

COASTAL REPERTORY THEATRE
PROUDLY PRESENTS



The Importance
of
Being Earnest



By Oscar Wilde

Directed by Sarah Younan

March 17 - April 2

Coastal
Rep

DIRECTOR'S NOTES...

The Importance of Being Earnest is a classic which has truly stood the test of time. Oscar Wilde's hilarious play has been re-imagined time and time again, produced for over a century, and never fails to leave audiences in stitches. This is what really drew me to Earnest, Wilde's work. Regardless of the ways in which society has changed and comedy has evolved, this play is still just as hilarious as it was over a century ago.

I am so proud to be making my Bay Area directorial debut alongside this incredible company. Special thanks to Danny Martin, Erica Abrahamson, and Ginger Cutter for allowing me this opportunity, and to my parents, Anne and Paul, for always believing in me. This show would not have been possible without my stage manager Erica Racz, thank you for your warm welcome and for guiding me through my first show with Coastal Rep!

Thank you so much for joining us tonight and for allowing us to do what we love. Audience support is what makes theatre thrive and we appreciate you all so much. Enjoy the show!

Sarah Younan



**Special
Thanks to
City Lights
Theater
Company**

Coastal Repertory Theatre
Proudly Presents

The Importance of

Being Earnest

By Oscar Wilde

Directed by Sarah Younan

ACT I

Algernon Moncrieff's flat in Half Moon Street

~There will be a fifteen minute intermission with refreshments~

ACT II

The Garden at the Manor House, Woolton

ACT III

Drawing Room at the Manor House, Woolton

TIME :Late 1800s

PLACE: London



"The Importance of Being Earnest" is presented by arrangement with Concord
Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

Please note that the taking of photos, video or audio recordings of
any kind is strictly prohibited.

CAST

(In order of appearance)

Algernon Moncrieff.....	William Rhea
Lane / Merriman.....	Rob Hedges
Jack Worthing	Danny Martin
Lady Bracknell.....	Lisa Guevara
Gwendolyn Fairfax.....	Kaylee Miltersen
Miss Prism.....	Joanie Pugh Newman
Cecily Cardew.....	Miranda Liu Sayer
U/S Cecily (perf. on the 24 th and 26 th).....	Emily Krayn
Rev. Canon Chausable.....	Tom Poeschl



CAST PROFILES

(In alphabetical order)

Lisa Guevara (*Lady Bracknell*) is thrilled to be back on the stage at CRT. You may have caught her as Cookie in *Rumors*, and last summer as Harper in *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches*. This is Lisa's third encounter with *Earnest* having previously portrayed Gwendolyn and Cecily. Lisa studied theatre at New York University in the Experimental Theatre Wing both in New York and Paris. Favorite previous roles include Philippa in *Shoggoths on the Veldt*, Bea in *The Charitable Sisterhood of the Second Trinity Victory Church* and Han Solo in *The Making of the Stars Wars Holiday Special* (Dragon Theatre) and Antonio in *The Tempest* (The Pear Theatre). Lisa would like to thank her family and friends for their tremendous support.

Rob Hedges (*Lane/Merriman*) has appeared in more than 50 productions on the Coast, and was last seen at CRT in *Murder on the Nile*. Other credits include *Bus Stop*, *Sense and Sensibility*, and *Dancing at Lughnasa* (CRT); *Twelfth Night*, *Macbeth*, and *The Tempest* (Half Moon Bay Shakespeare); and *God of Carnage*, *Inherit the Wind*, and *Harvey* (Pacifica Spindrift Players). "The only

CAST PROFILES

(In alphabetical order)

difference between the saint and the sinner is that every saint has a past, and every sinner has a future."--Oscar Wilde. Love to Sara, as ever.

Emily Krayn (*Cecily - U/S*) is excited to be a part of this production, her first with CRT. She is currently focusing her studies on Acting and Theater Costuming at Cañada College. Some of her favorite previous roles include Celia in *As You Like It* (CHS), Felicity in *The Unfortunate Case of Mr Renfield* (NDNU), and Lucy Pevensie in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* (CHS). When not on stage, one of her other passions is sewing. She spends her time designing and sewing garments for theatrical productions, cosplay events, or her own wardrobe. She is excited to be back as an actress for the first time since 2020. She gives her thanks to her mom, dad, and sister for all their support!

