



THEATRE
GUILD OF
SIMSBURY

ARTHUR MILLER'S

ALL MY SONS

April, 2018 * Eno Memorial Hall * Simsbury, CT

ABOUT THE GUILD

Spanning over 45 years with over 70 productions, involving more than 1,000 people and audience attendance close to 100,000! This just begins to tell the story of the Theatre Guild of Simsbury (TGS)...

Community theater forges connections between people, creating a new kind of “family.” Regardless of how we spend our working lives, actors, musicians, dancers and more gather to pursue our common interest in creating live theater. And that common passion creates strong bonds among people whose paths might never have crossed.

Each year TGS produces a Broadway-style musical and a play, and enriches the community with these and other performances such as staged readings and Simsbury Celebrates shows. Our entire organization is successful due to the endless hours donated by volunteers.

Looking ahead to the future, we remain committed to bringing top-quality theater productions to our community. This continues to be our mission. Anyone who has the inclination to try theater should join us! We have a membership program with activities so that we can get to know each other better. Grow with us and make new friends along the way. We welcome anyone who wants to give theater a try, either onstage, back stage or behind the scenes!

For more information visit our website: www.theatreguildsimsbury.org or email us at theatreguildsimsbury@gmail.org.

Set Building Team — Rick Anderson, Rosemarie Beskind, Marisa Clement, Laura Garger, Lauren Gracyzk, Bruce Larsen, Kathryn-Ann O’Brien, Steve O’Brien, Dian Pomeranz, Pieter Roos, Donna Sennott, Ingrid Smith, Mark Stevens, Chris Torizzo, and Gina Vitolo-Stevens

Ad Sales — Lauren Gracyzk, Charles Merlis, Gina Vitolo-Stevens

House Volunteers — Cindy Braunlich, Carol Gill, Barbara and Mandy Kaylor, Wilson Keithline, Kathryn-Ann O’Brien, Bill and Roberta Quinn, Melissa Richards, John Schenkman, Donna Sennott, Josh Sheldon, Karen Sidel, Anna Vdovenko, Diana Yeisley and Melissa Veale

Props and Set Pieces Team — Mags Campbell, Renee DeSalvatore, John Schenkman, and Gina Vitolo-Stevens

Theatre Guild of Simsbury, Ltd
Production of

ALL MY SONS

Director — Rosemarie Beskind

Assistant Director — Gina Vitolo-Stevens

Producer — Donna Sennott, Anna Vdovenko

Stage Manager — Gina Vitolo-Stevens

Set Designer and Builder — Pieter Roos

Assistant Set Builder — Mark Stevens

Set Dressing/Props — Dian Pomeranz

Lighting Design — Jerry Zalewski

Lighting Operator — Liam O'Brien

Sound — Jeff Schlichter

Sound Operators — David Beskind, Nick Parisi

Costume Design — Darlene Davis

Wig and Hair Design — Joel Silvestro

Stagehand — Renee DeSalvatore

Graphic Design/Publicity — Doreen Cohn, John Schenkman

Tickets — Sarah Bedell, Donna Sennott

Program — Donna Sennott, Anna Vdovenko

House Manager — Kristin Pomeroy

Group Sales — Dave Dobratz, Annette Scatton

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



Marisa Clement (Ann Deever) *All My Sons* marks Marisa's TGS debut. After studying theater at KSC, the School at Steppenwolf and Second City Conservatory, Marisa returned to the East Coast, where she currently works as an elementary school social worker. Recent roles include: Catherine in *Proof*, Ophelia in *Hamlet*, Ivy in *August: Osage County* (with Rosemarie!), Beth in *A Lie of the Mind* and Gwendolyn Fairfax in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Love to Rosie and Rico.



Laura Garger (Sue Bayliss) is thrilled to be appearing in her first drama with TGS. Recently, Laura appeared as a singing/dancing nun in *Sister Act*, Chris in *Calendar Girls*, Jenny in *Jenny's House of Joy*, and Hillary in *Sex Please, We're Sixty*. Laura also has directed productions of *The Guys* and *Love Letters* at FVSC and *Veronica's Room* with TGS Staged Reading series. Other favorite shows and roles include: *The Music Man* (Eulalie), *Working* (Kate) *Godspell* (Robin), and *Gypsy* (Mazeppa). Love to my family who help to make my dreams come true every day! Many thanks to Rosemarie and Gina for the opportunity to perform in this great play!



Phil Godeck (Dr. Jim Bayliss) is making his third appearance with TGS, favorite past roles include Vinnie Bavasi in *Proposals*, Silvio in *Pvt Wars*, and Max in *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*. Phil stays active in local theatre, commercials and independent feature film projects throughout CT. He would like to dedicate this performance with love to his three daughters, Heather, Emily and Laura. A heartfelt thanks to Dawn, "my true love." Your patience and support means more to me than words can describe!



