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Town and Country Players
Doylestown, PA

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLAYERS PRESENTS



VANYA and
SONIA
and MASHA and
SPIKE



MAY 11 - 26

A COMEDY

WRITTEN BY **CHRISTOPHER DURANG**

DIRECTED BY **ANDY MCPHEE**

PRODUCED BY **ANNAMARIE HUGHES**

Town and Country Players

PRESENTS

VANYA and SONIA and MASHA and SPIKE

by
Christopher Durang

with

Andy McPhee
Jackie Agliata

Valerie Sharper
Stephanie Rogers Smith

Charles Acosta
Gay McPhee

Stage Manager
Karen Abrams

Producer
Annamarie Hughes

Set Design
Peter Martino

Properties
Annamarie Hughes

Lighting and Sound Design
Jim McIntosh

Scenic Design
Barb Emch

Hair Design
Jennifer Kelly

Costume Design
Rob Rosiello

Set Construction
William Buckman

Directed by
Andy McPhee

Sound design and original music by Mark Bennett

Originally produced on Broadway by:

Joey Parnes, Larry Hirschhorn, Joan Raffae/Jhett Tolentino, Martin Platt & David Elliot, Pat Flicker Addiss, Catherine Adler, John O'Boyle, Joshua Goodman, Jamie deRoy/Richard Winkler, Cricket Hooper, Jiranek/Michael Palitz, Mark S. Golub & David S. Golub, Radio Mouse Entertainment, Shadowcatcher Entertainment, Mary Cossette/Barbara Manocherian, Megan Savage/Meredith Lynsey Schade, Hugh Hysell/Richard Jordan, Cheryl Wiesenfeld/Ron Simons, S.D. Wagner, John Johnson in association with McCarter Theatre Center and Lincoln Center Theater

Originally commissioned and produced by McCarter Theatre Center, Princeton, N.J.

Emily Mann, Artistic Director; Timothy J. Shields, Managing Director; Mara Isaacs, Producing Director; and produced by Lincoln Center Theater, New York City, under

the direction of André Bishop and Bernard Gersten in 2012.

"Here Comes the Sun"
Written by George Harrison
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A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Act Three of Chekhov's brilliant drama, *The Three Sisters*, ends with two of the sisters, Irina and Olga, deciding to move to Moscow. Says Irina, "My dear, darling sister, I esteem, I highly value the Baron, he's a splendid man; I'll marry him, I'll consent, only let's go to Moscow! I implore you, let's go! There's nothing better than Moscow on earth. Let's go, Olga, let's go!"

I'm not sure Moscow is, as they say, all that, but going to a place where you'll be comfortable, where you can sit back, stretch out, and call your surroundings home is a goal we all share. Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike explores that very theme — home, family, and a shared identity. As Vanya tells his family in the second act, "There are no shared memories anymore. Now there's Twitter and email and Facebook and cable and satellite, and the movies and TV shows are all worthless, and we don't even watch the same worthless things together, it's all separate. And our lives are...disconnected." Vanya desperately wants connectedness again. He wants what we all want: to belong, to share our experiences with someone we love, and to engage in a larger, more important world.

One might argue, of course, that modern communication actually fosters connection, allowing us to engage with far more people in much less time than ever before, but that would be missing the weightier point. Direct, in-person contact is critical to our very being, and no number of Facebook friends or Twitter followers will ever change that.

And where better to engage with our fellow humans than right here in bucolic, resplendent, utterly charming Bucks County? From the northern reaches of Riegelsville to the southern edges of Bristol and Tullytown, Bucks County offers a home for city-, suburb-, and country-dwellers alike. As for me, I love Doylestown and the central Bucks area. I feel at home here, comfortable, and content. Whenever I travel, wherever I go, there always comes a time when I can't wait to go home, when I say to my beautiful wife, "Oh, my dear, darling Gay, let's go to Bucks County. To Bucks County let us go!"

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In the theatre world, we often speak of “our theatre family.”

This is comprised of those individuals with whom we spend a great deal of time onstage and backstage, creating this fantastic world of theatre in which we gleefully dwell. Like any family, there can be great triumphs and milestones, disagreements, and personalities larger than life. But like the ties that bind a real family, the theatre family is a close-knit group of individuals, emerging and established artists, whose affection for the art transcends blood relations and creates a family of its own.