Danny Martin (*Jack Worthing*) 2023 marks Danny's 20th year in Bay Area Theater. His first production was in May 2003 at Hillbarn Theater and since then he has worked all over the Bay Area in over 70 productions as an actor, director and most recently as a producer. He is proud to return to the CRT stage for show number 15! Previous shows at CRT include *Christmas in Oz*, *Angels in America*, *Love Letters*, *Dracula*, *The Fantastiks*, *Bus Stop*, *Run For Your Wife*, *The Lion in Winter*, *Death of a Salesman*, *Avenue Q*, *Wait Until Dark*, *Company*, *Hair*, and *Noises Off*. He has performed with Broadway By the Bay, Palo Alto Players, Los Altos Stage Company, Hillbarn, Foothill, Douglas Morrison Theater, Chanticleers, West Valley Light Opera, Woodside and Ray of Light. Danny has trained at A.C.T., Full Circle Productions Dance Arts Center, Voice One and with Ava Victoria Voice Studio.

Kaylee Milersen (*Gwendolyn Fairfax*) originally from Alaska, has been performing around the Bay Area for the last year and is delighted to make her debut performance at the Coastal Rep Theatre as Gwendolyn in *The Importance of Being Earnest*! She has most recently appeared in the *Sleeping Beauty Panto* as the iconic singing, dancing chicken, Cioppino (Presidio Theatre), as the title character in *Violet* (FMT), and as Luisa in *The Fantasticks* (SFCM). She holds a M.M. in vocal performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and is excited to make the leap from opera and musical theatre to straight theatre at CRT. When not honing her skills on the stage, she is out trail running, rock climbing, and enjoying the immense beauty of California!

Tom Poeschi (*Rev. Chausable*) is honored to be working with this talented cast and crew. This is Tom's fourth show with CRT, most recently having appeared in *Native Gardens*, as CRT reopened after a COVID pause. Tom also appeared in CRT's *Bus Stop* and *Death of a Salesman*. He has acted in the last two Half Moon Bay Shakespeare Company's summer shows. Long, long, long before acting on the Coast, Tom appeared in various college and high school plays. He started his acting adventure at Hillbarn Theater, where he was fortunate to work under the direction of its founder Robert Brauns. Tom is blessed to have the backing and encouragement of his incredibly supportive wife, Laurie, their three adult children, son-in-law, and two granddaughters, the oldest of whom is moving from babbling to speaking, no doubt beginning

CAST PROFILES

(In alphabetical order)

her preparation for the stage. Tom dedicates this appearance to those who lost their lives in the recent tragedy that scarred our community, as well as all of their families and our neighbors affected by the heartbreaking events.

Joanie Pugh Newman (*Miss Prism*,) is thrilled to join the talented cast and crew for this classic Oscar Wilde comedy in this season of all-women directors (kudos to CRT!). Moreover, Joanie is beyond grateful to be back on the boards live and in-person in this post-pandemic era. (We're so thankful to have YOU, the audience, back in the house!) An attorney by day and a thespian by night, Joanie has been privileged to play choice roles on a number of local stages, including Woodside Musical Theater (Mrs. Higgins in *My Fair Lady*, for which she was nominated for a Theater Bay Area award), Foothill Music Theater (Sister Berthe in *Sound of Music*), Redwood City Community Theater (Sister Mary Lazarus in *Sister Act*), and particularly at her home stage of Pacifica Spindrift Players, where Joanie's past favorite roles include: M'Lynn (*Steel Magnolias*), Eulalie McKechnie Shinn (*Music Man*) Big Mama" (*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*), and Miss Andrew/Birdwoman" (*Mary Poppins*). Most recently, Joanie enjoyed performing here at Coastal Repertory Theater as Scarecrow in the holiday musical *Christmas in Oz*.

William Rhea (*Algernon Moncrieff*) William is happy to be back on the CRT stage! He was last seen here in *The Lion in Winter* as Geoffrey and *Sense and Sensibility* as Edward Ferrars'. Some of his favorite roles include The Man in the Chair from *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Landmark Musical Theater), William Barfee in *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Pacifica Spindrift Players), George Bailey' in *It's a Wonderful Life: The Radio Play*, and Gary Peter Lefkowitz' in *I Hate Hamlet*. He will also feature in the upcoming *School of Rock* (Spindrift School of Performing Arts) as Dewey Finn and Directing *Avenue Q* at Landmark Musical Theatre this summer. You may also see his first play, *Drink Maker*, coming to stages near you soon! Love to his girlfriend Cheril in New York and his family in the bay who always make this dream worth pursuing.

