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Welcome to SummerStage of Delafield… one of my favorite places to spend a summer evening!

We are in our 13th season here at our idyllic stage nestled in the heart of the Lapham Peak Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest and we have an exciting line-up of events for you, including our new series, the Midsummer Medley, which is comprised of both our family focused events and cabaret performances.

Time has firmed our belief that SummerStage provides a truly important opportunity for engaging, analog entertainment in an over-stimulating, digital world. As you take some time to relax, have a tasty picnic, and take in a show, it is my hope that you will also appreciate the sunset, the soft breeze, the scent of pine, the chorus of birds, the dancing fireflies, and the starry skies.

Meanwhile, I will take the opportunity to express my utmost gratitude for the many hearts and hands who touch SummerStage.

The people who bring together the events of each season make it look easy because they are talented, dedicated, and passionate. They include performers, directors, production staff, event staff, event volunteers, committee volunteers, members of the Board of Directors, the local DNR staff, and, without fail, our tireless Artistic Director. SummerStage would simply not exist without their labors of love.

Each moment of this is made possible by our magnanimous donors, sponsors, grantors, and partners, whose generosity supports our mission to provide unique ways to present performing and visual arts experiences, arts educational experiences, and community outreach programs. SummerStage would simply not exist without their support.

Last and certainly not least, I thank you, our audience, to whom we offer our talents for your enjoyment at SummerStage. We simply would not exist without your friendly faces at each performance, and we hope you join us over and over again for Great Performances in the Great Outdoors!

Now sit back, set your phones aside, and enjoy the show!

Leah Teske
President, Board of Directors
Welcome to our 2019 season – Deceit & Discoveries.

All three of our Mainstage Series productions this summer examine the themes of deceit and discovery. There’s no way to know for sure, but in my experience nearly all comedic plays contain both elements to some degree. Watching characters openly be deceived or tricked by other characters contributes to the fun, and there is something thrilling about the anticipation of them being discovered.

This is certainly the case in our productions from two of the world’s greatest playwrights, William Shakespeare and Neil Simon. In *Twelfth Night*, Shakespeare utilizes his common element of disguise which contributes to the deceit and heightens the discovery. Simon takes both to the extreme in *Rumors* as the characters try to deceive each other which takes the story to farcical and hilarious heights.

But deceit and discovery are not always about other people. Sometimes, as in *On Golden Pond*, it is an internal struggle as we lie to ourselves creating illusions of reality or the loss of perspective. These lies can be conscious or subconscious and can prevent living life to the fullest.

It is my hope that through this season, you’ll think about how you can reduce the deceit and increase the discovery for yourself.

Dustin J. Martin, Artistic Director
Rumors was written by the late, great Neil Simon much later in his career than other recognizable titles such as Barefoot in the Park, The Star-Spangled Girl, and The Odd Couple. Although these plays (and many others that he wrote) are comedies, they are not considered farce in the strictest sense of the word.

Farce generally involves stereotypical characters who find themselves in increasingly complicated situations, which is certainly the case with Rumors. Here, with the plot continually twisting and turning, the characters are always in jeopardy, running in and out of the room, just missing each other, and trying to desperately withhold information from each other to save their own skin.

Within the comedic chaos, there is also an undercurrent of the damage that rumors, whether unfounded or rooted in some manner of truth, can do to the relationships of those closest to us. Simon himself said it best:

“I guess if there’s any kind of theme, it was the theme of rumors – how rumors can often come close to destroying friendships, even marital relationships. Because sometimes there is basis to the rumors, and sometimes they’re just twisted. I think we’ve all been victims of rumors, and they’re very hurting.”

There is no better choice to close our season of Deceit & Discoveries than Rumors, and I hope that you will enjoy the show as much as we have had working on it.

Dustin J. Martin, Director
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CAST

Chris Gorman ................................................................. Katie Lynne Krueger
Ken Gorman ............................................................... Logan Milway
Claire Ganz ................................................................. Deanna Strasse
Lenny Ganz ................................................................. Nicholas Callan Haubner
Cookie Cusack ............................................................ Donna Daniels
Ernie Cusack ............................................................... Jamie Ryan
Glenn Cooper ............................................................... Robert Torres
Cassie Cooper ............................................................. Paige Bourne
Officer Welch .............................................................. Jim Mallmann
Officer Pudney ............................................................ Joanna Langworthy

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director ........................................................................ Dustin J. Martin
Stage Manager ............................................................. Merry Jaeger
Technical Director / Scenic Designer ......................... Christopher Kurtz
Assistant Stage Manager ............................................. Madelyn Martin
Costume Designer ....................................................... Joanne Cunningham
Lighting and Sound Designer ..................................... Chris Meissner
Properties Designer ..................................................... Erica Ziino

SETTING

Time: late 1980s
Place: The home of Charley and Myra Brock in Sneden’s Landing, New York, on their 10th wedding anniversary.