Christopher Durang has given us a wonderful and often overlooked glimpse into the world of “The Siblings.” In this case, we are enchanted and delighted by Vanya and Sonia and Masha, the siblings and title characters of this cleverly insightful and often hilarious comedy. The bond between siblings is a special one, one fraught with emotion but one that endures and more often than not, defies rationale or reason. Siblings are unique and wild creatures that can sometimes be feared, sometimes revered, but always with a common bond that endures no matter what - whether it be the Chekovian namesakes of our title characters from this Durang work or our own personal kinships created here at Town and Country Players.

The cast and crew of any show create a sisterhood and brotherhood backstage and onstage, one that presents to an audience a final product bore from weeks of work and dedication. Please enjoy the fruits of this family of siblings as much as we have enjoyed creating the bonds that surround them.

Rob Rosiello

SETTING

A lovely farmhouse in Bucks County.

TIME

Set in the present.

SHOW CONTENT INFORMATION

Please note, this production contains mature content and language and may not be suitable for children.

SPECIAL THANKS

We would like to express our profound thanks to the playwright, the marvelous Christopher Durang, for agreeing to spend time with the cast, crew, and interested patrons.

[Note: His newest play, the riotous *Turning Off the Morning News*, is now playing at the McCarter Theater in Princeton, NJ, through June 3. Go see it!]

Thank you as well to the dynamic Lisa Pretectrum, owner and proprietor of the lovely Aaron Burr House Bed & Breakfast in New Hope (www.aaronburrbandb.com), for not only allowing us to use the living room of her historic house but also for catering our Meet the Playwright affair on May 19.

A special thank-you to members Jon Knapp and Joe Perignat for their generous help with set construction.

CAST

Vanya	Andy McPhee
Sonia	Valerie Sharper
Masha	Stephanie Rogers Smith
Spike	Charles Acosta
Cassandra	Gay McPhee
Nina	Jackie Agliata

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Andy McPhee
Producer	Annamarie Hughes
Stage Manager	Karen Abrams
Assistant Stage Manager	Michael McClintic
Scenic Design	Barb Emch
Costume Design	Rob Rosiello
Set Design	Peter Martino
Set Construction	William Buckman
Set Construction Assistants	Jim Palmer Kim O'Byrne Rozman
Properties	Annamarie Hughes
Lighting and Sound Design	Jim McIntosh
Sound Technician	Florence Slosser
Crew	Mason McClintic
Crew	TJ Buck
Crew/Program	Jillian Ambs
Crew	Danielle Malat
Hair Design	Jennifer Kelly
Wig Design	Lynne Anne Donchez
Promotions and Marketing	Jean Laustsen Joe O'Neill Suzanne Safran

WHO'S WHO



Andy McPhee

as Vanya

Andy well remembers his first role on stage, as Luigi Lanconi, the main character in a delightful little comedy called *Rest Assured*. That was in high school, and aside from a rather brief 16-year hiatus, he has been active in theater ever since. Favorite roles include Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof*; Lenny in *Rumors*; Paul, Uncle Billy, and Mr. D'Angelo in *Quilt: A Musical Celebration*; Narrator and Mysterious Man in *Into the Woods*; and Greg in *Sylvia*. He would have loved his role as Leonato in *Much Ado About Nothing* if it hadn't been for that giant, nearly neon orange pumpkin costume the designer, the late and simply marvelous Walter Delle, had given him. Damn you, Walter, you glorious buggah! Andy would like to dedicate this performance to Joe O'Neill.



Valerie Sharper

as Sonia

Val has loved this show from the first time she saw it and is pleased to be able to bring Sonia to life at T&C. She was most recently NOT seen running the light board for the season opener, *Bonnie & Clyde*. Favorite roles over the years include Joanne in *Company*, Drowsy Chaperone in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Mrs. Potts in *Beauty and the Beast*, Sally in *Follies*, Kate Keller in *All My Sons*, Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd*, and Marilla Cuthbert in *Anne of Green Gables*. Break a leg, everyone!

