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**BELOIT CIVIC THEATRE**  
*Now in its 85th year*  
 Presents



*Book, Music and Lyrics by James McDonald, David Vos, and Robert Gerlach*

*Additional Music by Ed Linderman*

April 26, 27, 28 and May 3, 4, 5, at 7:30 p.m.  
 Matinees: April 28, 29 and May 5 at 3:00 p.m.  
 2018

Elizabeth Reinholz Theatre

*Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.*

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

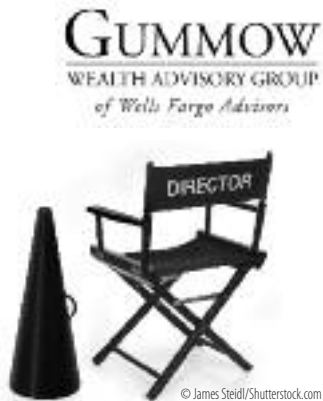
Sometimes our experience of theatre is life-changing—some drama touches our souls, stretches our boundaries, or hits a nerve. It's fulfilling and emotional. Other times, we seek out theatre for the excitement, the thrill, for the virtuoso performance, the athletic dance number, the exquisite singing. But sometimes we simply crave entertainment - no agenda, no lesson to learn, no emotional toll to be taken. We want to laugh, to be transported to another place, to hear someone else's story. The latter is certainly the case with *Something's Afoot*. I was not well-acquainted with this show when the Beloit Civic Theatre Board approached me about directing it, but I have worked as Music Director with this group before and trust them to know what will work in this unique space and with our unique group of thespians, so I was more than happy to take a chance on this musical.

When I began my script study, I was quickly convinced that it was a perfect choice for our BCT audiences: entertaining, of course, but also clever. And we know these characters. We know them from playing the board game *Clue* as children. We know them from the Agatha Christie stories we read when we were first developing a taste for grown-up literature. They almost seem like part of the family, well, maybe not YOUR family, but familiar, just the same. So, I invite you to sit back and enjoy a show whose only purpose is to entertain you - with "fiendishly contrived devices", "climatically possible" journeys, and talk of a good cup of tea.

Thank you for your support of live theatre in our area, and especially of this special group here at Beloit Civic Theatre. We are honored to have you in our audience, and we hope you enjoy the show.

## Proud to support the Beloit Civic Theatre in its 85<sup>th</sup> season

Much like theater, the effectiveness of investing lies in a unified vision with elements put together by a good director



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## ANNUAL MEETING

Season brochures announcing our new season will be mailed in June. Beloit Civic Theatre's annual meeting will be held Tuesday, June 5th at the Our Lady of the Assumption Church at 2222 Shopiere Road in Beloit. Doors open at 6 p.m. and appetizers will be served at 6:30 p.m. Current season members are invited for an evening of complimentary appetizers and desserts. Our new season for 2018-19 will be announced, the student scholarship winners will be awarded, and a vote will be taken for five BCT Board of Directors members. Mark your calendars! **Season members need to make a reservation for the event. Please email the names of all the people in your group who plan to attend to: [lorensass@mac.com](mailto:lorensass@mac.com)**

**You may also call the theatre box office at 608-362-1595 and leave a message.** Make sure your message includes ALL the names of the people coming, as well as a phone number, so we can confirm your reservation. We do not have a sign-up "stuffer" in the program, so you will need to either call or email before May 20th if you plan to attend the annual meeting. We are limited to accept the first 200 responses because of space limitations and fire laws.

## AUDITION NOTICE

Auditions for our fall musical will be held in the theatre in August of 2018. Janet Palmer will direct the show which will be announced in June. The cast calls for 4 men and 2 women. You may request to be added to our actor database if interested. Postcards announcing auditions are mailed before each show's auditions. Just give your name, phone number and postal mailing address to anyone working in the lobby or e-mail us at [beloitcivictheatre@gmail.com](mailto:beloitcivictheatre@gmail.com)

## PLEASE NOTE

Air conditioning is coming soon! This fall, BCT received the notification that one of our long-time patrons had left us a very generous bequest in his estate. As you are well-aware, the temperature in our theatre can be pretty unbearable at times. We are finally able to install air conditioning in the theatre. BCT is teaming up with a generous donation from P.A.P.A.S (Parent Advocates for the Performing Arts in Our Schools) to bring us into the 21st century of climate control. The bidding process is underway. We are unsure of the installation date, probably this summer, but at least we know that the suffering will soon be over.

Refreshments will be available during the intermission. All proceeds go to the Beloit Civic Theatre Helen Hayes Teed Scholarship Fund. Each year awards are given to students going on after high school to study theatre arts or communications.

