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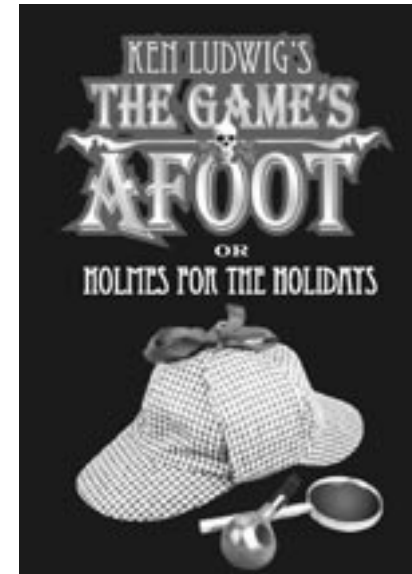
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BELOIT CIVIC THEATRE

*Now in its 89th year
Presents*



By
KEN LUDWIG

Originally Produced
by
Cleveland Playhouse
Michael Bloom, Artistic Director
Kevin Moore, Managing Director

January 27, 28, 29 and February 3, 4, 5, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.
Matinees on January 29, 30 & February 5, at 3:00 p.m.

Elizabeth Reinholz Theatre

Produced in Association With
Samuel French
New York, New York

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

When I first read The Game's Afoot or Holmes for the Holidays, it struck me as a very ambitious show for our small theatre, but I liked it for multiple reasons. Ken Ludwig has given this show a whole host of crazy elements that are simultaneously serious, silly, challenging, convoluted, ridiculously simple, anachronistic and very dated. But the show is fun! I like fun. I think most of our audiences like fun. There has been plenty of seriousness in the world lately and for our first show back on stage this has been a great re-learning experience. All of us in the theatre have been resting on our collective laurels so long that we had to stop and think a bit to remember what we used to do almost as second nature. This show has been a challenge to our production team with set design, special effects, marketing, casting, and even rehearsing through previously planned vacations, holidays, foul weather and, yes, Covid cases within the cast and crew. But it has felt so good to get back onto the boards! I hope you get as much enjoyment from our staging of this show as we got from creating it for you!

Doris Hunter Tropp

Proud to support the Beloit Civic Theatre in its 87th season

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

Bradley L. Gummow, Managing Director - Investment Officer
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PLEASE NOTE

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.

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

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.

STANTON SHOES 311 State Street - Beloit (608) 362-5014	VOIGT MUSIC CENTER 34 S. Main Street - Janesville (608) 756-0081
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THE CAST

William GilletteChuck Ingle
Martha GilletteKay Nordstrom
Felix GeiselSteve Meyer
Madge GeiselNicola Meyer
Simon BrightBrandon Williams
Aggie Wheeler.....Sydney Winchester
Daria ChaseSusan Smith
Inspector GoringMichelle Dennis

THE SETTING

ACT I

Scene 1: The stage of a London Theatre

Scene 2: Two weeks later in the living room of the mansion of William Gillette on the Connecticut River near East Haddam, Connecticut, early on Christmas Eve, 1936.

Scene 3: The same room, an hour later

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

Enjoy refreshments in the lobby.

ACT II

Scene 1: The action is continuous

Scene 2: Five minutes later

A note about today's production. At one point in the play, an actor in costume will be entering from the rear of the theatre pretending to shoot an actor onstage. Please be assured that the gunshots that you will hear are a recorded sound effect and no ammunition of any kind is being used in today's production.

Special Thanks to:

*Rod McFall for loaning and creating many props for the show
KFAD for the use of their rehearsal space
Sun Prairie Civic Theatre for costumes
Beloit Memorial High School Theatre Department*

WHO'S WHO



Michelle Dennis
as Inspector
Goring

Michelle Dennis (Inspector Goring) For Beloit Civic Theatre, Michelle appeared in *Spitfire Grill*, *Nunsense*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Seniors of the Sahara*, and *Fox on the Fairway*. She appeared in *Inherit the Wind*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, and *Rabbit Hole* for Stage One. She appeared in *The 39 Steps*, *The Full Monty*, *Side Man*, and *Bare* at UW-Rock County's University Theatre, and in *Oliver!*, *Brigadoon*, and *Mame* with Theatre Unlimited, Inc. She also participated in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *As You Like It* for JPAC. Michelle directed *I Hate Hamlet* for Janesville Little Theatre as well as acting in *Dixie Swim Club*. She co-wrote and directed the three part "Tales of ..." series for the Janesville Performing Arts Center. and has stage managed seven shows...so far. Professionally, Michelle has worked as a librarian for the past 27 plus years, and now serves the Hedberg Public Library in Janesville as the Head of Public Services. About her family, she says she is, "...very grateful for the love and support of my husband Louis, my daughters Robin and Erin, and my mom, Rita," and of the art of Theatre, "There is nothing like the camaraderie of the theatre. By the time you finish a show you know your cast mates deeply and well. Some you love, some stick with you for a lifetime, some pass by and move on, but all leave a mark and make you better and stronger and hopefully more self-aware. Thank you to everyone with whom I have had the chance to perform. I hope I have affected you positively too.



