



6TH STREET PLAYHOUSE
PRESENTS

Almost, Maine



by **JOHN CARIANI**

Directed by
JOHN SHILLINGTON

Scenic Designer
JAY LASNIK

Lighting Designer
PATRICK MARTIN

Costume Designer
PAT FITZGERALD

Composer
JULIAN FLEISHER

Production Stage Manager
JEFF BASHAM

The taking of photographs and the recording of this performance are strictly prohibited.
THERE WILL BE ONE 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION.

Produced by special arrangement with The Dramatist Play Service, Inc.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE



John Cariani, the playwright of *Almost, Maine* offers a plethora of helpful advice in the preface and epilogue of his script about the way his play should be done. He grew up in Maine and had first hand experience with the northern lights 'at least once a year' as a child. Whimsically, he writes that the northern lights occur when atoms become 'excited' and that - in turn - grounded folks from Maine become likewise excited. I think a more accurate word than 'excited' would be 'enchanted.'

Cariani has a unique concept that the nine isolated scenes each have a 'magical moment' and that these moments are all happening at exactly the same time as the clock strikes nine. He says, "The northern lights and these magical moments are giving rise to one another... This play is all about one moment in time - what happens to people in a heartbeat." I love this idea but had trouble figuring out a way to tell the story that all the scenes happen at the same time. However, our wonderful set designer, Jay Lasnik, came up with an idea that I think makes it very concrete and clear.

I hope you likewise become enchanted by the northern lights and the magical moments in the fictional town of *Almost, Maine*.

- John Shillingham

ARTISTIC STAFF

John Shillington, **Director**

Rahman Dalrymple, **Production Technical Director**

Jay Lasnik, **Scenic Designer**

Patrick Martin, **Lighting Designer**

Julian Fleisher, **Composer**

Pat Fitzgerald, **Costume Designer**

Richard Squeri, **Movement Choreographer**

Jeff Basham, **Production Stage Manager**

Chris Murphy, **Carpenter**



ALMOST MAINE

SCENES & CHARACTERS

PROLOGUE

Ginette: Nikki Lyon

Pete: Peter Warden

ACT 1

SCENE 1: "*Her Heart*"

Glory: Autumn Mirassou

East: Clint Campbell

SCENE 2: "*Sad and Glad*"

Sandrine: Nikki Lyon

Jimmy: Peter Warden

SCENE 3: "*This Hurts*"

Marvalyn: Nikki Lyon

Steve: Clint Campbell

SCENE 4: "*Getting It Back*"

Gayle: Autumn Mirassou

Lendall: Peter Warden

— INTERMISSION —

INTERLOGUE

PETE: Peter Warden

ACT II

SCENE 5: "*They Fell*"

Chad: Clint Campbell*

Randy: Peter Warden*

SCENE 6: "*Where It Went*"

Marci: Autumn Mirassou

Phil: Peter Warden

SCENE 7: "*Story of Hope*"

Hope: Nikki Lyon

Daniel: Clint Campbell

SCENE 8: "*Seeing The Thing*"

Rhonda: Autumn Mirassou

Dave: Clint Campbell

Epilogue

Ginette: Nikki Lyon

Pete: Peter Warden

*These two actors will alternate playing both roles during the run of the show.

Original song *Almost*, written by John Shillington and Robin Eschner

SPECIAL THANKS: Robin Eschner and Brett Martin, and to Anne Hildebrand for the purchase of the new Studio Theatre chairs.

6thStreetPlayhouse HISTORY

In 2004, two separate theatre companies—The Santa Rosa Players (est. 1971) and Actors Theatre of Sonoma County (est. 1984)—joined forces and transformed the 107-year-old Del Monte cannery in Santa Rosa’s Railroad Square into the 6th Street Playhouse. This \$1.3 million dollar renovation resulted in a state-of-the-art theatre facility, which opened to acclaim in 2005.

In July 2007, the main stage was named for Santa Rosa businessman and arts patron, G.K. Hardt. In 2009, a second more intimate theatre space—The Studio—was opened. Together, these two theatres are home to numerous dramatic, musical, and improv performances; School of Drama presentations; and a variety of special events.

6th Street Playhouse is honored to have received the City of Santa Rosa Award for Cultural Enrichment and the Sonoma County Historical Society Award for Preservation of a Historical Building. What started as a small endeavor continues to grow year after year with the support of our community. We look forward to continuing to offer outstanding productions and educational programs here at 6th Street Playhouse.



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Sheila Willey in *She Loves Me*
Photo: Eric Chazankin



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TICKETS (707) 523-4185 ext. 1 | www.6thStreetPlayhouse.com

Box Office: 52 West 6th Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95401

GIFT CERTIFICATES Available for any dollar amount. Please call or visit the Box Office to purchase. Not available online.

THEATRE INFO

ACCESSIBILITY The G.K. Hardt Theatre and The Studio offer wheelchair seating. Please request these seats in advance.

EMERGENCY EXITS Please note the nearest exit. In an emergency, walk to the nearest exit.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE Bottled water is allowed in the G.K. Hardt Theatre. Food and beverage is allowed in The Studio Theatre.

CELL PHONES & OTHER THINGS THAT GO BEEP Please make sure they will not sound in the Theatre.

PHOTOGRAPHS, VIDEO & AUDIO RECORDINGS Use of all recording equipment in the Theatre is strictly prohibited.

PERFUMES Many patrons are sensitive to the use of perfumes. Please keep perfume to a minimum.

STAY IN TOUCH

FACEBOOK Become a fan of 6th Street Playhouse on Facebook and watch for special Facebook deals. Search for us under "6th Street Playhouse".