Lauren Graczyk (Lydia) is happy to be making her TGS debut! A member of SAG-AFTRA and a graduate of Boston University's College of Fine Arts, Lauren's favorite roles include Masha in *Three Sisters*, Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Edward/Victoria in *Cloud Nine*. Big thanks to everyone involved in *All My Sons* for the warm welcome and wonderful experience.



Bruce Larsen (George) comes to *All My Sons* with over zero years of professional experience. A few of his recent acting credits include the Windsor Jesters' productions of *August: Osage County* and *Run For Your Wife*. He was also featured in Little Theatre of Manchester's *Moon Over Buffalo*. Before those, he was on an extended hiatus from acting, but he is glad to be back. He thanks you for coming today.



Charles Merlis (Joe Keller) I took acting lessons at 6 in a YWCA class of 7 year old girls, in 2nd grade had title role as Woofy in *Woofy and Wags*. At 8, hired for \$3 for 3 Shakespearean monologues. Quit Yale in junior year to make it on Broadway. Ten years later, as a failure, I returned to college. My disgrace continued, as I became a NY lawyer. Finally, I retired to CT and have done much community theater. I hope this performance alleviates some of the shame of not receiving a Tony, Emmy or Oscar. I would like to thank Rosemarie, the cast, crew and volunteers who helped me with lines, and anyone who can get me on Broadway or to Hollywood.



Steve O'Brien (Chris) is excited to be back with TGS. Favorite roles include Nick in *The Guys*, Clarence in *It's a Wonderful Life*, Ray Bud in *Dearly Departed*, Ken in *Rumors*, Sergeant Trotter in *The Mousetrap*, and Nunzio in *Over the River and Through the Woods*. Thank you to Rosemarie for this wonderful opportunity and to my unbelievably talented cast mates and our superb production team. All my love to KA and all my sons.



Micah Richards (Bert) is a 7th grade student at HJMS. He was last seen on the Tootin' Hills Stage last year as The Cat in *Honk, Jr.* He is excited to be performing with TGS and has learned a lot from this more experienced cast. Micah lives in Simsbury with his parents and 2 sisters, plays trumpet in the school band and sings with the HJMS Select Chorus. He also enjoys playing baseball, soccer, and basketball. He looks forward to his next opportunity to be on stage.



Ingrid Smith (Kate) is excited to be following her TGS debut in the recent reading of *Spoon River Anthology* with this very special project. She was an acting student at the UConn Drama Dept. in Storrs and has appeared locally in such shows as *Mornings At Seven* (Cora), *Calendar Girls* (Annie), *Steel Magnolias* (Truvy), *Doubt* (Aloysius), and *Becky's New Car* (Becky). Much love to my precious children, Chandler, Meghan, and JessaRose.



Christopher Torizzo (Frank Lubey) has appeared in TGS's productions of *The Dining Room* and *Bedtime Stories*. Chris is thrilled to be working with this talented cast and crew on this amazing show. Favorite past roles include Billy Crocker in *Anything Goes* and Ebenezer Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*. Special thanks to Rosemarie for all of her dedication and support as she shares her immeasurable talent and love of theater with all of us.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE:

What is morality? Is it a universal ideal or a personal one? Is it ethical to “play by the rules” for one’s family and apply different rules to everyone else? These are the questions raised by Arthur Miller in his classic drama, *All My Sons*. During rehearsals we had many discussions about the universal themes of greed, morality, and inter-personal relationships. The rich poetic text prompted even more discussions. The setting is an American town, shortly after WWII– the Forties, an earlier time frame; however, the same situations could happen now and in the future, which makes this play so relevant. Having been blessed with an outstanding cast and crew, directing *All My Sons* has been a joy. Many thanks to all for their dedication and perseverance.

Expressions from the text that might elude younger members of the audience:

ANN: You still haberdashering?

FRANK: Why not? Maybe I too can get to be president.

(Harry Truman was a haberdasherer , an owner of a men’s clothing store, before he became president.)

SUE: If Chris wants people to put on the hair shirt, let him take off his broadcloth.

(A hairshirt was a shirt made of rough animal hair worn next to the skin as a penance. A broadcloth is a twilled fabric with smooth and dense texture.)

~ Rosemarie Beskind

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CAST OF CHARACTERS

Joe Keller.....	Charles Merlis
Kate Keller.....	Ingrid Smith
Chris Keller.....	Steve O'Brien
Ann Deever.....	Marisa Clement
George Deever.....	Bruce Larsen
Dr. Jim Bayliss.....	Phil Godeck
Understudy - Dr. Jim Bayliss.....	Bill Mullen
Sue Bayliss.....	Laura Garger
Frank Lubey.....	Chris Torizzo
Lydia Lubey.....	Lauren Graczyk
Bert.....	Micah Richards

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Act I

The back yard of the Keller home in the outskirts of an American town.

Act II

Scene, as before. The same evening, as twilight falls.

Act III

Scene, as before. Two o'clock the following morning.

There will be one 15 minute intermission between Act I and Act II.

Refreshments are available in the lobby.

Please turn all cellular phones to the OFF position.