Miranda Liu Sayer (*Cecily Cardew*) is excited for her first production with CRT. Miranda studied Acting for Theatre, Film, & Digital Production at the University of California, Riverside. She has been an actor for almost a decade and a playwright for several years. Miranda has performed in over 25 plays, musicals, and films and produced her plays in several local festivals in the Bay Area and Inland Empire, receiving an award for Excellence in Playwriting from TheatreWorks Silicon Valley. Some of Miranda's favorite roles include Doctor Faustus in *Doctor Faustus* (UCR), Maria in *Love's Labour's Lost* (UCR), Charlotte in *Two Mile Hollow* (UCR) and Jackie in *Birthmark* (UCR), for which she was nominated for an Irene Ryan Award at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Miranda recently played the role of Devan in *Quantum Desire* (Inferno Theatre) and is currently also playing Grace in *Annie Warbucks* (Landmark Musicals). She would like to thank her wonderful friends, family, and two cats for their support!





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FOR THE PRODUCTION OF

'THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST' IS...

THE BUNBURY BALM

*With the help of your purchase of the special Drink of the Day our Little Old Ladies
have raised enough money to buy a new refrigerator, build a 2 story
wood shop, replace an aging water fountain with a state of the art
bi level filtered one, replace a rusting roll up door.
This all sounds GREAT!*

*Oh! And speaking of SOUND... that is their next project -
to upgrade the sound system in our theatre!*

*The Bunbury Balm will be sold in our lobby before the show
and during the 1st intermission.
Thank you for your support!*

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Our current CRKT programs include classes from K-8 , with a
musical production in May every year. Our fairly new teen
program is able to put on a full-size musical in the fall .

For more information contact
sabina.perlsweig@coastalrep.com or call 650.204.5046

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Stage Manager Erica Racz
Asst. Stage Manager.....Juleanne Antunez
Set Designer/Master CarpenterPaul Smith
Light DesignerKristen Pearson
Sound Designer Jaap Tuinman
Costumer.....Lené Whitley-Putz
Asst. Costumers.....Sue Joswiak, Corlette Lotridge,
.....Julia Neal, Michele Parry
Props DesignerErica Racz
Stage CrewJillian Antunez, Maddie Rojas
Set build crew..... Greet Jaspaert, George Lotridge,
.....Erica Racz



PRODUCTION PROFILES

(In alphabetical order)

Jillian Antunez (*Stage Crew*) is excited to be starting her Coastal Rep experience with this amazing cast and crew. She has been doing tech since high school when she started doing theater. She was the stage manager for her theater programs *West Side Story*, *Radium Girls*, and *Bye Bye Birdie* during her senior year in high school. In the past few years, Jillian decided to go on stage and try out acting. She has been a part of the ensemble of *Pippin* and *Guys and Dolls*. She has also joined the cast of the Charles Dickens Christmas Fair as one of the Fezziwig daughters and Belle. Currently, she is working on her associate degree in international studies at Skyline College and is planning on continuing her career at SF State. She hopes you all enjoy the show!

Julianne Antunez (*Assistant Stage Manager*) is excited to be working with Coastal Repertory Theatre again. She is currently studying at San Francisco State University for her Bachelor degree in Theatre Arts. She has worked backstage at Coastal Rep on *Deathtrap*, *The Cemetery Club*, *Spamalot*, *Angels in America*, and *Murder on the Nile*, which she was Assistant Stage Manager. While she enjoys working backstage, you also can find her onstage-most recently in Skyline College's *Pippin*, Pacifica Spindrift Players' *Guys and Dolls*, and this coming April in *Bamboozled!* at SFSU, as well as in their Fringe Festival in Anais and the Choir (Except for Chelsie). She is also incredibly excited to be welcoming her sister to CRT as part of the backstage crew!

Ginger Cutter (*Producer*) is mostly behind the scenes as Producer (*The Odd Couple*, *A Christmas Carol*) and Stage Manager (*Drowsy Chaperone*, *Rocky Horror Show*, *Lion in Winter*, *Noises Off*, and recently *Spamalot*). She has been on-stage a few times-most recently as Mildred in *The Cemetery Club*. She is also Coastal Rep's Director of Operations and Box Office Manager. Thanks to her happily retired husband for being able to fend for himself, home alone!

Corlette Lotridge (*Assistant Costume*) has created, designed and managed costuming for over 20 years. She has enjoyed costuming shows at Sea Crest School, Crystal Springs Uplands School, CRT Summer Drama Camp, and Coastal Rep. Some of her favorite characters to have costumed/created are the Ghost of Christmas Present from *A Christmas Carol* (CRT), Pumbaa from *The Lion King* (CSUS), and the Royal Father from *The Princess and the Pea* (CSUS).