EMAIL LIST Please let us know if you would like to receive updates on upcoming shows, classes, and news from 6th Street Playhouse:

- complete the form in the lobby
- visit www.6thStreetPlayhouse.com
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WEBSITE For schedules, tickets, and information: www.6thStreetPlayhouse.com

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

Volunteers at 6th Street Playhouse are involved behind the scenes and provide vital support to the Playhouse. Many of our volunteers work on an on-call basis, while others fill volunteer positions on a regular weekly or monthly schedule.

Volunteering at 6th Street Playhouse is a great way to contribute your skills and experiences to the Playhouse. You'll gain insight into the inner workings of our organization, meet creative people, and develop new skills.

If you would like to volunteer or have further questions, please contact Michael Fontaine: michael@6thstreetplayhouse.com or (707) 523-4185 ext 102.

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THE CAST



CLINT CAMPBELL (Man) Clint attended Sonoma State University where he got his degree in Technical Theater. Last summer Clint decided to pursue his dream and left for Ireland where he finagled his way onto HBO's *A Game of Thrones*. Since returning, Clint attended the Summer Training Congress at American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco. He has recently been seen as Will Carew in *Kite's Book* at the Playhouse, Haemon in *Antigone* for Narrow Way Stage Company, and Bagradian in *Stalag 17* with RIOT.



NIKKI LYON (Woman) Nikki has felt warmly welcomed by the 6th Street community on this, her first production, at the Playhouse. She has been involved in several productions at the Santa Rosa Junior College, where some of her favorite roles have included Lydia in *Pride and Prejudice*, Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*, and Frankie in *The Voice of the Prairie*, also directed by the "magnificent and inspiring" director John Shillington. When not playing a role in the theater, she can be found wandering the globe, trekking to far-off countries, most recently South East Asia.



AUTUMN MIRASSOU (Woman) Autumn is excited to be appearing in her second 6th Street Playhouse production. Recent credits include: Eleanor/Esme in *Rock 'n Roll*, the Female Greek Chorus in *How I Learned to Drive* and Alice in *Alice: The Rebellion of Wonderland*. Many thanks to the people open and brave enough to live in love.



PETER WARDEN (Man) Peter has been acting with various theatre companies throughout the county for the last several years, and is very pleased to be returning to the 6th Street Playhouse for this production of *Almost, Maine*. Previous roles at the Playhouse include Ed Whitman in *Becoming Walt Whitman* and Ed in *You Can't Take it With You*. Additional credits include portraying the Dromios in *The Comedy of Errors*, Father Flynn in *Doubt*, and Lennie in Neil Simon's *Rumors*.



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PRODUCTION STAFF



JEFF BASHAM (Stage Manager) Jeff is thoroughly enjoying being the Stage Manager for *Almost, Maine*. He's felt a special calling to be involved with this show for quite a while, and was overjoyed when he was asked to stage manage it. As a veteran of theatre in Sonoma County, participating in nearly 50 shows during the last 16 years, he most recently stage managed *Kite's Book* for the Playhouse. He wishes to thank the amazing cast Clint, Nikki, Peter and Autumn - for being the wonderful people they are – and John, the director, for all his support and guidance, and for establishing the "hug rule" at the beginning and end of every rehearsal and performance. Jeff dedicates his work on this production to his family, and friends, where the hugs always flow freely, too.

JAY LASNIK (Scenic Designer) Jay's scenic design credits include *Shirley Valentine* at Cinnabar Theatre (also directed by John Shillington); *Pirates of Penzance* with the Raven Players; *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and *Noises Off* with the Coastal Repertory Theatre; *Anton in Show Business*, *Wit*, and *The Beauty Queen of Leenan* with the Palo Alto Players; and *Don't Dress for Dinner* with the Ross Valley Players. Jay has been props designer for Cirque du Soleil's *Criss Angel: Believe* at the Luxor Hotel in Las Vegas and the Mountain Play production of *Hairspray*, in addition to seven years as Senior Crafts Artisan for the San Francisco Opera Costume Shop. Currently collaborating with ODC in San Francisco on their production of *The Velveteen Rabbit*, future design projects include *Hairspray* at Pacific Rep in Carmel, and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* and *The Tennessee Menagerie* for 6th Street Playhouse.

PATRICK MARTIN (Lighting Designer) A student in the Theatre Department at Santa Rosa Junior College, Patrick has designed lights for the Playhouse School of Drama production of *Big River*, the *Cole Porter Songbook*, and *A Christmas Story*.

JOHN SHILLINGTON (Director) John has lived and directed theatre in China, Kenya, India, Scotland and founded El Sitio Theatre in Antigua, Guatemala. He has taught and directed theatre at Santa Rosa Junior College for the past ten years. Most recent productions at SRJC include *The Voice of the Prairie*, *Anatomy of Grey*, *Stories by Barbara Kingsolver*, *Macbeth* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. This year his youngest child turned 18 years of age; so in an attempt to avoid the empty nest syndrome (and to postpone a mid-life crisis) he has signed up to work on five shows this year, including acting and singing for the first time in years in *She Loves Me* at Cinnabar, and *Jekyll and Hyde* at Spreckels. He will be directing *Our Town* at SRJC this spring followed by acting, singing and playing the piano in *Souvenir* at 6th Street. Although he is feeling a bit tired, he is grateful that doing these shows is still cheaper than buying a red convertible.



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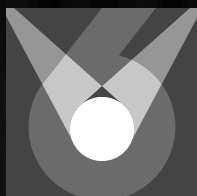


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