Chuck Ingle as
William Gillette

Chuck Ingle (William Gillette) Chuck has previously appeared for Beloit Civic Theatre in *Catch Me If You Can*, *The Odd Couple*, *The Music Man* and *Snoopy*. For Janesville Little Theatre, he performed in *The Sunshine Boys*, for Starlight Theatre, in *Jacques Brel*, and for Beloit College, in *Brigadoon*. Chuck is married to his wife, Rhonda, and is a Life Member of The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Roscoe Post. And...on January 22, 2022, his mother, Elsie Ingle, of Eagan, Minnesota, will celebrate her 100th birthday.



Nicola Meyer
as Madge Geisel

Nicola Meyer (Madge Geisel) Nicola has performed in the following Beloit Civic Theatre productions: *Ramshackle Inn*, *Love, Sex and the IRS*, *Laura*, *See How They Run* and *Funeral for a Gangster*. She also appeared in *Hot l Baltimore* at New Court Theatre. Nicola works as a surgical assistant at Beloit Memorial Health System and she also teaches the Silver Sneakers class at the Stalene Family YMCA. Her family consists of husband, Steve, married children, Emilie (who got her acting start at BCT), and

Mike and Deb Fallon

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Chuck Stockwell

Marlene Street

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Freda Treder

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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 December 20th, so if your name is not listed, we may have received your donation after that date. Thanks again for your support!

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Kay and John Clark

Annie Collins

Judy Compton

Jerry and Barbara Cox

Bonnie Cunningham

Betty Dygart

Bob and Carol Egleston

Carol Elliott

Anita Ellis

Marlene Erickson

Dominick; she and Steve have 4 grandchildren. Nicola loves dancing, reading, lots of walking, YMCA workouts, traveling with friends, and spending time with her grandchildren. Of appearing in this play with her husband Steve, Nicola says, "I am married in real life to the love of my life, Stephen Meyer, aka, Felix Geisel.



Steve Meyer as
Felix Geisel

Steve Meyer (Felix Geisel) Steve has appeared in the following plays for Beloit Civic Theatre: *Laura*, *Sylvia*, *The Dining Room*, *Angel Street*, *See How They Run*, *Come Blow Your Horn*, and *Funeral for a Gangster*. He also performed in *Our Town* and *Hot l Baltimore* at New Court Theatre. Steve works as a Court Commissioner for Rock County, and he is married to fellow cast member, Nicola. They have 2 adult children and 4 "awesome" grandchildren. And of interest, his daughter, Emilie and her husband actually play the Shakespearian quote game featured in this play. Steve enjoys puzzles and games of all kinds, long walks (usually picking up trash along the way), spending time with kids and grandkids and dancing, of course! Steve wrote, "Nicola and I began on this stage 48 years ago, and Emilie also acted here. This is our first chance to play a couple and to welcome live theatre despite the challenges of the pandemic. This play had me in stitches from the outset – literally – 8 stitches!"



Kay Nordstrom
as Martha
Gillette

Kay Nordstrom (Martha Gillette) Kay has performed in the BCT productions of *Barefoot in the Park*, *The Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)*, *The Spitfire Grill*, *Exit Laughing*, *Seniors of the Sahara* and *Bingo, the Musical*. Kay is a retired educator from the School District of Beloit; she also has retired from her job as a part-time adjunct professor at Beloit Technical College. Her family consists of husband, Kendell, 4 adult children and 6 grandchildren. In her spare time, Kay enjoys reading, travel, volunteering (Beloit Public Library, Converse School, SLU and Even Start). She also enjoys singing in church choirs.