Please be aware that Beloit Memorial High School is a “non-smoking” facility. Please respect the school policy and state law and refrain from smoking on school grounds.

No photography is allowed during performance. Please turn off ringing cell phones during performance. The light given off from your devices is distracting to the actors and the audience.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please leave your name, address, and phone number with one of the volunteers at the ticket tables in the lobby. Address changes may also be given to one of our lobby personnel. Please check out our website at [www.beloitcivictheatre.org](http://www.beloitcivictheatre.org)

Gift certificates are available for the entire season or for individual shows. They make wonderful gifts for all occasions. If interested, contact our box office at (608) 362-1595 or Loren Sass at (608) 365-0235.

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*Book, Music and Lyrics by  
James McDonald, David Vos, and Robert Gerlach*

*Additional Music by  
Ed Linderman*

*Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.*

## THE CAST

Lettie .....Gabrielle Heiss  
Flint.....Jay Goodwin  
Clive .....Jonathan Montes  
Hope Langdon .....Becky Frederickson  
Dr. Grayburn .....Drew Heiss  
Nigel Rancor.....Dietrich Heiss  
Lady Grace Manley-Prowe.....Elizabeth Armstrong  
Colonel Gillweather .....Loren Sass  
Miss Tweed .....Susan Smith  
Geoffrey .....Aaron Crary

## SETTING

Time: Late Spring, 1935

Place: Rancour's Retreat: The Country Estate of Lord Dudley Rancour,  
located on an island in the middle of a lake, somewhere in the English lake district.

## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### ACT ONE

*Introduction of Guests*

*Marvelous Weekend*

*Something's Afoot*

*Carry On*

*I Don't Know Why I Trust You*

*The Man With the Ginger Moustache*

*Suspicious*

*There will be a twelve-minute intermission between the acts.*

*Enjoy the cookies in the lobby!*

### ACT TWO

*Entre'acte*

*The Legal Heir*

*You Fell Out of the Sky*

*Dinghy*

*I Owe It All*

*New Day*

## THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Director.....Janet Palmer  
Musical Director/Rehearsal Pianist .....Ben Westphal  
Choreographer .....Josie Palmer  
Stage Manager .....Tom Young  
Set Design .....Loren Sass  
Keyboard .....Ben Westphal  
Percussion .....Ryley Dlugi  
Synthesizer .....Eric Funk  
Set Construction .....Elizabeth Armstrong, Donna Balsley, Les Blumreich,  
Deb Burns, Mary Easland, Mike Fallon, Dee Fischer, Mike Foss,  
Jay Goodwin, Pat Hoye, Dawn Kabor, Tom Lepinski, Loren Sass,  
Ed Skwarlo, Doris Tropp, Alex Tropp, Tom Young  
Lighting and Sound .....Peter Tropp  
Costumes .....Donna Balsley, Diane Sass  
Properties .....Donna Balsley, Dee Fischer, Aaron Crary  
Running Crew .....Les Blumreich, Deb Burns  
Make-up Design .....Dee Fischer

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## WHO'S WHO



*Elizabeth  
 Armstrong  
 as Lady Grace  
 Manley-Prowe*

**Elizabeth Armstrong** (Lady Grace Manley-Prowe) Elizabeth, who was recently elected to the Beloit Civic Theatre Board of Directors, appeared in *Nunsense: A Musical Comedy* for Beloit Civic. She has also appeared in many other area theatres: Chippewa Valley Theater Guild, Menomonie Valley Theater Guild, Woodstock Musical Theater, Lakeland Players, Spotlight on Kids, and Theater Unlimited in such productions as *Barnum*, *The King and I*, *Quilters*, *Oliver*, *Mame*, *Fiddler on The Roof*, *Carousel*, *Camelot*, *Sweet Charity*, *Mary Poppins* and more. Elizabeth is a social worker for Beloit Regional Hospice, and she is married to Brian. They have two daughters and three beautiful grandchildren ages 1 to 5 - "So much fun!!" Elizabeth says, "I love to sing! I have found a real home in the theater. Besides being on stage, I love to make costumes and have costumed shows like *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* and *Hello, Dolly!*" Elizabeth would like to thank her very supportive husband who "...puts up with my hours of practice. Thank you for your patience when I turn our home into costume making shop or borrow your stuff for props!"



*Aaron Crary  
 as Geoffrey*

**Aaron Crary** (Geoffrey) Aaron has appeared in *Squirrels in the Attic*, *The Fox on the Fairway*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *A Talent for Murder* and *Making God Laugh* for Beloit Civic Theatre. Aaron's first theatrical role was as mobile shrub in Beloit Memorial High School's production of *Cinderella*; he then progressed to a more important role in Zombie Prom which travelled to Edinburgh, Scotland's International Fringe Festival. Aaron has also performed in shows for Janesville Performing Arts Center, Janesville's Stage One, Janesville Summer School Program and a new, rising theatre group, "Express Yourself Studio" in Madison, where he will be performing the role of "Michael Mell" in the off-Broadway musical, *Be More Chill*. Come see Aaron perform at the Bartell Theater in Madison from May 30th - June 2nd!