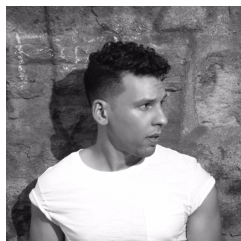


Stephanie Rogers Smith

as Masha

Stephanie is thrilled to perform as Masha and be part of the first comedy of the 2018 season. Tons of love and appreciation to this talented cast and crew! In 2017 Stephanie was seen at T&C in *The Laramie Project* and in *Rumors*. Previous favorites include Gretchen in *Boeing, Boeing*; Lizzie in *The Rainmaker*; Annette in *God of Carnage*; and being onstage with her two daughters in *It's a Wonderful Life* and *Once On This Island*. Love to her three children, Ava, Stella, and Declan, and friends near and far for love, support, and encouragement in life and on the stage!

WHO'S WHO



Charles Acosta

as Spike

Charles is delighted to be back at Town and Country Players and perform in his underwear for all of you to enjoy. Last winter, Charles gained rave reviews in the play Twentieth Century (George) at Kelsey Theater and for his portrayal earlier this year in Medea (Jason). He was most recently seen in The Dinner Party (Albert Donay) and 12 Angry Jurors (Juror 11). Charles is a native of the Dominican Republic where he started developing his creative drive as an Advertising and Marketing graduate. He is currently taking acting classes under the tutelage of veteran actor Joey Perillo. When he is not stripping his clothes off, Charles enjoys weight lifting, pinball, watching horror movies and photography. You want to see more of Spike? Follow him on his personal Instagram: @charlesoacosta or his photography @pinballphoto.



Gay McPhee

as Cassandra

Gay hasn't been seen on the T&C stage — or any stage for that matter — since playing Rose in Gypsy in 2006. She was Katharine in When Shakespeare's Ladies Meet, and the Wicked Stepmother in T&C's Family Theater production of Cinderella. She has also appeared in Fiddler on the Roof, Social Security, and Baby, and has starred in Rumors, The Mystery of Edwin Drood, Godspell, and many others. But that was a looong time ago, and she is hoping she can still do this thing called acting.



Jackie Agliata

as Nina

Jackie is thrilled to be part of her first production with T&C! An avid performer her entire life, Jackie has enjoyed singing, dancing, and acting her way into more than 20 plays and musicals throughout the years. Favorite roles include Heidi in [title of show], Little Red in Into the Woods, and Holly in The Wedding Singer. Though a Doylestown native, Jackie is excited to be moving to Denver, CO, in the fall to pursue her other lifelong passion — teaching — and, she hopes, to continue performing at a higher altitude. Thanks to everyone involved in this production, and especially to her mom — just because!

PRODUCTION TEAM'S WHO'S WHO

Andy McPhee

Director

Andy has been acting and directing for more than 25 years now, not counting his high school and college work. Directing credits at T&C include The Pajama Game, Gypsy, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, and When Shakespeare's Ladies Meet. Acting credits include Fiddler on the Roof, Man of La Mancha, The Taming of the Shrew, Social Security, Rumors, and Into the Woods. He is thrilled to be working with this enormously talented cast and, of course, his favorite producer, Annamarie Hughes. He hopes the audience has as much fun watching Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike and Cassandra and Nina as he had bringing the show to the stage. Break a leg, my baby! 888

Annamarie Hughes

Producer

Anna is happy to be back at T&C and thrilled to be working again with Director Andy McPhee and with this wonderfully talented cast. Anna originally became involved in T&C in 2000 and has loved being part of many amazing productions since. Anna directed The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe in 2007; Arthur's Stone, Merlin's Fire: The Making of a King in 2009; and It's a Wonderful Life in 2011. Past producer credits include The Pajama Game, Charlotte's Web, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Proof, and Gypsy. Onstage Anna has been seen in Honk!, Peter Pan, Cinderella, Follies, and Fiddler on the Roof. Much love to her amazing husband Bob and her six awesome kids: Rob, Dave, Meg, Chris, Sarah, and John. Enjoy the show!

