

The Summit Playhouse Association

The following program is from our 2008-2009 season.

For information on our current production,
and on other shows we have presented,
please visit our web site at

<http://SummitPlayhouse.org>

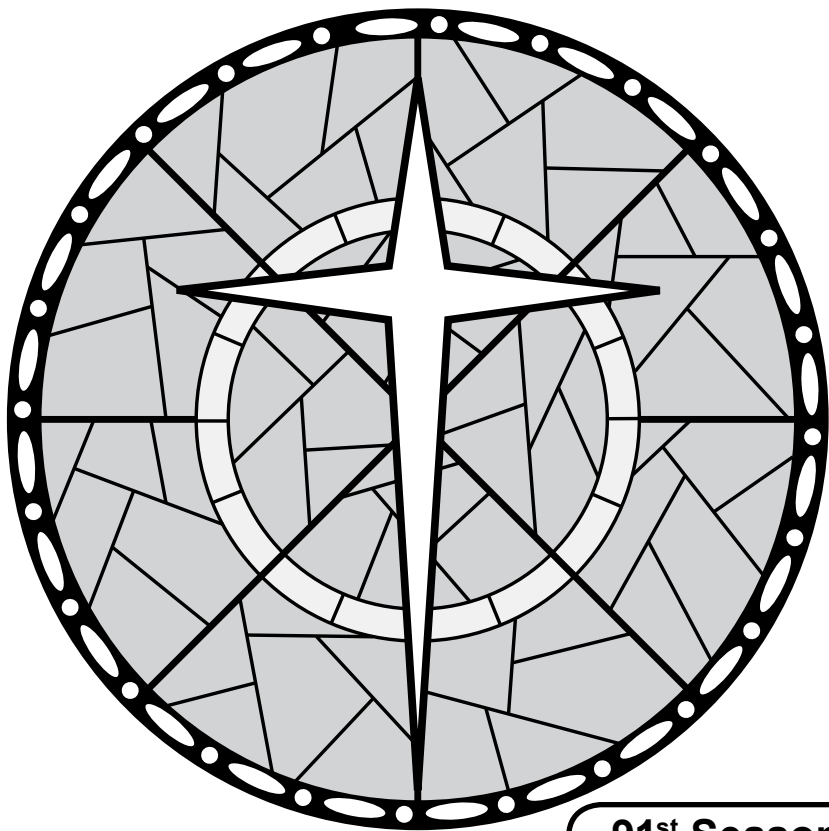
The Summit Playhouse Association
Established 1918
10 New England Ave
Summit, NJ 07974
908-273-2192



*The
Summit
Playhouse
Presents*

DOUBT

A PARABLE



**91st Season
Winter 2009**

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

I actually started doing Theater at Franklin Elementary School, a walk up the hill from here. I vaguely remember something about a rabbit costume. My Mother's Junior High is a few blocks away. Down the street, I laughed as Fiorello and cried as Otto Frank on the brand new Summit High stage. When the High School Teacher/Director suddenly left, I was asked to direct the school play in the spring of my senior year. After forty years (too many in California), I hope that a play about doubting a conviction might lead you to question some of the certainties you have. I'll leave you with the one certainty from my "Director's Notes:"

Lights fade — Curtain opens.

— Chase Newhart

LP

AVAILABLE AT DESK



Originally produced by the Manhattan Theatre Club on November 23, 2004.

*Originally produced on Broadway by Carole Shorenstein Hays,
MTC Productions, Roger Berlind and Scott Rudin on March 31, 2005.*



The Summit Playhouse is a member of the
TriCounty Community Theatre Association.

See www.TriCountyCTA.org for listings of
productions and audition notices.

The Summit Playhouse Association presents its
Two Hundred Ninety Third Production

DOUBT

A PARABLE

BY **John Patrick Shanley**

Set Design

J. Guerdon Mayfield
& Chase Newhart

Set Decor

Sally Ponzio

Stage Manager

George Doherty

*Assistant to
the Director*

PT Kizzia

Properties

Pam Steiner

Costumes

Vince Esoldi

Producer

Betty Kaus

Director

Chase Newhart

February 20, 21, 26, 27 & 28 at 8:00pm

March 6 & 7 at 8:00pm

Sunday Matinee, March 1 at 2:00pm

The matinee is a signed performance

The Playhouse Association
10 New England Ave., Summit, NJ 07901
908-273-2192 www.SummitPlayhouse.org

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Father Brendan Flynn *Jeff Maschi*
Sister Aloysius Beauvier.....*Robbi Curtis*
Sister James.....*Meghan Murray*
Mrs. Muller..... *Daaimah Talley*

Setting

The Place:

St. Nicholas, A Catholic church
and school in the Bronx, New York

The Time:

1964

There will be no intermission.

