

# Saratoga Drama Group

presents

# The Fantasticks



**February - March 2001**

## Notes from the Director

*The Fantasticks* is the longest-running musical in the world, and the longest-running show in the history of the American theatre. For over 40 years it has been performed in the same Off-Broadway theatre in New York City. There have been over 11,000 productions in the United States and over 700 productions in 68 foreign countries. Yet with all of its success, it is a show many people have never heard about.

*The Fantasticks* is a play about risk and romance, of life, love, dreams, and the loss of innocence. It is a love story of a young boy and a young girl. Of parents who try to do what they think is best for their children. There are villains, pirates, heroes, and the lure of adventure. There is pain and disillusionment and, finally, the end of infatuation and the discovery of true love.

I think there are many reasons for the success of *The Fantasticks*. But what I find most appealing is its simplicity. Its universal themes of romance, young love, the lessons of life and the loss of innocence and the dreams we have all experienced in our own lives. It is staged very simply without lavish costumes or sets. Nothing defines a particular period of history or culture, giving it a feeling of being timeless.

The music in this show is wonderful. Each song helps tell part of the story. And with the orchestration done with just a few instruments, the voices of the actors blend with the music to create one sound.

This simplicity also allows you, the audience, to share in the “magic” of theatre. This show accepts the presence of the audience and asks that they join with the artists to create an imaginary world together. So we ask that you try to remember when life was slow and oh, so mellow. And if you remember, then follow us, and enjoy the wonderful magic that is *The Fantasticks*.

“Praising what is lost  
Makes the remembrance dear.”  
*All's Well That Ends Well*  
— William Shakespeare

On a personal note, I'd like to dedicate this production to two people who passed away last year: William (Bill) James, Ph.D. at the theatre department of Santa Clara University, and Michael Wood.

Bill James loved theatre. But most of all he enjoyed seeing young people get excited and inspired about the theatre. He was always friendly, encouraging and open to his students. Many times he went out of his way to help his students not only academically but personally as well. Most of all he was a teacher in the truest sense of the word. He made us “think!”

Mike Wood was a fellow actor, artist, poet, friend, and best man at my wedding. He too, loved the theatre. He brought the magic of creativity and theatre into the lives of many people by getting them involved in the process.

Both of these men inspired me, taught me and made me a better person for it. And for that I will always be in their debt.

— Steve Lambert, Director

## Saratoga Drama Group

presents

# The Fantasticks

Words by  
**Tom Jones**

Music by  
**Harvey Schmidt**



Directed by **Steve Lambert**

Musical Direction by **Anita Hsiung Carey**

Choreographed by **Geri Carlson Sauls**

Produced by **Bobby Giraud**



**February 3 - March 3, 2001**

Saratoga Civic Theater  
13777 Fruitvale Avenue  
Saratoga, California  
(408) 264-3110

Produced by special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials supplied by Music Theatre International, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019

## Cast of Characters

<b>The Narrator</b> (El Gallo) .....	Robin Melnick
<b>The Girl</b> (Luisa) .....	Marissa DeClercq
<b>The Boy</b> (Matt) .....	David Sanchez
<b>The Boy's Father</b> (Hucklebee) .....	Tim Reynolds
<b>The Girl's Father</b> (Bellomy) .....	Steve Completo
<b>The Actor</b> (Henry) .....	Don Hiatt
<b>The Man Who Dies</b> (Mortimer) .....	Jim Johnson
<b>The Mute</b> .....	Geri Carlson Sauls



## Musical Numbers

<b>Overture</b> .....	The Company
<b>Try to Remember</b> .....	The Narrator
<b>Much More</b> .....	The Girl
<b>Metaphor</b> .....	The Boy and The Girl
<b>Never Say No</b> .....	The Fathers
<b>It Depends on What You Pay</b> .....	The Narrator and The Fathers
<b>Soon It's Gonna Rain</b> .....	The Boy and The Girl
<b>Rape Ballet</b> .....	The Company
<b>Happy Ending</b> .....	The Company

## Intermission

<b>This Plum is Too Ripe</b> .....	The Boy, The Girl and The Fathers
<b>I Can See It</b> .....	The Boy and The Narrator
<b>Plant a Radish</b> .....	The Fathers
<b>Round and Round</b> .....	The Narrator, The Girl and The Company
<b>They Were You</b> .....	The Boy and The Girl
<b>Try to Remember</b> (reprise) .....	The Narrator

