



6th Street Playhouse
presents

THE GRADUATE

A Play Adapted by

Terry Johnson

Based on the Novel by Charles Webb

And the Motion Picture Screenplay by Calder Willingham and Buck Henry

By Special Arrangement with StudioCanal

Executive Artistic Director

CRAIG A. MILLER

Director

MARTY PISTONE

Assistant Director

APRIL GEORGE

Scenic Design

DAVID R. WRIGHT

Lighting Design

APRIL GEORGE

Sound Design

MARTY PISTONE

Hair & Make-Up Design

JANELLE BASICH

Costume Coordinator

GAIL REINE

Properties

APRIL GEORGE

The Graduate is produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.
The taking of photographs and the recording of this performance are strictly prohibited.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES



It has been a sincere privilege and daunting challenge to direct such an iconic piece. The brilliant Mike Nichols so successfully captured a moment of our nation's psyche that it would be impossible to do it justice by way of imitation. Instead, we decided to approach it as if the play was a brand new period comedy. A child of the 50s and 60s myself, I tried to color the narrative with my own recollections of our country during that turbulent time. President Kennedy had been shot, the Vietnam war was just starting to escalate, and a new generation struggled to define itself in the midst of constantly shifting values.

Looking back with a 21st century perspective, I really wanted to "find the funny." With the help of an amazing group of artists, I believe we have done just that. The stage is designed with a wink to The Carol Burnett Show. We strived for organic truth in the performances, all the while remembering the heart and humor of The Dick Van Dyke Show. The live music keeps the flavor of the time and underscores both the tragedy of the time and the comedy of the story. I hope you will enjoy our 1960s cocktail and the collision of two generations: one generation struggling with the status quo and the other trying to break out.

The opportunity to direct *The Graduate* has been a dream-come-true for me. It has been a pleasure to work close to my home and heart at 6th Street Playhouse. The incredible staff, wonderfully talented actors, and incredibly skilled musicians that bring this production to life have made me look like a creative genius and I couldn't be more grateful to them. Each person involved in this piece had a hand in the fun, right down to the designers and crew. I am so proud of them and of this play.

Marty Pistone
Director, *The Graduate*



THE GRADUATE

CAST

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| Benjamin | David Raymond |
| Mrs. Robinson | Courtney Walsh |
| Mr. Robinson | Dale Camden |
| Elaine | Katie Kelley Stowe |
| Mr. Braddock | Larry Williams |
| Mrs. Braddock | Kim Williams |
| Mrs. Carlson/Stripper/ Psychiatrist/Wedding Guest | Saskia Baur |
| Lady 1/Hotel Receptionist/Wedding Guest | Anya Cherniss |
| Mr. Carlson/Man/Desk Clerk/Mr. McCleery/Priest | Alan Kaplan |
| Mr. Loomis/Frank/Bellman/ Wedding Guest/Motel Manager | Brian Humes |
| Musicians | Eric Chazankin, Chloe Tucker |

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

ARTISTIC STAFF

| | |
|---|---|
| Craig A. Miller | Executive Artistic Director |
| Marty Pistone | Director, Sound Designer |
| April George | Assistant Director, Lighting Designer, Properties |
| David R. Wright | Scenic Designer |
| Gail Reine | Costume Coordinator |
| Janelle Basich | Hair/Make-up Designer |
| William Rodriguez, Kyle Davidson | Assistant Stage Managers |
| Patrick Lounibos | Interim Technical Director |
| Nick Charles | Assistant Scenic Designer |
| Jimmy Luchini | Lead Carpenter |
| Nick Rieker | Audio Technician |
| Ty Donaldson | Graphic Designer |
| Eric Chazankin | Photographer |

BIOGRAPHIES



ACTING COMPANY



SASKIA BAUR

(Ensemble) Born and raised in Los Angeles, Saskia has been making her way up the coast of California for the last 20 years and is excited to be

performing in her third show with 6th Street Playhouse. She was most recently seen as Brooke in Jon Robin Baitz's *Other Desert Cities* with Pegasus Theater Company. She is thrilled to be in this production of *The Graduate* and to have the opportunity to work with director Marty Pistone.