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

The audio or video recording of this performance by any means whatsoever is strictly prohibited.

RUMORS is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

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Paige Bourne
Cassie Cooper

2019: Cassie Cooper in Rumors. 2nd season.

SummerStage: Pride and Prejudice (Mary Bennet / Charlotte Lucas).

Other: Charlotte’s Web (Children’s Theatre of Madison); 1-800-123-BOYS (Milwaukee Chamber Theatre); As You Like It (Original Practices MKE); The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe, That Dam Plot (Racine Theatre Guild); The 39 Steps, Black Comedy, Taming of the Shrew, A Little Princess, Blithe Spirit, Robin Hood (Grand Rapids Theatre).

Training: BA in Theatre, Cornerstone University.

Etc: Many thanks to her family and friends and this talented cast and crew.

Donna Daniels
Cookie Cusack

2019: Cookie Cusack in Rumors. 4th season.

SummerStage: Pride and Prejudice (Mrs. Bennett), Romeo & Juliet (Lady Capulet), Picnic (Flo).

Other: Little Wars (Milwaukee Entertainment Group); Dancing with Hamlet (Windfall Theatre); The Dixie Swim Club, You Can’t Take It With You, Steel Magnolias (Sunset Playhouse); Crimes of the Heart, Over the Tavern (Waukesha Civic); Misalliance, The Lady’s Not For Burning, Charley’s Aunt (Milwaukee Chamber Theatre).

Training: BA, Marquette University; Emerging Professional Residency, Milwaukee Repertory Theater.

Etc: Donna lives in Wauwatosa with her very supportive husband and two beautiful daughters.

Joanne Cunningham
Costume Designer

2019: Costume Designer for On Golden Pond and Rumors. 3rd season.

SummerStage: The Odd Couple, Present Laughter.

Other: Hello, Dolly!, Beauty and the Beast, On Golden Pond, Moon Over Buffalo, A Christmas Carol (Sunset Playhouse); To Kill a Mockingbird (Waukesha Civic Theatre); Stage Door, Willy Wonka (DSHA); Wizard of Oz, The Addams Family, Jekyll & Hyde (Tosa West); Mary Poppins, Jr. (Silver Lake Intermediate School).

Etc: Much love and thanks to my husband Brian for always putting up with piles of costumes and fabric lying all over the house.

Christopher Kurtz
Scenic Designer / Technical Director

2019: Scenic Designer and Technical Director for SummerStage of Delafield. 3rd Season.

SummerStage: Pride and Prejudice, The Trip to Bountiful, Tartuffe, Romeo & Juliet, Present Laughter, Little Women.

Other: Ring Round the Moon (Wisconsin Lutheran College); Comedy of Tenors (Racine Theatre Guild); Cabaret, The Crucible (Oconomowoc High School); Bonny Anne Bonny (TheatreRed); Autonomy (Acacia Theatre Company).

Etc: MFA, Wayne State University; BA, St. John’s University; IATSE Journeyman, Local #13.
BIOGRAPHIES cont.

Nicholas Callan Haubner
Lenny Ganz
2019: Lenny Ganz in Rumors. 5th season. SummerStage: 24-Hour Shakespeare: The Taming of the Shrew (Katherine), Tartuffe (Tartuffe), Romeo & Juliet (Mercutio), The Odd Couple (Oscar Madison), Much Ado About Nothing (Benedick). Other: King John (Shakespeare & Company); 33 Variations, Leading Ladies, The Complete Works of Shakespeare (abridged) (Waukesha Civic Theatre); Who’s Aford of Virginia Woolf, Same Time Next Year, Twelve Angry Men (Cream City Theater); Of Mice and Men (Seventh Row Center); Evita, Jesus Christ Superstar, Cat On a Hot Tin Roof (West Allis Players), Rabbit Hole, One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest (Sunset Playhouse); The Lion in Winter (Alchemist Theatre). Training: BFA Acting, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Etc: WINNER, 2017 Footlights Performing Arts Awards - Best Actor in a Lead Role for The Odd Couple.

Carol (Lake Country Playhouse); Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Evita, Jesus Christ Superstar (West Allis Players); Hot Dish sketch comedy (Mojo Dojo). Etc: Joanna is not superstitious, but she is a little stitious. Thanks to Dustin, Nick, Katherine, Brian, and Eloise.