## Production Staff and Crew

Director.....	Steve Lambert
Producer .....	Bobby Giraudo
Music Director .....	Anita Hsiung Carey
Choreographer .....	Geri Carlson Sauls
Fight Choreographer.....	Brian Evje
Set Designer .....	Jason P. Winters
Set Construction Head .....	William Shepard
Lighting Designer.....	Edward Hunter
Costume Designer.....	C. Michael Traw
Costumer .....	Virginia Koester
Scenic Artist.....	Stephanie Conrad
Properties Coordinator.....	Leslie Hardy Tamel
Technical Director .....	Jason P. Winters
Stage Manager .....	Vicki Trammell
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Chris Souza
Light Board Operator.....	Gary Daum
Spotlight Operator .....	Thea Lambert, Leslie Hardy Tamel
Sound Operator.....	Bobby Giraudo
Set Construction & Move-in Crew.....	Matt Carey, John & Kathy DeClercq, Lucy Haab, Michael Johnson, Elizabeth Leonard, Leslie Hardy Tamel, and the cast of <i>The Fantasticks</i>
Rehearsal Pianists.....	Anita Hsiung Carey, Karen Morness
Photography .....	Jon Wenger
Lobby Design.....	Elizabeth Leonard
Program Design.....	Barbara Reynolds
Opening Night Reception .....	Pat Smith Extravaganza
Box Office.....	Connie Ryan
House Manager .....	Lucy Haab



## Orchestra

Not all players appear at all performances

Piano.....	Anita Hsiung Carey, Karen Morness
Bass.....	Steve Adkins, Phil Calentine, Roger Dahlberg
Percussion.....	Scott Brian, Matt Nielsen
Harp.....	Celeste Misfeldt
Keyboard.....	Michael Johnson

## Cast Biographies



**Geri Carlson Sauls** (Mute, Choreographer) is excited to tackle a different role — one with no speaking or singing! Last seen as Charity in *Sweet Charity*, Geri has appeared in many SDG shows since debuting as Mavis in 1993's *Stepping Out*. Favorite SDG roles include Paula in *The Goodbye Girl*, Emily Arden in *State Fair*, Irene Molloy in *Hello, Dolly!* and “everything we did” in *A Day in Hollywood/A Night in the Ukraine*. Other favorites include *Crazy for You* (Tess) at American Musical Theatre of San Jose, for which she won a Ginny award, *Into the Woods* (The Witch) for Sunnyvale Community Players and *A Chorus Line* (Val) for Baton Rouge Little Theater. She directed and choreographed West Valley Light Opera's recent production of *The Will Rogers Follies*, as well as Sunnyvale Community Players' *A Chorus Line*. For her next project, Geri returns to Sunnyvale to add *Crazy for You* to her long list of credits as a choreographer. A veterinarian by day, Geri would like to thank her husband Chip for his unending support of her “second job!”



**Steve Completo** (Bellomy) first joined SDG as Ling in 1978's *Anything Goes* and has returned to this stage many times since. SDG credits include *State Fair* (Judge Heppenstahl); *Hello, Dolly!* (Rudolph); *Funny Girl* (Paul); 1994's *Anything Goes* (Luke); *42nd Street*; *Sugar*; *Little Me*; *Kismet* and *Cole*, for which he received the Gypsy Robe Award. West Valley Light Opera appearances include *Carousel* (Captain), *Crazy for You* (Mingo), *How to Succeed...* (Tackaberry), and his favorite role, Pellinore in *Camelot*. Steve recently appeared with Santa Clara Players in *Murder, You Must Be Kidding* (Mickey); other performance highlights include Gilbert and Sullivan Society of San Jose's *Gondoliers* (Duke), *Iolanthe* (Lord Chancellor), *Princess Ida* (Cyril) and *Pirates of Penzance* (Samuel), as well as 12 years and countless shows with *Mystery by Design*. Steve likes to tap dance and sew, and has costumed several shows. What he loves about theater is seeing smiles on the audience's faces, since that's what makes the work worthwhile.



**Marissa DeClercq** (Luisa) is thrilled to be making her SDG debut, especially in *The Fantasticks*, her favorite musical. This past summer she performed with Aileen Quinn in *The Unsinkable Molly Brown* at Utah Musical Theatre. Other credits include *Man of La Mancha* (Antonia) for Diablo Valley College, *Over the Tavern* (Annie) for Sacramento Theatre Company, *Pirates of Penzance* (Isabel) with The Lamplighters, *Fiddler on the Roof* (Chava) at Woodminster, *Cheaper by the Dozen* (Ernestine) for California Theatre Arts, and many more. Marissa has studied voice with Kim Rossi-Vetterli for nine years, and also completed the Theatre Artists Institute program with American Musical Theatre of San Jose.