Susan J. R. Smith
as Daria Chase

Susan J. R. Smith (Daria Chase) Susan, a member of the Beloit Civic Theatre Board of Directors, has appeared most recently in *Something's Afoot*, *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*, *Dames at Sea*, *Showboat* and *Camelot*. For Theatre Unlimited in Janesville, she appeared in *The Sound of Music*, *Oklahoma*, and *Into the Woods*, and for Janesville Little Theatre, in *Lend Me a Tenor*. Susan is a sixth-grade language arts teacher at Aldrich Intermediate School. Her family consists of her



Brandon Williams as Simon Bright

husband, Phil, daughters Elizabeth, Emily and Abigail and grandcats, Apollo and Artemis. In addition to her love for theatre, Susan also enjoys reading (when she has time!).

Brandon Williams (Simon Bright) Brandon appeared in *Whodunit...The Musical* for Beloit Civic Theatre. Other previous credits include: Main Street Players of Boone County (*Radium Girls and Brigadoon*); Pec Playhouse (*Sugar, The Addams Family, Over the Tavern and Suite Surrender*). This, in his own words, “very tall and very loud” young man works as a bank teller. Brandon’s parents are Ron and Maggie, and his sister is Michelle. He enjoys hiking, walking his Beagle and playing Dungeons and Dragons.



Sydney Winchester as Aggie Wheeler

Sydney Winchester (Aggie Wheeler) Sydney, our newest BCT board member, has appeared in *37 Postcards, Barefoot in the Park, The Spitfire Grill, The Dining Room, Lend Me a Tenor and A Talent for Murder* for Beloit Civic Theatre. Her work in other area theatres includes roles in *As You Like It* for the Milton College Preservation Society, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* for Stage One in Janesville, and *Two Witches, No Waiting* for Janesville Little Theatre. She is a graduate of Beloit Memorial High School where she appeared in multiple productions and also did extensive work back stage in set construction and décor. Sydney, who loves acting and singing, is a past recipient of a Beloit Civic Theatre Scholarship.



Doris Hunter Tropp Director

Doris Hunter Tropp (Director) Doris serves as Secretary of the Board of Directors of Beloit Civic Theatre where she also is a dedicated behind-the-scenes volunteer. Other BCT directing credits include *Camelot, Cliffhanger* and *Seniors of the Sahara*. In addition, Doris has appeared onstage for BCT, most recently in *Making God Laugh*; other of her BCT acting experiences were in such plays as *Showboat, The Man Who Came to Dinner, Vanities, Of Thee I Sing, Hot l Baltimore, Deathtrap, Greetings, Making God Laugh* and *Driving Miss Daisy*. Doris works as the Administrative Assistant at Roscoe Methodist Church and serves as Steward of the Board for the Village Nursery School in Roscoe. She and her husband, Peter, have 3 grown children and are up to 4 grandchildren, two grand-cats and one grand-dog, all of whom they enjoy playing with frequently. When she is not busy directing or working on plays or spending time with her grandchildren Doris enjoys singing in a band and directing skits at church, reading and binge-watching TV series online.

AUDITION NOTICE

Auditions for our spring musical will be held on March 14 and 15 at 7 p.m. at the Elizabeth Reinholz Theatre. Janet Palmer will direct ***Pump Boys and Dinettes*** by Mark Harwick, Jim Wann, John Schimmel, Debra Monk, John Foley and Cass Morgan. The cast calls for 4 men and 2 women. Since the men in the show are the onstage instrumentalists for the pit, we have reached out to area musicians and have pre-cast the men’s roles. We still need two women who can sing and act and who also will also be the percussionists for the show (using washboards, kitchen spoons and pie tins!). Production dates are: April 28, 29, 30, and May 5, 6, 7, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. There are also 3 p.m. matinees on April 30 and May 1 and 7.

If you wish to audition but are unable to be present on the above dates, you may email the director at janetpalmer1212@gmail.com to arrange an earlier date and time. 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

PRODUCTION TEAM

DirectorDoris Tropp
Stage ManagerLes Blumreich
Set Design.....Loren Sass
Set ConstructionDeb Burns, Les Blumreich, Joe Colletta, Mary Easland, Mike Fallon, Jackie Johnston, Dawn Kabor, Tom Lepinski, Richard McFall, Rod McFall, Abby Roza, Erika Sass, Diane Sass, Loren Sass, Bob Strecker, Brian Winchester, James Wolfe
Lighting and SoundPeter Tropp
Costumes.....Elizabeth Armstrong
PropertiesJanet Palmer, Kay Nordstrom
Running CrewLes Blumreich, Janet Palmer, Mary Easland

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