

MUSICAL THEATRE WEST NOTES

THE NEWSLETTER FOR PATRONS OF MUSICAL THEATRE WEST

WINTER 2004 EDITION

4350 E. 7th STREET, LONG BEACH, CA 90804-5546

LA CAGE AUX FOLLES Proves a Winner



"GLITZ & HEART GILD THIS 'CAGE'"

"What really makes LA CAGE fly are Herman's soaring, heartfelt and thoroughly French-sounding songs; captivating characterizations by DeGruccio's cast; and the show's sheer visual flamboyance."

THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

- Eric Marchese



DAVID ENGEL, JUDY McNULTY-BLACK, GUEST CELEBRITIES ANNE JEFFREY & JUNE HAVER, & NORMAN LARGE



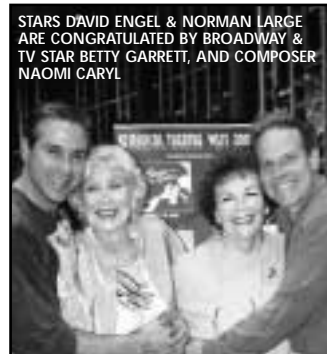
JERRY HERMAN, DAVID ENGEL AND NORMAN LARGE GO OVER LAST MINUTE DETAILS



GUILD AND BOARD MEMBERS BARBARA RATHBUN, JOHN MONTGOMERY, SHELLEY SHERMAN & ALLEN CAGLE DRESSED IN THE LA CAGE THEME



STARS DAVID ENGEL & NORMAN LARGE ARE CONGRATULATED BY BROADWAY & TV STAR BETTY GARRETT, AND COMPOSER NAOMI CARYL



Musical Theatre West opened its 51st season with Jerry Herman's 1983 Tony Award winner **LA CAGE AUX FOLLES**. We were particularly pleased to have Mr. Herman personally supervise the production and give us invaluable insight. Crowds came away humming the classic Herman tunes and thrilled to the superb talent of David Engel (Albin) and Norman Large (Georges). The reviews echoed the audience approval and the LA Times listed it as "Critics Pick".



"The slightly modified "give our" regards to Broadway... can stand a bit more modification.

GIVE OUR REGARDS TO MUSICAL THEATRE WEST!

VIEW FROM THE HILL

- Alvin Randall ■

"IT'S ALWAYS A GOOD TIME AT 'LA CAGE'"

"The proficient ensemble boasts two revelatory stars... The muscle behind next year's Broadway revisit should be apprised of this memorable teaming... This joyous revival of Jerry Herman's 1983 Tony-winning transvestite toe-tapper is a triumph of sentimental showmanship."

LOS ANGELES TIMES
- David C. Nichols

"HIGH ENERGY 'FOLLES' WORTH VIEWING"

"What do you get when you combine 'Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?' with a line of high-kicking Mae West Can-Can girls at Finnochios? You get Paul Garman's spectacular production of the Jerry Herman musical, **LA CAGE AUX FOLLES** from Musical Theatre West at the Carpenter Performing Arts Center."

GRUNION GAZETTE
- James Scarborough



NEW HOME BUILDING CAMPAIGN

After 50 years, we finally have our own home. We bought it. We're renovating it. Now, we have to continue to pay for it - and we're off to a great start!

Our new building at 7th and Ximeno is beginning to take its place as a welcome addition to the neighborhood. Over the holidays the building was festively decorated inside and out for our Holiday Boutique.

In January, decorations came down and the building was full of items for the Guild Rummage Sale. An attractive new sign has been added thanks to our friends at Southern California Edison and we're in the process of landscaping the property through the generosity of Land Escapes and West



Coast Arborists. Neighbors are constantly stopping by and thanking us for the tremendous change that has taken place.

We have you to thank for all of this, since your generosity has allowed us to purchase our new home and to continue the renovations. In addition

to the landscaping, painting, and new sign, a dance floor and mirrors have been added to the rehearsal room. The box office has been carpeted and painted and new cabinets and sink have been added to the kitchen area.

Currently we are working on the costume room, adding a wash tub, washer/dryer as well as cabinets for the prop area and completing the music room. We're extremely grateful for the continuing donations as we can only move forward when the funds become available. A donation of \$500 or more lists you on the permanent plaque in the building. A \$200 donation puts your name on a brick that will line the sidewalk to the box office entrance creating an MTW Walk of Fame!!