**Don Hiatt** (Henry) is appearing with SDG for the first time in *The Fantasticks*, but is a seasoned stage veteran. An actor by trade, he has a magna cum laude degree in theater from San Jose State University with honors in scenic design. Most recently, he played Uncle John in TheatreWorks' *Grapes of Wrath*; last season he appeared as Einstein in San Jose Stage Company's record-breaking *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* and as Faustus in California Shakespeare Festival's *Dr. Faustus*. In his spare time he enjoys whitewater rafting, fencing, target shooting and skydiving; he lives in San Jose with two brilliant, beautiful, talented women, Cynthia and Ashley, whom he is blessed to call his wife and daughter.



**Jim Johnson** (Mortimer) is making his SDG debut with *The Fantasticks*, and we're pleased to welcome him to this stage. Other local theatrical credits include shows with City Lights Theatre and Bus Barn Stage Company, where he appeared most recently in this season's *1940s Radio Hour*. As a hobby, Jim likes to take photos with pinhole and toy cameras; by day he checks out books to rocket scientists in the library at NASA/Ames Research Center.



**Robin Melnick** (El Gallo) is returning for his second SDG production, following his 1996 role as Richard Henry Lee in *1776*. However, it's his fourth production in this theater, since he's also appeared in West Valley Light Opera's *Camelot* (Lancelot) and *They're Playing Our Song* (Vernon). Robin is delighted to reunite with so many members of our cast, crew, and staff. Elsewhere Robin has performed with companies from San Jose's American Musical Theatre to San Francisco's Lamplighters, and several in between. Some of his favorite performances include *Forever Plaid* (Smudge, the bass), *The Boys from Syracuse* (Antipholus of Syracuse) and *Into the Woods* (Rapunzel's Prince). Robin is also a behind-the-scenes contributor at this theater, helping backstage, working in the light booth, or just hanging out — often in support of his wife, Mary, a frequent performer on this stage. Robin is forever grateful to Mary for all of her love and support.



**Tim Reynolds** (Hucklebee) has appeared here many times since his first SDG role as Tommy Djilas in 1979's *The Music Man*. Recent SDG credits include last season's *The Music Man* (Harold Hill), *A Day in Hollywood/A Night in the Ukraine* (Constantine), *42nd Street* (Billy), *A Grand Night for Singing, 1776* (John Adams), *Irene* (Donald) and *Anything Goes* (Billy). He's also appeared on this stage with West Valley Light Opera in *High Society* (Dexter) and *They're Playing Our Song* (Vernon). Other favorite roles include *Crazy for You* (Bela) and *West Side Story* (Tony) with Pleasanton Playhouse, *The Secret Garden* (Archibald) with Mountain View Playhouse, and *Big River* (Ben, The Fool) and *Merrily We Roll Along* (Charley) with TheatreWorks. A current member of the SDG board of directors, Tim has been SDG's treasurer for the past five years.



**David Sanchez** (Matt) is making his first appearance with SDG in *The Fantasticks*, but is no stranger to the stage. His credits with San Jose Children's Musical Theater include *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Pilate); *How to Succeed...* (Finch); and *A Chorus Line* (Paul), and at San Jose State University he appeared as part of Company One with Janie Scott. Last summer he participated in the Theatre Artists Institute at American Musical Theatre of San Jose, with Marc Jacobs. When he's not working as a waiter at Buca di Beppos, David enjoys playing computer games. He tells us "This performance is dedicated to my Luisa in life — good luck in New York and I love you." ~~~~~

## Staff Biographies



**Steve Lambert** (Director) returns for his third SDG production, after appearing as Captain von Trapp in *The Sound of Music* in 1995 and as Henry Higgins in last season's *My Fair Lady*. For West Valley Light Opera he directed *The King and I* and appeared as King Arthur in *Camelot*; other performances include Signore Baptista in *The Taming of the Shrew* and Polonius in *Hamlet* with Bus Barn Stage Company in Los Altos. Steve is a graduate of Santa Clara University with a degree in theatre arts. He has studied in New York, where he appeared off-off-Broadway and in several feature films and daytime "soaps." He wishes to dedicate this production to the memories of Bill James, Ph.D. of Santa Clara University's Theatre Arts Department, and Michael Wood. ~~~~~