*Becky  
 Frederickson  
 as Hope*

**Becky Frederickson** (Hope) Becky returns to Beloit Civic Theatre after her appearance last season in *The Spitfire Grill*. Recently, she performed in a live radio broadcast of *All About Eve* and was part of Janesville's One Act Festival. Other previous appearances include roles in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, and *Vanya and Sonya and Masha and Spike* for Stage One. Becky is a stay at home mom. She is married to husband, Jason, and they have a three-year-old daughter, Violet. Along with devoting herself to Violet, Becky enjoys reading, camping, and spending time with family.



Jay Goodwin  
as Flint

**Jay Goodwin** (Flint) Jay has previously performed in many BCT productions, in both comedic and dramatic roles. His very first role was in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*; followed by *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. More recently, Jay has appeared in *The Dining Room*, *Squirrels in the Attic*, *Cliffhanger*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Over the River and Through the Woods*, *Greetings*, *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, *The Whole Town's Talking*, *Laura*, *God's Favorite* and *Night must Fall*. He also directed *Enter Laughing* for BCT. For Summertime Players he appeared in *Love, Sex and the IRS*, *The Patient*, and *The Odd Couple*. For the Comedy Connection, he and friends/fellow actors formed and worked in a comic improvisation group. Jay also stage-managed for BCT's production of *Exit Laughing*. He just finished his debut performance for Janesville Little Theatre in *Murder at the Prop Table*. Jay "...loves to entertain people, by making them laugh or shed a tear by touching their hearts."



Dietrich Heiss  
as Nigel

**Dietrich Heiss** (Nigel) Dietrich is a marketing professional in the Chicago area with a background in communication and performance/improvisation. His previous theater experience includes leading the Judson University Improv Club and appearing in *In the Heights*, and *Almost Maine*. This is Dietrich's second time performing with BCT, having previously appeared in *She Loves Me*; he is looking forward to performing for his hometown audience, especially with two of his family members also in the cast. Dietrich would like "to raise a glass in thanks to everyone who came out tonight, but his character, Nigel, will probably do that for him!"



Drew Heiss  
as Dr. Grayburn

**Drew Heiss** (Dr. Grayburn) Drew has previously appeared on BCT's stage in *The Spitfire Grill*, *Bingo, the Musical* and *She Loves Me*. A Beloitier, he works at Harvard Corporation in Evansville and has been married to wife Maura for twenty-six years. They have 5 children and 2 cats. Drew enjoys playing the trumpet at church and in the Good News Marching Band during parade season. If you visit him at his new home, he might be in the man-cave relaxing on the hammock.



Gabrielle  
Mercy Heiss  
as Lettie

**Gabrielle Mercy Heiss** (Lettie) Gabrielle appeared in BCT's *Nun-sense: A Musical Comedy*, along with *Bingo: The Winning Musical*. She also performed in *The Tortoise and the Hare* with Missoula Kids Theater, and *Jonah's Druthers* with Chapel on a Hill and Janet Palmer. Gabrielle also appeared in *The Pirates of Penzance* and *Scrooge* with KFAD (Kids, Fun and Drama). Gabrielle, 19, is now a part of the workforce as a Behavioral Therapist for autistic children. She is excited to work with Janet once again in addition to her brother and dad. Gabrielle's favorite part of the show is that the murderer is, "...oh, you'll have to wait and find out. Enjoy the show!"

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*Jonathan Montes  
as Clive*

**Jonathan Montes** (Clive) Jonathan debuts for Beloit Civic Theatre in this production, but he has been involved in theatre since he was in 5th grade, starring as Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*, and as Santa in *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*. At Beloit Memorial High School, Jonathan appeared in *High School Musical*, *Almost Maine*, *In the Heights*, *The Laramie Project*, and *Curtains*. Jonathan lives in Rockford and works at Wal-Mart in Beloit. He is the third child in a family of six, the second youngest. “I enjoy theater of course (singing, acting) as well as drawing and a bit of writing. I am a gamer at heart and enjoy all types of game whether they be board, card, or video.”