A special Thank You to all of you who responded to our year-end appeal which brought in almost \$20,000 for the New Home Campaign. ■

CURRENT NEW HOME AND WALK OF FAME BENEFACTORS

\$20,000+

Musical Theatre West
Footlighters
Musical Theatre West Guild
Amanda & Jon Hall
Sara Wenkle Kaplan
Joe & Edna Moore
Ken & Dottie Reiner

Len Lovett
Judith Matsen
Lehnert & Jackie Riegel
Alan & Christine
Schwendener
Earl & Louise Shea
David & Myra Weiss

\$1,000+

Peter & Madalyne Ursano

Charles Baclet
Billy Beadle
Kathryn B. Campbell
Richard & Mary Carpenter
Jim Choura, The Grand at
Willow Street Centre
Gary & Judy Cooper
Jack & Judith Elder
Paul Garman
Gary & Mel Gerber
Dr. Robert & Susan Green
Foster & Mari Hooper
Ronald & Beverly Horn
Bill & Kathleen Johnson
Robert & Audrey Langslet
Ruth McLeod
William Tolbert Michael
Larry & Shari Nemirow
Douglas & Anne Richie
Family Trust
Chester & Madeline Rose
Joan Wells
Eleanore Wier

\$500+

Edison International
Don & Lenore Garman
Don & Marlene Temple

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Aldrich
Syl & Lana Alper
Johnny Arceri
Tybie Becker
Walter & Sharon Beedle
Mia Beglinger
John & Marcie Blumberg
Bob & Mary Alice Braly

\$5,000+

Larry & Sande Rice
David & Barbara Serena
Nella Webster & Kevin Grady

Anonymous
Don & Judy McNulty Black
Fremont Investment & Loan
In Honor of Anthony
Gagliardi
Charlene & Fred Gamm
Patricia Grisham
Friends of David L. Hauser
Gene & Leann Johnson
Edward & Laura Killingsworth
Marlene Madsen
Patrick & Julianne Mahoney
Carol Richards

\$1,500+

Anonymous
Martha Cheadle
Claude John Klug
Howard & Linda Knohl

Rick & Nancy Celio
William & Edward Ellis
Compton
Gary & Joanne Cutshall
Lucy & Lolly Daggett
Howard & Elaine Davis
Gary DeLong Family
John & Lucretia DeLong
June Doherty
Marylou Dunn
Ruth Enakeff
Donna Estrin & Hal Mankau
Roy & Gladys Flair
Dr. & Mrs. Carlos Garcia
Ned & Barbara Gaylord
Mel & Gary Gerber
Allegra Gordon
Sheldon & Shell Whitney
Grossman
Sandy Yates Hall
William & Sheila Hanley
Dr. Charles & Mary Hanson
Beverly Harris
Chuck & Nancy Hegelheimer
Betty Hutchinson
Jay & Susan Jayaram
Robert & Jeanette Jenkins
Betty Anne Kirkpatrick
Brenda & Robert Knohl
Jim & Nancy Koblensky
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Kruger
Frances Lambert
Alexander & Marnos Lelesi
Bob & Betty Lindgren
Jerry & Flora Loeb
Long Beach Business Journal
Dr & Mrs George Macer
Lawrence & Valerie Matson
Barbara McDonald
Barbara Metzger
Mo & Patricia Mohler
Lorraine & Hank Naizat

John & Dottie Osterkamp
Sandra Paskus
Marian Kennedy Pincombe
Jim & Barbara Rathbun
Joel & Nina Rattner
Annabelle & Roy Richards
Jan Ritschel
Robert & Marjorie Rivera
Kathy Arntzen Roat
Robert & Mary Pat Sabol
Sal Saenz & Neal Vincent
Harry & Maria Saltzgaver
Eunice Sato
Ted & Shirley Schnee
Robert Sciortino
Leonard & Myrna Simon
Arlene Solomon & Sid
Schulman
Jeraldine Struthers
Daniel Thomas
Alan & Andrea Trider
Khelly Webb, DC
Wynne Wilson
Dr. Sandy & Susanna Witzling
Dr. & Mrs. George Wong
Daryl & Mary Anne Wozniak
Ken & Ernestine Zude

WALK OF FAME BRICK DONORS

Grace Alexander
Dr. Edward & Teresa
Behnke
Allen B. Cagle, M.D.
Kathryn Campbell
William & Edward Ellis
Compton
Ray & Gloria Ferry
Mel & Gary Gerber
Nina Glazer
Bob & Phyllis Goodwin
Dr. Robert & Susan Green

