

1943  2018

LOS ALAMOS LITTLE THEATRE

75th Anniversary Season

Neil Simon's **Rumors**

Cast

Ken Gorman.....	Paul Lewis
Chris Gorman.....	Trisha Werner
Lenny Ganz.....	Ian Foti-Landis
Claire Ganz.....	Holly Robinson
Glenn Cooper.....	Thomas Graves
Cassie Cooper.....	Cindy Hines
Ernie Cusack.....	Larry Gibbons
Cookie Cusack.....	Tami Martinson
Officer Welch.....	Trevor Nickless
Officer Pudney.....	Cassandra Bowman

Setting

A house in Sneden's Landing, New York. An evening in June.

Warning: simulated gunshots and flashing lights are used in this performance.

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

Presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

LALT.ORG • FIND US ON FACEBOOK @LALITTLETHEATRE

Welcome!

LALT had already cast *Rumors* when news broke of the death of Neil Simon this past August. While we mourn the loss of a giant of American theatre comedy, we're pleased we can honor his legacy this evening in the best way possible - bringing his script to life and bringing joy to our audiences. Thanks for all the laughs, Mr. Simon. And thank you for being a part of our audience tonight.

We have three more fantastic production lined up for you after *Rumors* (see our season brochures in the lobby for more information). Some of you may have already taken advantage of our season ticket offer. If you haven't yet, there's still time. **Visit our box office at intermission or after the performance with your ticket stub from tonight's show, and you can purchase a pass for the remainder of this season for the special price of \$35.** That's \$10 off the price of three tickets. We won't be offering these passes after *Rumors* closes, so be sure to grab yours tonight.

We are rebooting and revamping our publicity and outreach program at the Little Theatre this year, including our mailing list. Our current Google list will be retired some time in the new year. So, if you'd like to keep up to date on everything LALT has to offer, please sign up for the new list tonight. Sign-up sheets are available in the lobby.

Finally, I want to remind you that you, our audience, are our best source of advertising. If you enjoy tonight's production, please tell your friends.

Once again, thank you for being part of our audience. Enjoy the show!

John Cullinan
President
LALT Board of Directors

Crew

Director Patrick Webb
Producer Laurie Tomlinson
Stage Manager Bonnie Kiang
Stage Crew Cassandra Bowman, Trevor Nickless
Board Operator Steve Barretta
Set Design Patrick Webb, Paul Lewis
Set Construction Paul Lewis (lead), Cassandra Bowman, John Gustafson,
Bonnie Kiang, Gwen Lewis, Joan Lucas, Tami Martinson,
David Meyerhofer, John Stewart, Patrick Webb
Painting Bonnie Kiang, Sophie Lundqvist, Tami Martinson,
Jan Mercer-Smith, Laurie Tomlinson, Patrick Webb
Set Dressing Linda Taylor, Gwen Lewis
Properties Caroline "Pip" Evarts
Costumes Pam Justice
Hair Gwen Lewis
Lighting Alex L'Esperance, John Cullinan
Sound Steve Barretta
House, Box Office, Refreshments Bill Davis, Jan Mercer-Smith, Jas Mercer-Smith
Graphic Design Jess Cullinan
Publicity LALT Publicity Committee
Photography Zack Baker, Larry Gibbons, Thomas Graves
Prompter Gwen Lewis
Board Liaison Cindy Hines



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Special Thanks


The Los Alamos Police Department


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Friday, November 16, 7 p.m.

Collaboration with Los Alamos High School choirs
Duane Smith Auditorium

Saturday, November 17, 4 p.m.

Pre-concert lecture by Dr. Nelly Case at 3:30 p.m.
United Church of Santa Fe

Sunday, November 18, 4 p.m.

Pre-concert lecture by Dr. Nelly Case at 3:30 p.m.
Unitarian Church of Los Alamos

Nylea Butler-Moore | Artistic Director

Natasha Stojanovska | Pianist

www.corodecamara-nm.org

Admission at the door or online: \$20 adults, \$10 students



Bios

Paul Lewis (Ken Gorman) has been involved with LALT for the past two decades as an actor, director, producer, stage manager, set builder, tech support, and board member. He is currently past president of the LALT board and vice-president of the Theatre New Mexico board. He is also the chair for New Mexico AACTFest19, which will be hosted by LALT next March.

Trisha Werner (Chris Gorman) celebrates her fourth role on the LALT stage since moving to Los Alamos a few years ago. Previous shows include *Steel Magnolias*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, and *Communicating Doors*.

Ian Foti-Landis (Lenny Ganz) is excited for the opportunity to bring a whole new side to himself to the stage, as a sophisticated, educated and level headed character who has everything under control.

Holly Robinson (Clare Ganz) marks *Rumors* as the 12th show in five years that she has been involved with at LALT. "Being a part of LALT means so much to me, I have truly found my family and my place here in Los Alamos. I hope to have many more shows and years to come with LALT."

Thomas Graves (Glenn Cooper) is a returned native of Los Alamos and a photographer by trade. He makes his return to the stage after almost exactly 40 years, having last been an emcee of 1979's *Topper Revue* at LAHS. People still talk about it at Smith's.