DALE CAMDEN

(Mr. Robinson) Active in Marin County theatre since 1998, Dale is happy to be making his debut on the 6th Street stage with this remarkable ensemble.

Featured in such Novato Theater Company productions as *Heaven Can Wait*, *The Odd Couple* and *Early One Evening* at the Rainbow Bar and Grill. Dale has also appeared with the Ross Valley Players in Arthur Miller's *The Price*, *The Twentieth Century*, for which he was nominated for a BATCC Award (Best Principal Male) and most recently *Impressionism*. Dale would like to thank Marty and April for their tireless work, the cast and crew for their support, and especially Maryann Rogers for making this possible.



ANYA CHERNISS

(Ensemble) is so excited to be back at 6th Street Playhouse! Past shows here include *Kiss Me*, *Kate* and *The Producers*, both several years ago. Recently,

she was part of the cast of *Oliver!* with Lucky Penny Productions and is looking forward to returning there as part of their *8 x 10: A Festival of 10 Minute Plays*. Anya would like to give a big thank you to everyone who helped support her throughout this show.



ERIC CHAZANKIN

(Musician)

The Graduate marks Eric's return to the stage after a four-year hiatus, and his first appearance as a musician; however

he is no stranger to the bright lights, having appeared in ten previous productions at 6th Street Playhouse as an actor, most recently in *Ring of Fire: The Music of Johnny Cash*. He is very pleased to continue a family tradition of folk music performance, as his parents Henry and Sheila were 2/3 of The Showfolk trio that toured North America in the 1960s. Eric got his start at 6th Street working on summer musicals with Holly Vinson, including *The Music Man* (quartet) and *Oliver!*; other appearances here have included *Annie*, *The 1940s Radio Hour*, *Into The Woods*, *Man of La Mancha* and *You Can't Take It With You*. Eric has also appeared in operas at Cinnabar Theater and with the Cinnabar Chamber Ensemble under the late Nina Shuman. When not performing



BIOGRAPHIES

on stage Eric is staff photographer at 6th Street and has photographed more than 250 theatrical productions for this and several other North Bay theatre companies.



BRIAN HUMES

(Ensemble) has gained experience in acting and production design by working with film students who attended the USC School of the Cinematic Arts, and the

SRJC Film Production Program. He is a comedy fanatic, with training from the LA-based Groundlings Improv, and 6th Street Playhouse's very own Lennie Dean. This is his first play!!!



ALAN KAPLAN

(Ensemble) is excited to be returning to 6th Street Playhouse. Working with Marty Pistone and this excellent cast on *The Graduate* has been a

wonderful and rewarding experience. He was last seen at 6th Street in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* as Scanlon, and appeared as Beverly in *August: Osage County*, which won a BATCC Award for Best Ensemble. Other favorite roles include Robert in *Proof*, Friar Laurence in *Romeo and Juliet*, Levine in *Glengarry Glen Ross*, Lloyd in *Noises Off*, and working with Paul Sills, founder of Second City in Chicago, doing story theatre. His next project will be playing Malvolio this summer in *Twelfth Night* at Shakespeare in the Cannery here in Santa Rosa.



DAVID RAYMOND

(Benjamin) is delighted to make his 6th Street Playhouse debut! Bay Area credits include *Jerusalem* (San Francisco Playhouse), *The Importance of*

Being Earnest and Theatre Bay Area Award winner for Outstanding Production and Outstanding Ensemble Performance *Moby Dick: Rehearsed* (Stanford Repertory Theater). Chicago credits include *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* (Brightside Theatre), *The Sand Castle* (Theatre Seven of Chicago), and *Treasure Island* (Theatre-Hikes). He is an NHSI Cherub alumnus and recipient of the 2013 Evelyn M. Draper Award for Excellence in Acting Performance (Stanford University). Many thanks to Courtney, Peter, and the Phleger family for their generosity; to Marty for his genius and his ceaseless support; and as always to Mom, Dad, and Nick.