Grisham Family
Robert Hardaway III
Mari & Foster Hooper
Barbara & Roy Hubbs
Joseph J. Justo
Laura Killingsworth
Claude John Klug
Howard & Linda Knohl
The Koblenskys
Robert & Audrey Langslet
The Lichtensteins
Betty & Bob Lindgren
Len Lovett
Marlene Sommer Madsen
Barbara Metzger
George & Sunny Meylor
William T. Michael
Sandra Paskus
Verna M. Rea
Michael R. Repp
Jan Ritschel
Earl & Louise Marsh Shea
Kay Sherwin
Dave & Jenny Shlemmer
& Family
Jim Silknitter & Paul
Diego
Dr. Michael & Bevele
Singer
Don & Marlene Temple
Daniel Thomas & Anne
Fraser
Ellie Urcis
James & Betty Jo Wells
Wynne Wilson
Woman's City Club of
Long Beach
Richard & Mary Zern
Mr. & Mrs. K.A. Zude

It's not too late to purchase a brick (\$200) or be listed on the permanent plaque (\$500). Pick up a form at the hospitality table in the lobby, or call the MTW office.

The MTW Board of Directors wishes to thank Lucia Galindo (Southern California Edison), Gene Johnson (GJ Property Services), Patrick Mahoney (West Coast Arborist) and Matt Latona (Land Escapes) for their in-kind donations to our new building.

THE WINNING STREAK CONTINUES!



Ovation Award Committee, 80 were nominated for awards in the 31 categories, and 28 ended up winning. Musical Theatre West was proud to receive five nominations and to win two awards. David Engel won as Best Actor in a musical for **CRAZY FOR YOU** and Sally Struthers won as Best Featured Actress in a musical for **MAME**.

Over 50 Musical Theatre West supporters were in the audience at the Orpheum Theatre to cheer them on! (A majority of those in attendance from Musical Theatre West were Guild members who served as ushers for the evening.) It was an evening we will long remember.

Last year Musical Theatre West won their first Ovation Award for the Ensemble of their production of **SWING!** The streak continued this year when there were two Ovation Awards to members of the casts of two of our past productions.



MTW GUILD MEMBERS CONGRATULATE AWARD WINNER SALLY STRUTHERS

Congratulations to both David and Sally and a very special THANK YOU to all those Guild members that ushered and were able to join in the celebration of the continued growth and quality of the Musical Theatre West productions. ■

In November the annual Ovation Award ceremonies were held in Los Angeles to honor productions from the 2002 – 2003 season. Almost 400 Los Angeles shows were submitted for reviewing by the



DAVID ENGEL RECEIVES CONGRATULATIONS FROM MTW GUILD MEMBERS

2004 THEATER TOURS



Musical Theatre West will host 2 tours this year and both are filling up fast!

MAY 11-21

Will take us to London and Scotland. The trip includes 4 nights in London, 2 in Edinburgh, and overnight York and Glasgow. We'll see theater, visit historic homes and castles, and even have an authentic Scottish evening of dining, dancing and entertainment.

You'll have time to tour central London and take in the exquisite countryside while visiting villages and hamlets outside the city. The cost of the trip is \$3,500 per person, (double occupancy) and includes air, lodging, breakfast daily and most dinners, as well as theater tickets and a London City Pass.

OCTOBER 5-11

We'll return to the Great White Way and spend 4 nights in the city with theater dining in some of Manhattan's finest restaurants and some exciting tours.

We'll also travel up the Hudson Valley and spend 2 nights at the Mohonk Resort where you can relax in the exquisite countryside or take in any number of activities, (like boating, hiking, horseback riding, biking, knitting...). Linda Knohl and Nina Rattner have once again

packed everything they can into seven days! The cost is \$2500 per person, (double occupancy), and includes airfare, meals, hotel, shows and almost everything else!!

Flyers are available at the hospitality table or call the MTW office.

Both trips are approaching "Sold Out" so don't hesitate if you're interested. A deposit guarantees your place on the list. ■



FOOTLIGHTERS LUNCHEON

Almost two hundred Footlighters and guests attended the Music in the Morning Luncheon on February 7th at the Greek Cultural Center.



SUSAN ROSE, SARA KAPLAN, & JAN SIMONIAN

The room was decorated in an oriental theme for **HOT MIKADO** and guests enjoyed a scrumptious Asian buffet and a delicious

assortment of desserts. After lunch the crowd was treated to musical selections performed by the cast of **HOT MIKADO**. Thirteen new members joined Footlighters that day and received a complimentary thank you gift. New members included:



SARA TATTI, MICHAEL & KAY GORMLEY, & BETTY ANNE KIRKPATRICK

- Beverly August
- Michael Gormley
- Nancy L. Hopfer
- Julia Nemecek
- Judith Obar
- Robert Sciortino
- Cathy L. Telaneus
- Marilyn Delacour
- Kay Gormley
- Yvonne Meador
- Carlotta Neri
- Dayl Salamanca
- Rosemary Speight