Cindy Hines (Cassie Cooper) is a recent transplant from the mountains of Colorado where she performed in over 40 productions. Since arriving in Los Alamos, she portrayed Juliana in *The Other Place* and directed *The Dining Room*.

Larry B. Gibbons (Ernie Cusack) has been a long time participant at the Los Alamos Little Theatre. Some past productions include: *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Fool for Love*, *Macbeth*, *Moonlight and Magnolias*, *Fortinbras*, *Wally's Cafe*, *Talley's Folly*, and many others.

Tami Martinson (Cookie Cusack) has stage managed many shows at LALT, and *Rumors* marks just her third appearance as an actor. She first played the sanctimonious Emily Brent in *And Then There Were None*, then the angst-ridden Veronica Novak in *God of Carnage*.

Trevor Nickless (Officer Welch) is a newcomer to the LALT stage after many a stint with the Los Alamos High School Olions, including appearances in *The 39 Steps*, *Spamalot*, and *Mary Poppins*.

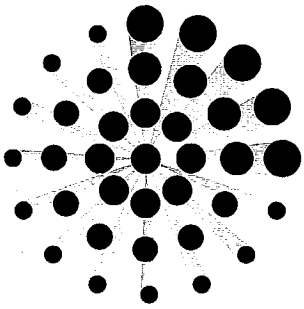
Cassandra Bowman (Officer Pudney) was born and raised in Eastern Kentucky. She has lived in New Mexico since 2010, and has been involved with local theatre here since 2015. *Rumors* is her first production with the Los Alamos Little Theatre.

Director's Note

Back in 2008 I was first introduced to the comedy of Neil Simon by performing as Ernie Cusack in *Rumors* at the Fairbanks Riverfront Theater in Fairbanks, Alaska. I had just gotten started with community theatre and was quickly finding my home with comedies, and the theatre community in general. *Rumors* was a tremendous amount of fun and I made many good friends along the way.

Now, I have an opportunity to reprise that experience from the director's chair. I did the same with *Murdered To Death*, which I performed in Fairbanks, and then directed here in Los Alamos in 2015. It's enlightening and humbling to work both sides of a production. The differences in the theatre spaces, and how different actors have different takes on the characters, bring into sharp relief how unique each show is even if it's a script that has been produced a thousand times. Every performance is a once-in-a-lifetime event, from production to production and even performance to performance. The magic of live theatre means seeing something new every night.

It is with this appreciation that I thank LALT for allowing me to direct this show and others, and to the Fairbanks theatre community that put me on stage in the first place, and gave me the experiences that I want to revisit however impossible they are to recreate. I hope that you enjoy the show!



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Neil Simon – Broadway Legend

July 4, 1927 – August 26, 2018

From his first Broadway production, 1961's *Come Blow Your Horn*, Neil Simon was box office gold for over four decades, writing over thirty plays and an equal number of screenplays, and receiving more combined Oscar and Tony nominations than any other writer.

Los Alamos Little Theatre is proud to present *Rumors*, one of the lesser known plays, and as an over-the-top farce, possibly the most challenging to write. In Mervyn Rothstein's 1988 interview with Simon for the *New York Times*, titled "For Neil Simon, the Prescription was Farce," Simon reveals that difficult times in real life—his marriage breaking up, the death of his son-in-law in an automobile accident—made him really want to dive into the cathartic process of writing a comedy.

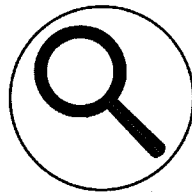
"A farce is relentless," he said. "There are so many more obligations. It's relentless in its needs for plot twists, and to keep the comedy going."

And keep it going, he does! Sit back and enjoy the mishaps, miscommunications, and madcap shenanigans of Simon's prescription for what ails you – *Rumors!*



www.petpangaea.com

DON'T MISS THE REST OF OUR 75TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON!

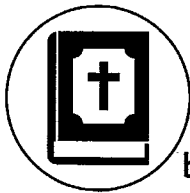


Murder at the Lone Elm

January 4-19, 2019

An interactive murder mystery, this play tracks the characters and deaths at the Lone Elm Inn and asks the audience to get involved in solving who the murderer is. Written and directed by Miles Ledoux.

Special performance New Year's Eve!



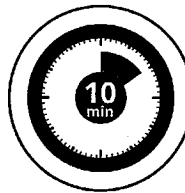
Church & State

by Jason Odell Williams

March 1-16, 2019

This timely drama follows a U.S. Senator up for re-election who finds himself dealing with the fallout from a candid comment to a blogger. This play will also be our entry to the New Mexico AACTFest State Festival here at the PAC. Directed by Patrick MacDonald.

Auditions coming up December 9 & 10!



8 X 10 SIX

May 3-18, 2019

LALT's 6th presentation of this format, this show features eight 10-minute plays, many written by local playwrights. An opportunity for new actors and directors to spread their wings, and for audiences to experience a delightful potpourri. Produced by John Gustafson & Holly Robinson.

Play submissions accepted until November 30!

Season tickets available tonight at intermission or after the show!

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