The Thursday benefit is for the Concord Singers.



As a courtesy to the cast and the other patrons, please

Turn off your cell phone

No photography or recording



Production Staff

Director.....	Chase Newhart
Producer	Betty Kaus
Assistant to the Director.....	PT Kizzia
Technical Advisor	Ann Marie Borowicz
Stage Manager	George Doherty
Set Design	J. Guerdon Mayfield & Chase Newhart
Set Construction	J. Guerdon Mayfield
Assisted by.....	George Doherty, T. Carter Hagaman, Frank Hawrusik, Ed Johnson, & Mike Tatlow
Set Painting.....	J. Guerdon Mayfield & Tina White
Set Decor.....	Sally Ponzio
Assisted by.....	PT Kizzia
Costumes	Vince Esoldi
Assisted by.....	Bruce Wilson
Properties	Pam Steiner
Lighting & Sound.....	Bill Roome
Assisted by.....	J. M. Amatucci & Will Bronson
Signing	Simon V. Martinez, Jr.
Publicity	Pam Heller & Joann Scanlon
Poster & Playbill.....	Bill Roome
Tickets	Cathy Hawrusik
Assisted by.....	Nancy Gurley, Stephanie Fisk & Ann Houpt
Photography.....	Chase Newhart
Usher Coordinator	Betty Kaus

Acknowledgments

J. Guerdon Mayfield
 Suburban Optik, Berkeley Heights
 Suburban Supplies, Chatham
 Elliott Sudler

Who's Who



Robbi Curtis (Sister Aloysius Beauvier), a Playhouse member since 1984, has appeared in *She Loves Me* (Amalia), *Side by Side by Sondheim*, *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Mrs. Frank), *The Dresser* (Her Ladyship), *Enchanted April* (Francesca), *An Actor's Nightmare* (Sarah Siddons), and *Fiorello!* (Mrs. Pomerantz) among others. She has directed *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Remembrance*, *A Grand Night for Singing*, and several benefits for the Playhouse. On other stages, her favorite roles include Eleanor of Aquitaine in *The Lion in Winter*, Agnes in *I Do! I Do!*, Guinevere in *Camelot*, Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*, and Ethel Thayer in *On Golden Pond*. Offstage, she is married to George Doherty, our Stage Manager, and they spend as much time as they can with their four wonderful grandchildren. She dedicates her performance in *Doubt* to the memory of her great-aunt, Sister Elena Dordoni, a Sister of Mercy in the Bronx in the 1960's.

Jeff Maschi (Father Brendan Flynn) studied theatre at Cornell University and has appeared on countless stages throughout the Metropolitan area. Some of his previous roles include Sgt. Toomey in *Biloxi Blues*, Pale in *Burn This*, Roma in *Glengarry Glen Ross*, Ray in *Lone Star*, Lou in *Speed of Darkness*, Eddie in *A View From the Bridge*, Marc in *Art*, Don in *Rounding Third* and Hoagie in The Theater Project's production of *Music From a Sparkling Planet* (which the Star-Ledger ranked as one of the ten best productions of 2005). Jeff last appeared on the Summit Playhouse stage as Tom in *Dinner With Friends*, and as John Proctor in their production of *The Crucible*. In New Jersey, Jeff has acted with the 12 Miles West, What Exit?, and Alliance theatre companies, and has performed with several NYC-based companies, including Bon Bock, Creative Voices, and Ten-Grand-and-a-Burger.



Meghan Murray (Sister James) is thrilled to be performing at the Summit Playhouse for the first time. This is her first stage performance in ten years. Meghan discovered her love of theater in High School, where she performed as Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Hedy LaRue in *How to Succeed in Business (Without Really Trying)*. Meghan graduated from Syracuse University in 2002. Currently, Meghan appears as a live television Guest Host on QVC, and works as a commercial actress for companies like Sirius XM Satellite Radio and Good Neighbor Pharmacy. She currently trains at the Peachcraft Actors Studio in Summit. Meghan thanks her family and friends for their tremendous support and encouragement.