**Anita Hsiung Carey** (Music Director) was last seen at SDG as music director for last year's *Side by Side by Sondheim*; elsewhere she's music-directed *South Pacific*; *Bye, Bye, Birdie*; *Little Shop of Horrors*; *Sugar*; and assisted on *Into the Woods*. Anita started playing piano in musical theater in 1988. She came to SDG in 1998 as a pianist for *A Day in Hollywood/A Night in the Ukraine*; since then she's accompanied *Brigadoon*, *Cabaret*, *My Fair Lady* and *The Goodbye Girl*. For other groups she's played a myriad of shows including *Of Thee I Sing*, *Something's Afoot*, *Godspell*, *Romance Romance*, *Anything Goes* and *A Little Night Music*, and she also occasionally plays for TheatreWorks. By day Anita is an engineer at Lockheed Martin. She thanks Matt for his love and support. ~~~~~



**Jason P. Winters** (Set Designer). Doer of Strange Things. Shoelace Terrorizer. Jason has worked with theater groups throughout the Bay Area since 1989 in such jobs as production stage manager, set designer, set construction head, technical director, stage and light crew, videographer and actor. In addition to SDG, Jason has worked locally with West Valley Light Opera, Theater in the Mountains, Sunnyvale Community Players, Santa Clara Players, Stanford Savoyards, Scott's Valley Performing Arts, The Silicon Valley Gay Men's Choir and Kidz on Tour. If Jason makes the props, be very, very frightened. ~~~~~



**Edward Hunter** (Lighting Designer) has too many years of theater experience to count (almost all of it backstage) and has been involved in theater in the Bay Area since moving here in 1985. He's designed sets and lights for many local groups including the Stanford Savoyards, TheatreWorks, Menlo Players, West Valley Light Opera and Lyric Theatre. When not in the theater, Ed is a director of software at Sun Microsystems and enjoys flying, his motorcycle, and the cello. With *The Fantasticks* he returns to SDG for his second show; he first joined the group as set designer for *Company* in 1998. Now that he's a Saratoga resident, there will no doubt be many more! ~~~~~



**William Shepard** (Set Construction Head) has a master's degree in theater arts, focusing on scenic design and lighting, from San Jose State University. He's worked on more than 60 shows spanning a theatrical career since 1968. His set designs include *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Hapgood*, *Fame*, a fashion show for Los Gatos High School, and *Plunkett*, an original show for Quo Vadis. He's worked on set construction and been technical director or master carpenter for many groups, including Centre Theatre, Community Players of Los Gatos, Menlo Players Guild, San Jose Stage, and West Valley College, in addition to SDG and West Valley Light Opera. Next he'll be designing and building the set for Santa Clara Players' production of *Come Blow Your Horn*. ~~~~~





**Vicki Trammell** (Stage Manager) is joining SDG for the first time with this gig. She hails from the great state of Texas and earned her B.A. in theater from Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She has served for many years (egads! is it really 13?) as the drama director at South Hills Community Church in San Jose, where she has produced and directed numerous seasonal musicals and dozens of sketches for various church programs. She has worked many crew assignments with TheatreWorks in Palo Alto, such as sound operator, lighting crew, properties, and Assistant Stage Manager. She is also active in the West Coast region of Christians in Theatre Arts and, in her spare time, is always looking for new theater projects. ~~~~~

**Bobby Giraud** (Producer) is an SDG regular; he produced last season's *My Fair Lady* and has appeared on stage in *State Fair*; *Brigadoon*; *Hello, Dolly!*; *42nd Street*; *High Button Shoes*; *Guys & Dolls* and *Anything Goes*. An incredibly energetic dancer, last season he also appeared in *The Will Rogers Follies* for West Valley Light Opera and *A Chorus Line* for Sunnyvale Community Players. Bobby is an invaluable offstage presence at SDG as well; he has been as a member of the board of directors and frequent backstage crew member, and he received the "Heartbeat Award" at the 1999 annual SDG Open House. ~~~~~

**Brian Evje** (Fight Choreographer) is a local actor and stage combatant. A graduate of Santa Clara University, he has trained with members of The Academy of the Sword while appearing in productions of *Hamlet* (Laertes and Fight Captain), *Romeo and Juliet* (Paris) and *The Three Musketeers* (Duke of Buckingham). Brian is pleased to be working on his first production for SDG. ~~~~~

**C. Michael Traw** (Costume Designer) has been with SDG since 1968's *Paint Your Wagon*, involved in countless productions as actor, director and costumer, and also as a member of SDG's board of directors. His recent SDG directorial credits include last fall's *Sweet Charity*; *Side by Side by Sondheim*; *Brigadoon*; *Hello, Dolly!*; *42nd Street*; *A Grand Night for Singing*; *High Button Shoes* and *The Sound of Music*. For American Musical Theatre of San Jose, Michael directed *Roar of the Greasepaint...* and *Anything Goes* with Chita Rivera; he's appeared on stage as everything from Mr. Sowerberry in *Oliver* to Mayor Shinn in *The Music Man*. In his spare time an avid collector of celebrity paper dolls, color books, and autographed movie posters, Michael will be back directing SDG's *Mame* in the spring. 