LEN LOVETT, FRANKIE GROVER, JUDY McNULTY-BLAGG, & VICE MAYOR FRANK COLONNA

That brings the total membership to almost two hundred and fifty! If you're interested in getting involved in this support group for MTW, please call Membership Vice President Mary Lou Hauser at 562/498-1552. ■

SAVE THE DATE

- April 4 DISTINGUISHED PATRON OF THE ARTS AWARD
- April 24-May 9 ALWAYS...PATSY CLINE
- May 2004 LONDON & SCOTLAND THEATRE TOUR
- July 10-25 KISS ME, KATE
- August 7 BROADWAY IN THE PARK
- August 20-22 WEST SIDE STORY/ SUMMER YOUTH CONSERVATORY
- October 2004 NEW YORK THEATRE TOUR

DISTINGUISHED PATRON OF THE ARTS AWARD APRIL 4TH



Anthony Gagliardi has been selected by the Board of Directors to be the recipient of the 6th Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award. Past honorees include Richard Carpenter,

Harvey Waggoner, Sara Wenkle Kaplan, Ken and Dottie Reiner and Linda Knohl. This year's ceremony honoring Anthony will take place on April 4th at the Anaheim White House. The gala afternoon will feature a scrumptious and elegantly pre-

sented multi-course meal from this award winning, historic restaurant, as well as spectacular entertainment from favorite MTW performers & tribute presentations by dignitaries representing local, state and national authorities.

Anthony has been involved with MTW both in front of and behind the curtain since our move to Long Beach. All those wonderful hairstyles seen on our performers are the result of Anthony's talents as he provides the wig styling for most of our shows. He has graciously and elegantly hosted numerous fundraisers at his home in Park Estates. Among these have been our first Holiday Boutiques and Broadway in the Park.

His contribution to the arts in general and Long Beach in particular include his being a board member of the Public Corporation of the Arts and a major fundraiser for the Civic Light Opera. His sense of commitment is evident when he responded to the question, where do you see MTW going? He sees MTW growing in national stature with a theater of its own and he's ready to begin the fund raising efforts just as soon as he has a minute or two to spare!

For information to attend the "Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award" event please pick up an invitation at the hospitality table in the lobby. Don't miss this wonderful afternoon of tribute while helping Musical Theatre West build a successful future! ■

GUILD RUMMAGE SALE

The MTW Guild held a Rummage Sale on January 24th in the new building. Under the capable leadership of Chair Ellie Urcis, dozens of Guild members worked for weeks sorting, organizing and going through hundreds of items donated by friends of Musical Theatre West. At the end of the day a tired crew packed everything up that remained and boxed it for the



ELLIE URDIS & SANDRA PASKUS
ALL SMILES & IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT BEFORE THE WORK BEGINS

American Cancer Society to pick up on Monday. The day netted almost \$3000 for our youth programs thanks to the enthusiastic support of several hundred MTW supporters and friends and a large turnout



WYNNE WILSON SHOWS MERCHANDISE TO A CUSTOMER

from the neighborhood. ■



MIA BEGLINGER & BARBARA RATHBUN
EXAMINE A GREAT FIND

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE -A HUGE SUCCESS!



MTW Footlighters and Guild members joined together in creating a "Winter Wonderland" with the annual Holiday Boutique held for the first time in our new building. The event was so successful the first weekend (November 22 & 23), that it remained open the weekend after Thanksgiving to allow additional shopping.

Dozens of Guild and Footlighters members aided chair Carole Ball



and her capable committee. Special Kudos to Duane Rose and Sande Rice for the hours they put in assisting Carole in trimming garland sprays, decorating trees and creating



STRAIGHT TALK WITH ART LEVINE

WEEKS OF FEBRUARY 23rd and MARCH 1st

JENNIFER SHELTON & LaPAREE W. YOUNG

From MTW's current production of **HOT MIKADO**

Join host Art Levine for an interview with two of the cast of Musical Theatre West's production of this hit musical.

Watch Straight Talk

INFORMING SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FOR OVER A DECADE

Now seen Sundays at 6:30pm

Broadcast Schedule

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Wed. Thur. & Sun. 6:30pm Channel 3	Thursday 1, 5, 7 & 9pm Channel 43	Thursday 8pm Channel 3	Thursday 6:30pm Channel 35

Christmas magic. Also to Linda Knohl and Marlene Madsen for creating the beautiful display tables.

The boutique moved to the Carpenter Center for the day of the Holiday Show and sold almost all of the remaining merchandise! The event grossed over \$10,000, which will be split between the Guild and Footlighters. ■