Daaimah Talley (Mrs. Muller) is appearing for the first time at The Summit Playhouse. She is excited to be working with such a talented cast, crew and director. Daaimah is a founding member and associate producer for The Theater Project @ Union County College (TTP). She was last seen in *Defying Gravity* at TTP and has performed in many of their productions. Her most memorable role was that of



Sadie in *Having Our Say*. In September she will perform a reprise of that role at TTP. Daaimah is also a singer and starred in a production that she co-authored, *The Billie Holiday Story*. She has also performed at Newark Symphony Hall and Off-Off Broadway. She directed Langston Hughes' *Mother and Child* at UCC and won an award for costume design from Worral Newspapers. Daaimah is currently partnered, with her daughter, in an event planning business. "I am grateful for the opportunity to work with this director, in this role."

STAFF

Chase Newhart (Director) is a member of the Director's Guild of America, Actors' Equity Association, the Writer's Guild of America, the Screen Actors Guild and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists. Director: Plays, Musicals, Films, Off-Broadway, and Episodic Location Television. Favorites: *Galileo*, *The Knack* and *How to Get It*, *Woyzeck*, *The Bald Soprano*, *Lysistrata*, *Bartholomew Fair*, *Oliver!*, *The Music Man*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *The Mikado*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, and *Annie Get Your Gun* with Christopher Durang and Nick Wyman. Producer/Director: Metropolitan Musical Theater. Original Director: Overlook Musical Theater and Penny Lane Players (Summit Playhouse). Writer for NBC. Actors Studio: Directing, with Arthur Penn. N.Y.U.: B.F.A. & M.P.S. Still Photography: See the Lobby & Program. This is for Kimmie.

Betty Kaus (Producer) is President of the Playhouse, has been a member since 1950, has directed fifteen plays, has appeared in several, and is on the House and Grounds Committee.

George Doherty (Stage Manager) has been Stage Manager most recently for *You Can't Take It With You* and *Brooklyn Boy*, and has worked on many other productions at the Summit Playhouse.



Who's Who (continued)

Vince Esoldi (Costumes) is pleased to return to the Summit Playhouse to assist the actors and creative staff of *Doubt* with the authentic look of the characters and period. He worked his magic last year for *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. Vince wishes to thank Lyn Mackie and Bruce Wilson for their help in creating this authenticity. Vince is working with MAE Pro, Inc. and The Cisely Tyson School of Performing Arts on the formation of the Institute of Fashion and Costuming to be located in North Central New Jersey.

PT Kizzia (Assistant to the Director) joined the Playhouse in 1960 after moving to Summit. Having experienced the fun of being a techie at Northwestern University, she has enjoyed all aspects of tech at the Playhouse through the years. She has also served as AD, filled several roles on the Board, including President, is currently Historian and has found here many good and faithful friends.

Simon V. Martinez, Jr. (Signer) is the fourth youngest of five children of Deaf parents (CODA), a Viet Nam Veteran and has worked as a freelance Interpreter Consultant nationally since 1977. He interprets International Travel Tours for the Deaf by the Deaf specializing in Western Civilization and World War II History as well as Religion/Art of the Renaissance Period.

J. Guerdon Mayfield (Set Design & Construction) is now in his fourth season of constructing the Playhouse sets, having started with The Miracle Worker in 2005. Working with Chase Newhart on the design for *Doubt* he found the concept to be different from previous shows and learned a few new things. He continues to work with the deaf and hearing impaired community and would like anyone who has hearing issues to contact him as how to make our theatre presentations more enjoyable. He is grateful for the support and efforts of the crew.

Sally Ponzio (Set Decor), an area resident and VP of a local IT company, Symbolic Systems, Inc., is new to the Summit Playhouse. Currently she has assisted, on the set of *Baby*, with set decorations and props. While training in theater arts with a NY Troupe, she has appeared in a Sheryl Crow's music video and more recently in the new NBC mini-series *Kings*. Backstage work is certainly insightful and a tremendous learning experience, but Sally's true desire is to be on stage.

Tina White (Set Painting) is pleased to participate in *Doubt* at The Summit Playhouse. This season, Tina is demonstrating her artistic faux painting skills on the set. Ms. White is a pastel artist and her landscape work has been most recently exhibited in partnership with other artists at the Community Theatre in Morristown and The Visual Art Center of New Jersey. You can view more of her work at her website, Whitepastel.com.