**Virginia Koester** (Costumer) has been sewing for SDG ever since she constructed Aunt Eller's pioneer duds in 1993's *Oklahoma!*. Since then Ginny's made costumes for *Sweet Charity*; *The Music Man*; *The Goodbye Girl*; *My Fair Lady*; *State Fair*; *Sugar*; *Anything Goes*; *The Sound of Music*; *Irene*; *Hello, Dolly!*; *A Day in Hollywood / A Night in the Ukraine* and *Brigadoon*. And no one could forget her 200+ costumes for *High Button Shoes!* We're deeply indebted to her for all her talent and efforts. 

**Leslie Hardy Tamel** (Properties Coordinator) has been involved with SDG since she appeared in *70, Girls, 70* in 1975, and for the past year has served as chairperson of SDG's board of directors. Other onstage SDG appearances include *Sweet Charity*, *The Music Man*, *Company*; *42nd Street*; *Sugar*; *Anything Goes*; *No, No, Nanette* and *Little Me*. A true theater professional, Leslie has directed, choreographed and performed for companies all over the state; by day she's Outreach and Education Director for San Jose Children's Musical Theater. At home are her husband Matt, two regular cats and one half-human/half-cat. 



**Saratoga Drama Group  
Board of Directors 2001-2002**

<i>Leslie Hardy Tamel</i> , Chairperson	<i>Lucy Haab</i>
<i>Lynn Haydis</i> , Vice Chairperson	<i>Geri Carlson Sauls</i>
<i>Julia Thomas</i> , Recording Secretary	<i>Ed Sengstack</i>
<i>Michael Johnson</i> , Corresponding Secretary	<i>Karen DeHart</i> , Alternate
<i>Tim Reynolds</i> , Treasurer	<i>Ted Kopulos</i> , Alternate
<i>Kathy Burch</i>	<i>C. Michael Traw</i> , Alternate

visit our Web page at <http://www.sdg.to>

**Acknowledgments**

Our heartfelt thanks to the following special contributors:

Cathy Spielberger Cassetta	San Jose Piano
Composite Artts	Tap Plastics
Infotel National Marketing, Inc.	Welker Bros.
Pat Smith Extravaganza	West Valley Light Opera
San Jose Children's Musical Theater	Zomax

*And... our apologies and thanks to any orchestra members, crew members or other special contributors whom we failed to mention due to the early publication deadlines of this program!*



**Next Season  
at Saratoga Drama Group**

**A Little Night Music** .....September - October, 2001  
**And the World Goes Round** .....February - March, 2002  
**Fiddler on the Roof** ..... May - June, 2002

*To add your name to our Season Ticket mailing list,  
please fill out a card in the lobby.*



**We need you!**

If you're interested in supporting Saratoga Drama Group as a volunteer, we're interested in meeting you. We need set construction volunteers, costume sewers, backstage crew, house managers, ushers — whatever your talent, we can put it to use! Leave a message for Leslie Hardy Tamel at (408) 255-0801.

Coming Soon from Saratoga Drama Group

# MAME



May 12 - June 9, 2001

*tickets available now at the box office  
or by calling SDG at (408) 264-3110*

## Also Coming Soon to this Theater

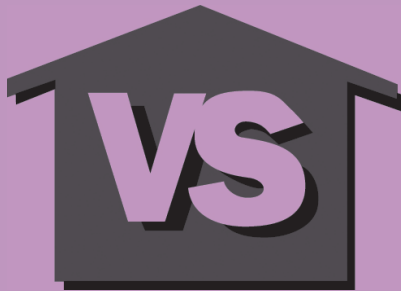
*West Valley Light Opera presents*

### **Damn Yankees**

March 17 - April 21, 2001

*for tickets, call the WVLO box office at (408) 268-3777*

**Thank You for  
Supporting Community Theater**



### **Village Square Realty, Inc.**

515 N. Santa Cruz Ave. Suite C

Los Gatos, CA 95030

Bus: (408) 399-3418

Fax: (408) 399-3422