Flash photography and any video recording are strictly prohibited

The Theatre Guild of Simsbury extends special thanks to:

Kathy Marschall & Simsbury Senior Center
Board of Selectmen & Town of Simsbury
Suffield Players, Inc and Jerry Zalewsky
Mags Campbell and Iris Engel
University of Hartford and Larry Rowe
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Westminster Theater Department, Simsbury

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Donna and Jack Sennott
Karen and Barry Sidel
Tracy and Chris Weed
Diana and Jonathan Yeisley

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Patty and Will Minton
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Melissa and Andrew Veale
Carol and Michael Yachanin

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Katie Stodd Knapp
Chris Torizzo
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SUPPORTING MEMBERS

Jess Angell
Marissa Clement
Dave Dobratz
Phil Godeck
Lauren Graczyk
Bruce Larsen
Jennifer Persechino
Ingrid Smith
The Stern Family
Gina Vitolo-Stevens

DIRECTORS & PRODUCTION



Rosemarie Beskind (Director) is thrilled to be directing this classic drama with such a talented cast and crew! Previous directing credits include *The Dining Room*, *Dearly Departed*, *Our Town*, *The Foreigner*, and *Over the River and Through the Woods* for TGS; *God of Carnage* and *Morning's At Seven* for FVSC; *Run For Your Wife* for Windsor Jesters. Favorite acting roles include Wicked Witch in *The Wizard of Oz*, Gangster 2 in *Kiss Me, Kate*, and Violet in *August, Osage County*. For Mike, with love.



Gina Vitolo-Stevens (Assistant Director) is elated to join this season of Theatre Guild of Simsbury. National roles: *Souvenir*, *Pippin*, *High School Musical*, *West Side Story*; *My Fair Lady*. Director: *Little Women*; OLIVER!; *Once Upon A Mattress*; and in March, TGS *Dinner with Friends*, "Seasons of Staged Readings". A journalist and former broadcaster, Gina thanks director Rosemarie, husband Mark, two sons Nicholas (and Natasha), Hunter (and Sarah), family and compadres.



Darlene Davis (Costumer) has been costuming TGS productions & many other theatres for 20 years. She has served on the board for 23 years and acted with TGS and other theatres as well. Her main time is spent running her own estate sale/organizing and antique business. Love to all my fellow TGS thespians and my husband for all his encouragement and support.



Dian Pomeranz (Set Design, Set Dresser, Props Mistress) As TGS's resident set dresser and props manager, Dian enjoys working behind the scenes to help create the magic that happens on stage. She has designed sets, served as assistant director, and created promotional materials for TGS. Dian has been on stage in TGS musicals and studio productions. Most recently she played Ada in FVSC's *Morning's at Seven*. Love and thanks to family and friends whose support is unwavering.



Renee DeSalvatore (Stagehand) can neither act, nor sing, nor dance, but she loves being involved with theater behind the scenes. She first came to TGS four years ago to help with costumes. The next year, she helped build sets and worked as a stage hand, moving sets on and off stage between scenes. More recently she has been helping Dian with props and set dressing, continuing to work backstage. Renee enjoys working with the wonderful TGS people who give her the opportunity to work on live shows, being on stage only when the lights are down.



Donna Sennott (Co-Producer) is excited to work the production side of bringing this Arthur Miller classic to the stage. She could not have asked for a harder working directors, cast, crew and production folks who have shared their many talents throughout the months of preparation. Thanks to my husband Jack and daughters Anna and Lizzie for their support. Thanks to my theater family for keeping it fun!



Anna Zuckerman-Vdovenko (Co-Producer) is proud to assist her colleagues in presenting *All My Sons*. She does Head Shots for our performers, as well as preserves each show by archiving scenes with her Nikon. Anna has formerly traveled as a photographer for expedition companies worldwide. She now runs Eye on the World Photography locally, and is mother of three, all performers on stage in musicals and dance.



David Dobratz (Group Sales) was attracted to TGS in order to engage with this production of *All My Sons*. The depth of the script, the theme of the story, interest in theatre and his desire to be involved, led him to support promotion through group sales. David is passionate about forging connections between TGS and its audience. David's other pursuits include visual arts, technology and business management.



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THEATRE
GUILD OF
SIMSBURY

Join Us



Auditions - June 3, 4, 2018 (Callbacks June 7)
Performances - November, 2018



STAGED READINGS

Sundays at 2:00 pm at the
Simsbury Public Library
Free and open to the public
See our website for audition information

**MAY
20**

An afternoon of Original Plays by Betsy Maguire, local playwright

Funny, quirky, and full of insight, these short plays showcase this playwright's talent. Stick around to discuss them with her.

Directed by
Karen Sidel,
with a talk back
including Betsy
Maguire

**JUNE
17**

Nuts by Tom Topor

A courtroom melodrama that explores sexual abuse, family and social power dynamics, and aspects of the criminal court system.

Directed by
Colleen
Renzullo

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and to sign up for email notifications of future events
www.theatreguildsimsbury.org