attend a particular performance, please don't waste your tickets: do give them to a friend or neighbour, as we are unable to issue refunds. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m Tuesday to Saturday.

Scan for more information about Kanata Theatre's upcoming show season!

Find us on Facebook at
Kanata Theatre
Follow us on Twitter
@KanataTheatre

The paintings in the foyer are by courtesy of the
Kanata Civic Art Gallery
For further information or to purchase the art, please call Therese Boisclair at 613-218-0677.

Many of our volunteers and patrons have allergies. Please be courteous and refrain from wearing scented products.

Ron Maslin Playhouse is accessible by

OC Transpo:

Route 88/167 stops in front of the Playhouse.

The bus stop numbers for the Playhouse are 6381 and 6382.

PhonicEar On-Wave hearing assistance system is available during all Kanata Theatre productions. Small clip-on receivers permit control over listening volume levels. These units are available from the cloak room with regular headsets (or you may use your own headset with 3.5mm plug, if you prefer) or T- Switch hearing aid loops.

Kanata Theatre's telephone number for emergency calls is 613-831-4436.