KATIE KELLEY

STOWE (Elaine) is happy to be back on the 6th Street stage working alongside such a wonderful team of people on *The Graduate*. Katie

was last seen as Laura in *The Glass Menagerie*, directed by Craig A. Miller. Some other favorite theatre credits include Cass in *Wonder of the World*, Helga in *Cabaret*, Ginger Brooks in *1940s Radio Hour*, Sister James in *Doubt*, Mayzie Labird in *Seussical*, Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Babette in *Beauty and the Beast*, and

BIOGRAPHIES



Kim MacAfee in *Bye Bye Birdie*. Thank you to all supporters of the theatre, and a very special thank you to my husband for your endless support, and to my sweetest daughter for making home a place I always want to be.



CHLOE TUCKER

(Musician) is a local musician, teacher, and dancer. More at chloetucker.com. This is her first appearance with 6th Street, and she loves being a part of

the community.



COURTNEY WALSH

(Mrs. Robinson) is delighted to be back at 6th Street. She recently returned from Paris, France where she starred in a bilingual production of

Samuel Beckett's *Happy Days*. Other recent appearances include San Francisco Playhouse's *Jerusalem* and Stanford Repertory Theater's *Moby Dick – Rehearsed*, which she co-directed, winning Theatre Bay Area Awards for Outstanding Production, Directing and Acting Ensemble. Courtney studied acting at Yale University and worked for several years as an actress in Los Angeles, followed by a hiatus from acting to earn a law degree, representing children in abuse cases. Returning to the stage in 2006, Courtney joined the professional core acting company of Stanford Rep, where she will appear as Judith in *Hay Fever* this summer. She has worked at venues throughout the Bay Area (including Berkeley Rep, New Conservatory Theatre, and

Tides Theater) and in Los Angeles, San Antonio, Salt Lake City, Athens, Berlin, and Amsterdam among others, and will play Clytemnestra next fall in a tour of New Zealand and Australia. Courtney also teaches a CSP Drama course at Stanford University and is an equestrienne and mother of four. Find her at courtneywalsh.net.



KIM WILLIAMS (Mrs. Braddock) was last seen on the G.K. Hardt stage as Mrs. Wells in *Jolly Juliana* or *Her Fruitcake Has Nuts*. Other roles include Alice Beineke in *The*

Addams Family, Muriel Eubanks in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, Mother in *A Christmas Story* and Julia Leverett in *Lend Me A Tenor*. Other favorite North Bay appearances include Dotty Otley in *Noises Off*, and Grace in *Bus Stop*.



LARRY WILLIAMS (Mr. Braddock) has been performing throughout the Bay Area for the past 25 years. His most recent roles include Lucifer Bellows in *Jolly Juliana*

or *Her Fruitcake Has Nuts*, Shep Henderson in *Bell, Book and Candle*, Robert in *Boeing Boeing*, Pantalone in *Servant of Two Masters*, Mr. Potter in *It's a Wonderful Life*, and the Tin Man in *The Wizard of Oz*. He has written several plays that were produced and performed in Sonoma and Marin Counties including *Jolly Juliana* or *Her Fruitcake Has Nuts* and an adaptation of *It's a Wonderful Life* for 6th Street Playhouse. Other roles include Roger Debris in 6th Street's production of



BIOGRAPHIES

The Producers, Clown 2 in *The 39 Steps*, Thomas Welles in *Kite's Book*, and Mr. Kirby in *You Can't Take It With You*. Larry teaches improvisation and theatre for kids as well as adults.

PRODUCTION STAFF

CRAIG A. MILLER (Executive Artistic Director) Originally from Peoria, Illinois, Craig received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Acting at the Illinois State University School of Theatre, and his Master of Fine Arts in Directing at the University of South Carolina. Before coming to 6th Street Playhouse, he served as the Executive Artistic Director of East Window Theatre Co. in Chicago, IL (1996-2000), served as Casting Associate for The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey (2003-2005), and founded and served as the Artistic Director of The Texas Repertory Theatre Co. in Houston, TX (2005-2011). Craig has directed professional productions at regional theatres across the United States, receiving critical acclaim in publications including American Theatre Magazine, Variety, and The New York Times. Craig's directing credits at the Playhouse include (select list) *Kiss Me Kate*, *Kite's Book*, *The 39 Steps*, *The Marvelous Wonderettes*, *The Producers*, *August: Osage County*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Lend Me A Tenor*, *RED*, *Spamalot*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and *The Glass Menagerie*. He was nominated for Best Director by the San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle for his productions of *August: Osage County* and *RED*, and both productions won the SFBATCC award for Best Ensemble. Craig recently directed

Bonnie & Clyde, and will direct *Crazy For You* this spring.