Katie Lynne Krueger
Chris Gorman
2019: Viola in Twelfth Night. Chris in Rumors. 4th season. SummerStage: 24-Hour Shakespeare: The Taming of the Shrew (Grumio), The Trip to Bountiful (Director), Romeo & Juliet (Assistant Director), Over the River and Through the Woods (Caillen O’Hare), The Foreigner (Catherine Simms). Other: Barefoot in the Park, The Turn of the Screw, The Diary of Anne Frank (Waukesha Civic Theatre); The Explorer’s Club, Urinetown, Assassins (Lake Country Playhouse). Training: BFA in Theatre Management/Promotion and BBA in Marketing, UW-Whitewater. Etc: Thanks, and thanks, and ever thanks to Simon and Dustin.

Jim Mallmann
Officer Welch
2019: Sir Andrew Aguecheek in Twelfth Night. Officer Welch in Rumors. 6th season. SummerStage: Pride and Prejudice (Reverend Collins / Sir William Lucas), The Trip to Bountiful (Ticket Taker #1), (Professor Bhaer), Picnic (Howard), The Odd Couple (Roy), Much Ado About Nothing (Messenger / First Watch), Don’t Drink the Water (Mr. Burns). Other: The Curious Savage, Betrayal, The Graduate (Sunset Playhouse); Leaving Iowa, Suite Surrender (Falls Patio Players); Leading Ladies, The Diary of Anne Frank, Communicating Doors (Waukesha Civic Theatre). Etc: Jim thanks Dustin for this opportunity and the cast & crew for the experience.

Joanna Langworthy
Officer Pudney
2019: Officer Pudney in Rumors. 1st season. Other: Is Murder Tax-Deductible? (Cream City Theater); A Christmas Carol (Lake Country Playhouse) . Etc: Joanna is not superstitious, but she is a little stitious. Thanks to Dustin, Nick, Katherine, Brian, and Eloise.

Dustin J. Martin
Director
2019: Artistic Director of SummerStage of Delafield. Director of Rumors. 8th season. SummerStage: Tartuffe, Romeo & Juliet, The Importance of Being Earnest, Much Ado About Nothing, Talley’s Folly, The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged). Other: 33 Variations, Leading Ladies, The Diary of Anne Frank, Communicating Doors (Waukesha Civic Theatre); The Curious Savage, Betrayal, The Dixie Swim Club (Sunset Playhouse); The Miracle Worker (Acacia Theatre). Etc: Dustin is blessed to be working with such a fantastic cast and crew and especially with his daughter Maddie backstage!

Madelyn Martin
Assistant Stage Manager
2019: Assistant Stage Manager for Rumors. 1st season. Other: The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)
at Waukesha Civic Theatre; A Midsummer Night’s Dream, The Pirates of Penzance, Mary Poppins at Kettle Moraine High School. Etc: Madelyn is very excited to finally be a part of SummerStage.

Chris Meissner
Lighting and Sound Designer

2019: Lighting and Sound Designer for SummerStage of Delafield. 3rd season.


Logan Milway
Ken Gorman

2019: Charlie Martin in On Golden Pond, Ken Gorman in Rumors. 2nd season. SummerStage: Tartuffe (Valeré), The Trip to Bountiful (Ludie Watts). 2nd Season. Other: The Explorer’s Club (Lake Country Playhouse); The Pillowman (The Constructivists); The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical, Spookley the Square Pumpkin (First Stage); Wait Untill Dark (Waukesha Civic Theatre); Much Ado About Nothing (Optimist Theatre). Training: BFA in Theater (Directing) and Communications, Carthage College. Etc: Logan is a Teaching Artist and Assistant House Manager with First Stage Children’s Theatre. He would like to thank his friends and family for supporting him and commend his cast and crew for all their hard work.

Jamie Ryan
Ernie Cusack

2019: Ernie Cusack in Rumors. 3rd season. SummerStage: The Trip to Bountiful (Sheriff), Romeo & Juliet (Lord Capulet). Other: Eurydice (UW-Waukesha); Our Town, Tavern, You Know I Can’t Hear You When the Water is Running (Waukesha Civic Theatre).

Deanna Strasse
Claire Ganz

2019: Claire Ganz in Rumors. 5th season. SummerStage: Pride and Prejudice (Jane), Present Laughter (Liz), The Odd Couple (Cecily), Picnic (Irma). Other: You Can’t Take It With You, The Foreigner, The Nerd (Sunset Playhouse); You Can’t Take It With You, Luther (Windfall Theatre); The Koala Who Could (Sunset’s Bug-In-A-Rug Children’s Theatre). Training: BA in Theatre, Wisconsin Lutheran College. Etc. Ms. Strasse is an award-winning playwright whose most notable works include Dancing with Hamlet, The Way We Suffer, Summers in Prague, and more. www.DeannaStrasse.com

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