Kristen Pearson (*Lighting Designer*) *The Importance of Being Earnest* is Kristen's all-time favorite play. Back when she had started working for various theaters almost 20 years ago, she did the electrical work on an outdoor production of *Earnest* and it has been her favorite ever since. She has been able to use color and creativity in a way she didn't think she ever would while lighting this show and it has been an immense pleasure to work with Paul Smith to bring color to his set. She has recently acted in *Spamalot* and *Christmas in Oz* at Coastal Repertory Theatre, while at the

PRODUCTION PROFILES

(In alphabetical order)

same time creating the lighting for *Christmas in Oz*. She has designed sound for Starting Arts, and most recently for *Murder on the Nile* at Coastal Rep. Her Lighting Design debut was her work on *Something Rotten* at Coastal Rep and she has continued to enjoy bringing light to this stage. She can't thank the Coastal Rep family enough for putting their faith in her.

Erica Racz (*Stage Manager*) studied Tele-Dramatic Arts and Technology at CSU, Monterey Bay, Theater at Monterey Peninsula College and Musical Theater at the University of Northern Colorado. For over 25 years she has worked in many aspects of the theater including Teaching Artist, Stage Manager, Assistant Director, and Designer. Erica has performed in over 75 plays and musicals with several theater companies on the Monterey and San Francisco Bay Peninsula-most recently as The Lion in *Christmas in Oz* (CRT). Since the pandemic she has worked backstage at Coastal Repertory Theatre on *Native Gardens*, *Noises Off*, *Cemetery Club*, *Angels in America* and *Deathtrap*-which she also assistant directed. She also designed props for *Ruthless the Musical* and *Steel Magnolias* (LASC) and stage managed and designed props for *Murder on the Nile* (CRT). Erica would like to thank her mother Reidun McGrath for all of her support and love. Follow her on Instagram @EricaRacz

Jaap Tuinman (*Sound Designer*) This is Jaap's tenth turn at sound design for Coastal Rep, having previously contributed to shows such as *Angels In America* (2022), *Native Gardens* (2021) and *Vanya and Sonya and Masha and Spike* (2018).

Lené Whitley-Putz (*Costume Designer*) is delighted to return to the production side of Coastal Repertory Theatre. Over the past 20 years, she has produced numerous Coastal Rep plays, served on the Board of Directors, helped with set dressing, and worked as backstage crew but her passion is costumes. Inspired by her talented children, who participated in the children's program for many years, Lené volunteered to costume many, many little children. Among her favorites are clothing the villagers of Anatevka with Michele Parry, creating the fantastical inhabitants of OZ with Sue Joswiak, creating a Steampunk-inspired Peter Pan, and costuming her daughter in *Little Women*. She is grateful for the deep friendships she has made here, where community is one of the best features of theatre.

Sarah Younan (*Director*) is a Bay Area native who has been doing theatre, not only directing, but also performing as well as designing, for the past ten years. Most recently, she directed *Lizzie: The Musical* with Completely Student Productions, *Lights Up!* 2022 with City Lights Theater Company, and assistant directed *Small Mouth Sounds* and *Cabaret*. A recent graduate of Wagner College in New York, Sarah received her Bachelors Degree in Theatre Studies with a concentration in Directing.

THANK YOU

**We would like to thank the following people for
volunteering for Front of House and Box Office positions
during our production of *Rumors*.**

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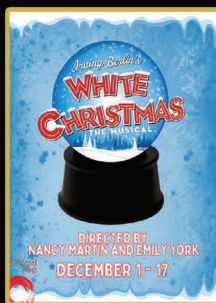
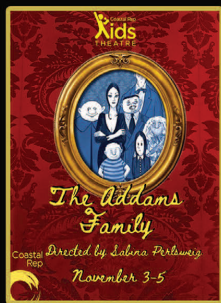
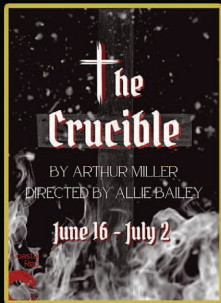
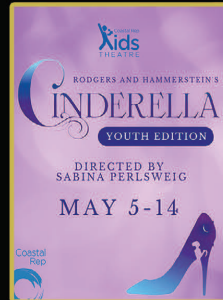
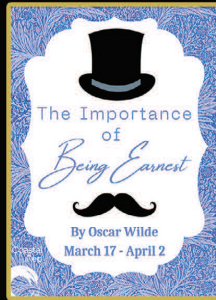
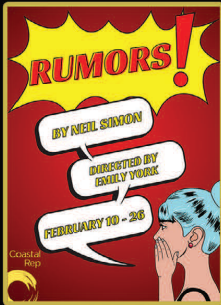
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Coastal
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