*Loren Sass  
as Colonel  
Gillweather*

**Loren Sass** (Colonel Gillweather) Loren is Vice President of the Beloit Civic Theatre Board and has directed ten shows for BCT including the recent musicals: *She Loves Me*, *Whodunit: the Musical*, and *Ruthless, the Musical*. He has appeared onstage for BCT in 23 shows since his first one fifty years ago, in 1968. Loren appeared in last season’s *Moonlight and Magnolias*, and previously in *The Dining Room*, *A Talent for Murder*, *Greater Tuna*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Deathtrap*, *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *God’s Favorite*, and *Rumors* for BCT. Recently he appeared in *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* for Theatre Unlimited in Janesville. Loren directed *You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown* for Beloit’s New Court Theatre and also directed the Beloit Janesville Symphony Orchestra’s production of *The Mikado*. After teaching theatre and directing fifty-one shows at Beloit Memorial High School, he retired in 2002. He will celebrate his golden wedding anniversary with Diane this summer and is the proud father of two and grandfather of three. He is an avid theatre-goer, attending shows in Rockford, Minneapolis, New York and Chicago with regularity. For twenty years, he conducted over 300 theatre tours with his travel company, Theatre Get-aways. Loren also serves on the executive board for P.A.P.A.S. (Parent Advocates for the Performing Arts in Our Schools) and is the Chief Financial Officer for Caritas, Beloit’s food pantry. The Beloit Daily News selected Loren as “Volunteer of the Month” last year. He is also in charge of BCT’s program advertising, reservations, set design and the yearly membership subscription campaign. “Now that my age starts with a seven, I feel blessed to have the energy and ability to spend my time doing what I love.”



*Susan J. R. Smith  
as Miss Tweed*

**Susan J. R. Smith** (Miss Tweed) Susan, a member of the Beloit Civic Theatre Board of Directors, has appeared most recently in *Nonsense: a Musical Comedy* and *Lend Me A Tenor* for Beloit Civic Theatre. She has also appeared for BCT in *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, *Laura*, *Rumors*, *Baby*, *Mame*, *Showboat* and *Camelot*. For Theatre Unlimited in Janesville, she

appeared in *The Sound of Music*, *Oklahoma*, and *Into the Woods*. Also, in BCT's first production of *Something's Afoot* (1993), Susan played the role of Lady Grace! Susan is currently teaching at Fruzen Intermediate School in a long-term sub position. Susan is married to husband, Phil, and they have three daughters, Elizabeth, Emily and Abigail.



Janet Palmer,  
Director

**Janet Palmer** (Director) Janet served as music director for last season's *The Spitfire Grill* for Beloit Civic Theatre and worked with The Haylofters in Burlington as director of their recent production of *Greater Tuna*. She also served as music director of *Brigadoon* at The Christian Arts Center in Lake Geneva. Janet teaches vocal/general music and is the drama director at Cunningham Intermediate School in Beloit. She is excited to be working with her daughter, Josie, who choreographed *Something's Afoot*. "Thanks to Larry, the cast and crew, and the BCT board for this opportunity, and to Trish for sending me in this direction!"



Ben Westphal,  
Music Director

**Ben Westphal** (Music Director) Ben, the vocal music teacher at Beloit Memorial High School, previously played in the orchestra for BCT's, *The Spitfire Grill*. He found his love of acting and singing in high school, in shows like *Noises Off*, *The Nerd*, *Teahouse of the August Moon*, *The King and I*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Camelot* and *The Fiddler on the Roof*. In a professional capacity, he is also a music adjudicator and active with the organization, Wisconsin School Music. Ben's resume as a musician and conductor is extensive: he holds a master's degree in Choral Conducting and has conducted both community and church choirs, including the Arizona Mountain Chorale, a select chamber ensemble located in Flagstaff. He also served as the musical director and conductor of the Northwoods Hymn festival in Minoqua, Wisconsin – a seventy-five voice ecumenical choral festival. In his free time, Ben is an "avid reader, cook, baker and eater".



Tom Young,  
Stage Manager

**Tom Young** (Stage Manager) Tom is a member of the Board of Directors for Beloit Civic Theatre; he previously served as Stage Manager for *Same Time, Next Year* along with working on set construction for this and other sets. He also appeared onstage in BCT's *Whodunit, the Musical* and as the mysterious visitor in *The Spitfire Grill*. Tom is now a retired science teacher; "41 years has been enough". His family consists of wife, Wendy and 2 children, Dan (Milwaukee) and Sarah (Plainfield, MA). Tom's hobbies are wood-working, gardening and travel.

## BELOIT CIVIC THEATRE ANGELS

*Beloit Civic Theatre wishes to thank the following members for their additional financial contributions to the theatre. If there are any errors or omissions in this list of supporters, please call Loren Sass at 608-365-0235. This list was compiled on March 1st, so if your name is not listed, we may have received your donation after that date. Thanks again for your support!*

*Please remember that Beloit Civic Theatre is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your donations are fully tax-deductible. We will send a confirmation of your gift which can be used for tax purposes.*

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