MARTY PISTONE (Director/Sound Designer) Marty is thrilled to be back directing at 6th Street, where he directed *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, played Tito in *Lend Me a Tenor*, and was also the fight director for *Kite's Book*, *August: Osage County*, and *Slap in the Moonlight*. He has directed numerous award-winning productions at Montgomery High School and is looking forward to directing *Into The Woods* next season at SSU. Marty has been an actor, director and a choreographer for over 40 years – amazing for someone only 39 years old! He choreographed for Joe Papp's production of *Richard III*, The Lark Theatre, The Directors Theatre, San Francisco Ballet, Pacific Coast Ballet of Seattle, San Francisco Opera, the American Conservatory Theatre, Pasadena Playhouse and many others. He also directed for Hallmark and TV soaps, including *Guiding Light* and *Another World*. His faculty credits include the American Conservatory Theater, Stanford University, Berkeley Repertory School of Drama, California Institute of the Arts, Juilliard School of the Arts, The Lee Strassberg Institute, and New York University. Screen acting credits include: *Dogma*, *Bill Board Dad*, *One Man's Hero*, *The Mask of Zorro*, *The Principal*, *Star Trek IV*, *Trauma*, *The District*, *Special Unit 2*, *Loving*, *One Life to Live*, *Law & Order*, and *Midnight Caller*. He has performed at American Conservatory Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, San Jose Repertory Theatre, Studio Arena Theatre, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, and at Magic Theater. Most recently he performed at Stanford

BIOGRAPHIES



University Theater in *Curse of the Starving Class*, *The Importance of being Earnest*, and *Restoration Comedy*, *American Suicide* at Alter Theater, *American Whoop-Ass* at Z-Space Theater, and *Born Yesterday* at College of Marin Theater. Despite his impressive accomplishments and diverse palette of skills, Marty freely admits that his extensive and loving circle of family and friends is his greatest achievement, including his lucky and adoring wife who also writes his bios.

GAIL REINE (Costume Coordinator) Gail's love of theatre costuming came about through volunteer work here at 6th Street and the joy of sewing. It's evolved into a career choice that had never entered her mind before. It gives her great pleasure to see creative ideas transformed into the fabulous pieces of art they eventually become here at 6th Street, a company that is so good at supporting all involved in the process. Gail is proud to be a part of this process and this production.

WILLIAM RODRIGUEZ (Assistant Stage Manager) was a tech for three years at Montgomery High School, and this is his first show at 6th Street Playhouse. His last plays were *Dracula* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Will hopes you enjoy the show and have a wonderful night!

DAVID R. WRIGHT (Scenic Designer) David's University of Oregon studies included painting, architecture, and all facets of theatre. His graduate studies focus in part on the design of theatre buildings. He has designed for most of the prominent Sonoma County theatres. David resides in Guerneville with his design associate and life partner Nick Charles. *The Graduate* is his ninth design for the 6th Street Playhouse.

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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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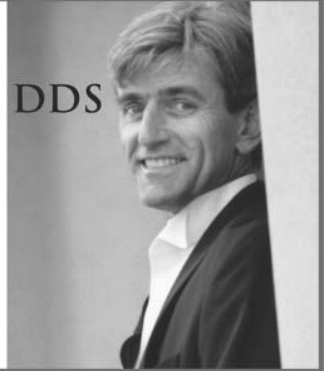
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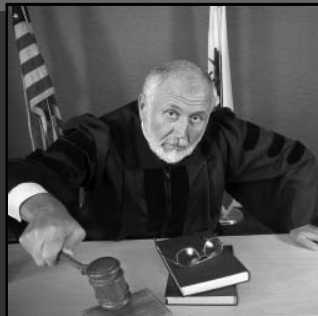
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