From The Playwright

I've set my story in 1964, when not just me but the whole world seemed to be going through some kind of vast puberty. The old ways were still dominant in behavior, dress, morality, world view, but what had been organic expression had become a dead mask. I was in a Catholic church school in the Bronx, run by the Sisters of Charity. These women dressed in black, believed in Hell, obeyed their male counterparts, and educated us. The faith, which held us together, went beyond the precincts of religion. It was a shared dream we agreed to call Reality. We didn't know it, but we had a deal, a social contract. We would all believe the same thing. We would all believe.

Looking back, it seems to me, in those schools at that time, we were in an ageless unity. We were all adults, and we were all children. We had, like many animals, flocked together for warmth and safety. As a result, we were terribly vulnerable to anyone who chose to hunt us. When trust is the order of the day, predators are free to plunder. And plunder they did. As the ever widening Church scandals reveal, the hunters had a field day. And the shepherds, so invested in the surface, sacrificed actual good for perceived virtue.

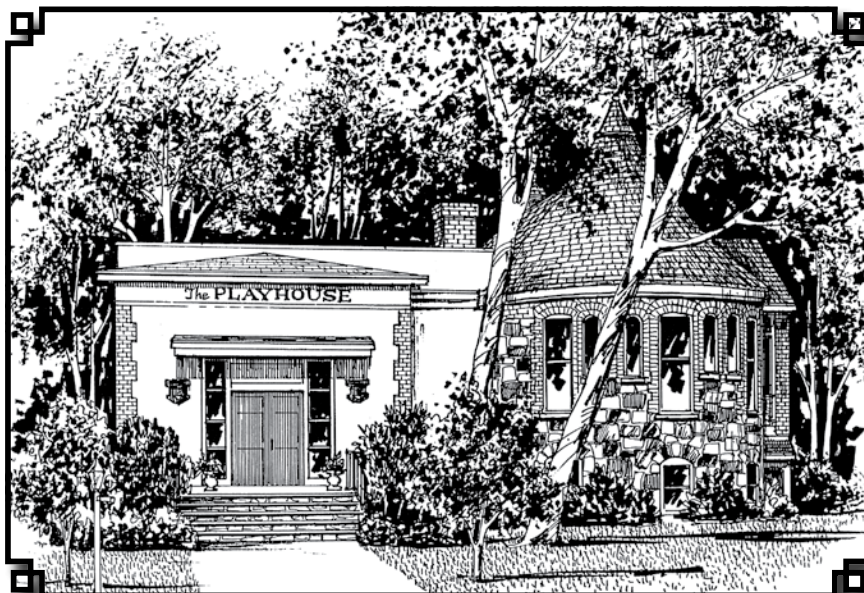
I have never forgotten the lessons of that era, nor learned them well enough.

*John Patrick Shanley
Brooklyn, New York
March 2005*



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Historic preservation work at this theater is funded by grants from the NJ Cultural Trust, the Garden State Historic Preservation Trust administered by the NJ Historic Trust, and a 2007 HEART grant from the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

Playhouse Contributors (2008-09 Season)

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Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund
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Althea Weeks

This Spring

THE CONSTANT WIFE

By W. Somerset Maugham

Directed by Rick Delany

April 24, 25, 30 May 1, 2, 3, 8, 9

Auditions: Feb. 22 & 23 4 men, 5 women

For details, see www.SummitPlayhouse.org

W. Somerset Maugham's delightfully witty comedy of manners and mistresses of the very rich in 1920's London, tells the tale of a "modern" marriage. All of Constance Middleton's friends can't wait to tell her of her husband's affair with her best friend — but clever Constance has a few ideas of her own about marriage, infidelity and female independence! When an old admirer shows up at her door, what's sauce for the gander may just turn out to be sauce for the goose.

This Summer

Kaleidoscope Theatre For Youth Presents

DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST JR.

Music by Alan Menken

Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Tim Rice

Book by Linda Woolverton

Directed by Renee Palermo

Performances: July 24 — August 2

Auditions: May 27 & 28

For details, see www.SummitPlayhouse.org

The Brainy and Beautiful Belle yearns to escape her provincial life...and her brute of a suitor, Gaston. However, Belle gets more adventurous than she wanted when she becomes a captive in the Beast's enchanted castle! Dancing flatware, menacing wolves, and singing furniture fill the stage with thrills in this beloved fairy tale about very different people finding strength in one another and learning how to love.