Karen Abrams

Stage Manager

Karen is thrilled to be working with such a talented cast and production team. Previous shows include The Pajama Game, Charlotte's Web, The Secret Garden, Girls of the Garden Club, Nutcracker, Drowsy Chaperone, Moon Over Buffalo, You're a Good Man Charlie Brown, A Few Good Men, and The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. Thank you, Andy and Annamarie, for asking me to join your team. A special thanks to Leo for his love and support.

PRODUCTION TEAM'S WHO'S WHO

Michael McClintic

Assistant Stage Manager

You may recognize Michael from our opening show of this year's season, Bonnie and Clyde but it's more likely that you won't even see him during this show because he's taking a turn backstage for a change! Last season, Michael was part of the Towny Cup award winning production of A Few Good Men in addition to The Laramie Project and The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe. Michael and his awesome kids, Mason and Makayla, have become quite a package deal for T&C and we are grateful for their support! A huge thanks to his amazing wife, Lisa, for being so supportive of his theater addiction!

Barb Emch

Scenic Design

Working at T&C and helping to design the sets and painting them is always an exciting challenge. Even better it is rewarding and great fun to be part of the talented group of people who make up the T&C theater and who contribute so much to our community. Barb wants to thank all those who help make her job easier and wishes the very talented cast and crew of Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike the very best. Enjoy the show.

Rob Rosiello

Costume Design

Most recent costume design credits include Fast Girls and the world premiere of A Song I Forgot to Sing. Other T&C costume design credits include Willy Wonka, A Few Good Men, Rumors, August: Osage County, and Holes, and he served as costume mentor for last year's one-act festival. Rob was a graduate assistant at Villanova University's Costume Shop and was the assistant designer for Once On This Island and for both parts of Angels in America: Millennium Approaches and Perestroika. He has designed costumes for The College of New Jersey and will direct The Children's Hour this fall at T&C.

PRODUCTION TEAM'S WHO'S WHO

Peter Martino

Set Design

Peter was thrilled to be asked to design the set for Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike! He worked at the Bucks County Playhouse for eight years in various roles, such as scenic designer, actor, technical director, and lighting designer. He has also designed sets for Mt. Gretna Theater, Porch Light Productions, Westchester Sandbox Theater, Looking Glass Theater Company, Minetta Lane Theater, and various school theater groups around the area. He is currently the Theater Tech Director at The Solebury School, where he loves to train the young designers and technicians of tomorrow. He would like to thank Andy and Anna for this opportunity, his friends and family for keeping him sane, his wonderful students for balancing the sane with the insane, his two dogs Stanley and Delilah for their unconditional love, and of course his better half, Dave, for all his love and support!

William Buckman

Set Construction

When Bill is not swinging a hammer as a remodeling contractor, he spends his free time singing, acting and producing. With a musical legacy dating back to his early childhood, Bill is a cast member with the State Street Players and is a past President of the BC Gilbert & Sullivan Society. He is also a Cantor at OLMC Church, sings with the church choir.

Lynne Anne Donchez

Wig Design

Lynne-Anne is very excited to be doing wig design work for this production and was also involved with wig design for Bonnie and Clyde earlier this season. Last season, she designed wigs for The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe and was also the Producer of *Love Letters/Other Letters*. She serves on the T&C board as the VP of Hospitality.

Jim McIntosh

Lighting and Sound Design

Jim has been involved in the entertainment industry for over 25 years. After earning a B.A. in Theater from Rutgers University, he has worked as a Performer, Stage Manager, Light and Sound Technician, and Scenic Carpenter. After moving to Bucks County, Jim and his wife, Cathy, were season ticket holders at Town & Country for 5 years, and now both enjoy working behind the scenes. This is Jim's 21st show at Town & Country and he's looking forward to many more. If Shakespeare was right and All the world's a stage then make sure you have good lighting.

