

The Bedroom

Ron Herman

Confronting a truth about oneself is almost always difficult but at the same time it can be very liberating.

Tenacity

Michele Griskey

One of the schools I work for has an undying love for absurd business jargon. After receiving an e-mail from the CEO of the university taking the most ridiculous rhetorical spin on a disastrous new classroom design, I thought, "where do people come up with this stuff?" A play was born.

CREW:

Coordinator
Light and Sound
Hair and Makeup
Stage Crew

Cara Russell

Cara Russell

Carol Whitbeck

Ron Herman, Andy Martin,

Gillian Smith, Paula Capitano, Lilly Ryder

Set Builders and Tech Assistance

Tom Fiscus, Ron Herman,

Doug Bechtel

SPECIAL NOTE: A volunteer offered to help with English accent coaching for "Calendar Girls" and departed before her name could be written down. Who are you? We need you!

Coming Up!

Calendar Girls!

There is a lot of buzz about our upcoming production of "Calendar Girls," based on the movie of the same name and a true story of a group of English women who made a calendar to raise money. This play is both laugh out loud funny and touching. This will be one of our "don't miss" productions. There is a copy of the play and a copy of the movie at the Library if you haven't seen it. "Calendar Girls" has roles for 8 "women of a certain age" two roles for younger women, and roles for 4 men of various ages. Six of the women's roles will require some discrete nudity.

Table Readings are scheduled for Sunday, May 10, 3 pm at the Grange and Thursday, May 14, 7 pm at the Grange. These readings are open to anyone. The table readings are not auditions and attendance is optional.

Auditions will be held Sunday, May 17, 3 to 5 pm and Thursday, May 22, 7 to 9 pm. You do not need to attend both auditions.

Readers Theater

We're going to present three readers theater plays again this summer: One each in June, July and August. Location to be announced. For those not familiar with the readers theater process, the play is read by actors with no (or very little) memorizing involved. There are usually just a few rehearsals leading to two performances. At this point we are looking for input from people interested in producing, directing, or acting in plays this summer. If you have an idea for a play or have a play you would like to see produced, contact our summer program coordinator, Lin McNulty at orcawoman@gmail.com.

For additional information on Actors Theater:

Doug Bechtel at 317-5601 or visit www.orcasactors.com

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THE
ACTORS THEATER
OF ORCAS ISLAND
Presents



Tenth Annual PlayFest!

Featuring Seven
Local Playwrights

April 24 - 25 - May 1-3,
7:30 p.m.
at the Orcas Grange

Tenth Annual PlayFest

A Most Auspicious Day written by Kristen Wilson, directed by Tom Fiscus and starring Zach Knight, Bailey Sande, and Ella Conrad. In this heartwarming tale, unforeseen events on opposite ends of the world culminate in the creation of an unlikely international family.

Peggy written by James Wolf, Directed by Cara Russell, Starring Carla Weston, Kevin Doyle, and Hailey Klein. Peggy retells her childhood in this story about a woman succumbing to dementia.

The Certified Letter written by Kathi Ciskowski, directed by Kristen Wilson, and starring Cat Gilliam and John Cunningham. A couple's speculations about the source of a certified letter lead to a series of eye-opening disclosures.

Confessions of a Toilet Paper Hoarder written by Amy Russell, directed by Cara Russell, starring Adia Dolan, and Ed Sutton. There's more than just stacks of toilet paper coming between baby-boomer grandpa and his millennial granddaughter Susan in this play about sufficiency.

Intermission

Storytime written by Mary Bayley, directed by Ron Herman and starring Rebecca Herman, Emily Toombs, and Kevin Doyle. There's more than just jam and freshly made bread waiting at Grandma's cabin.

The Bedroom written by Ron Herman, directed by Andy Martin, starring Cat Gilliam, Demi Gary, Zach Knight, and John Cunningham. When mom visits her newly married daughter's new home, there's more to consider than what wallpaper will be fitting for the bedroom.

Tenacity written by Michèle Griskey, directed by Gillian Smith, and starring Aaimée Johnson, Kelly Toombs, and Michèle Griskey. Elaine and Bob, two coworkers from corporate America who are forced to cooperate against all odds, discover what "tenacity" really means.

THANK YOU!

Ed Wilson and Paris Wilson, Michael Armenia, Bruce Russell,
Kimberly Toombs, Lin McNulty, Doug Bechtel,
Frank and Lori Gates, Carol Sutton, Kelly Toombs

Playwright Notes

A Most Auspicious Day

Kristen Wilson

"Unforeseen encounters can subtly pile up and determine the course of a person's life." Thirty years ago I got a new job in Kansas City and met my husband the next day. Fourteen years ago a Chinese man and his wife decided to foster a baby girl in Guilin, China. Unforeseen encounters in my life have piled up in an auspicious way. Thanks to Ed and Paris Wenjuan for living the story - and especially to Paris and Mr. Yi for inspiring it.

Peggy

James Wolf

In high school I had a friend whose grandfather had lived in the same town and the same house his whole life. Well into his eighties everything changed for him. His short and near term memories faded away and he was convinced he was back living in the 1920s. He would awaken in the morning to go for a walk down roads he'd known his whole life, and then realize the buildings were different and there were streets he didn't recognize. He was lost and he was frightened. I thought a lot about that man and the strange world he found himself in. Then I thought about Peggy.

The Certified Letter

Kathi Ciskowski

One long weekend I experienced the frustration of waiting to pick up a certified letter. My imagination ran wild as to the possible contents. After reading the actual letter I knew I had to write a short play about this experience. Because it would be boring for the audience to watch a woman think for 10 minutes, a married couple dialogue evolved; and, thanks to an internet search entitled 'certified letter possibilities,' I was able to explore the repercussions of going to that place of "what ifs." Thanks also to my son Woody for the editing and formatting help!

Confessions of a Toilet Paper Hoarder

Amy Russell
On December 19, 1973, the writers for The Tonight Show heard earlier that the federal government was falling behind in getting bids to supply toilet paper and that it might be possible that in a few months the United States could face a shortage of toilet tissue. The writers for The Tonight Show took the words of this Wisconsin congressional representative, Harold Froehlich and decided to add a joke for Carson for the evening show. By noon on December 20, 1973 every store in America was out of toilet paper. I was a newlywed in December of 1973 and thus began my love and affection for toilet paper.

Storytime

Mary Murfin Bayley

I was thinking about two things when I wrote "Storytime". The first was how hard it is to figure out the dynamics of a relationship from the outside. The other was how childhood influences stick around forever. The characters and the place were suggested by an overheard snatch of conversation. I'm very excited to be part of PlayFest.