PRODUCTION TEAM'S WHO'S WHO

Jennifer Kelly

Hair Design

Jennifer was a Fine Arts major in college, but decided that a better way to utilize her creativity was a career in hair. She enrolled in the Paul Mitchell School and received her license in cosmetology. Jennifer loves cutting, coloring and styling, specializing in up-dos and makeup for those special occasions. Jennifer has done hair/makeup for many shows at T&C including The Drowsy Chaperone, The Secret Garden, The Pajama Game, The Dark at the Top of the Stairs and Moon over Buffalo.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLAYERS PRESENTS

OTHER DESERT CITIES

JUNE 15 - 30

A DRAMA

WRITTEN BY **JON ROBIN BAITZ**

DIRECTED BY **NANCY RIDGEWAY**

PRODUCED BY **ANNE SCHMITT**

This show contains content and language
which may not be suitable for all ages



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T&C Raffle

Our raffle helps to support our Building Fund.

We offer custom raffle options for each show.

Raffle tickets are \$5.00 each or five tickets for \$20.00. Each raffle ticket is also eligible for our end of year prizes which include a trip to a Broadway show of your choice as well as other prizes! For more details, please see the Board located in the Clubroom. As always, we appreciate your support. Thank you!

Volunteer to Earn a Free Ticket

Members and Non-Members may volunteer to usher, direct parking or sell raffle tickets for our shows and will receive a FREE SEAT for any show in our 2018 season.

If you are interested in volunteering, you may sign up on our website or fill out "Volunteer Form" in the Clubroom.

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T&C WANTS YOU TO KNOW....

Congratulations to our 2017 Season Award Winners!

2017 Member Award Winners:

Service Award: Jean Laustsen

Lifetime Achievement Award: Ken Ambs

Rafters Award: Anna Doyle

Jr. Rafters Award: Noemi Nieves-Hoblin

Marion Kolman Award (Female Acting): Stephanie Smith

2017 Towny Award Winners:

Best Actor in a Lead Role

Paul Frank for Lenny Ganz in Rumors

Best Actress in a Lead Role

Danielle Malat for Jo Galloway in A Few Good Men

Best Actor in a Supporting Role

Jerome Neville as Col. Nathan Jessup in A Few Good Men

Best Actress in a Supporting Role

Mary Saile as Cassie Cooper in Rumors

Future Star Award

Matthew Ballow as William Barfee in

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Excellence in Design Award

Susan Galli for Props Design for Willy Wonka

**Winner of the Town and Country Cup
for the Best Production of the 2017 Season:**

A Few Good Men

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Produced by Jillian Ambs

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Mike McClintic and Family
Jim and Suzanne Palmer
The Perignat Family (In Memory of John Auerbach)
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Nancy Staich
Ed Ritvo and Marie von Elten
Jack & Paula Young

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Roberta Keck
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Bruce McMahon
Russ Naylor (In Memory of Doris Donchez)
Karen Poli
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Lynne-Anne Donchez



2018

OUR 71st SEASON

BONNIE and CLYDE

Bonnie and Clyde, a Musical

Book by Ivan Menchell, Music by Frank Wildhorn, Lyrics by Don Black

April 6, 7, 8(M) 13, 14, 15(M), 20, 21

VANYA and SONIA and MASHA and SPIKE

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike A Comedy

By Christopher Durang

May 11, 12, 13(M), 18, 19, 20(M), 25, 26

other desert cities

Other Desert Cities, a Drama

By Jon Robin Baitz

June 15, 16, 17(M), 22, 23, 24(M), 29, 30

Peter and the starcatcher

Peter and the Starcatcher

A Family Play By Rick Elice

July 20, 21(M/E), 22(M), 27, 28(M/E),
29(M), August 3, 4(M/E)

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The Hunchback of Notre Dame

A Family Musical

Book by Alan Menken, lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, Book by Peter Parnell

Sept. 7, 8(M/E), 9(M), 14, 15(M/E), 16(M)
21, 22(M/E)

THE CHILDREN'S HOUR

The Children's Hour, a Thriller

By Lillian Hellman

Oct. 12, 13, 14(M), 19, 20, 21(M), 26, 27

THE NUTCRACKER

The Nutcracker, a Timeless Ballet

Pytor Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Nov. 16, 17(M/E), 18(M), 23, 24(M/E)
25(M) (Eve. shows at 7PM)

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLAYERS HOLIDAY SHOW

The Holiday Show

December 14, 15(M/E), 16(M)
at the Michener Art Museum