

**butterfield**  
8 theatre  
company

presents



*Woman at a Window, Caspar David Friedrich, 1822*

# *Arcadia*

by Tom Stoppard

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Directed by John Butterfield

Costume Concept and Scenic Design by John Butterfield

Costumes by John Butterfield & Julie Liu

Costumes Constructed by Julie Liu & Kathleen MacKay

Lady Croom's gowns Designed and Constructed by Victoria Ridenour

Lighting by John Butterfield

Books Designed and Constructed by Jean Butterfield

## *From the Director*

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**W**hy did I pick this play? I have seen it performed once and produced it once, and there is something that always brings me back to this work.

**S**toppard to me, along with Hare and Kushner, are the most influential playwrights of our time. Stoppard's command of the language is astounding, not to mention his tackling some of the most difficult themes for theatre: chaos theory, poetry, and landscape aesthetics. All of it wrapped up in to two timelines, the past leaving clues to be read (or misinterpreted) by the present, as well as showing us the interconnectedness of all things. Nothing is lost forever.

**I** never cease to fall in love with the characters of this play, even Bernard (the lovable shit!). They are all searching and Gus and Thomasina are their guides; innocents and geniuses.



## *The Director would like to Thank*

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**Eric Johnson** for helping with the lights, posters, fundraising, company phone and stuff like that there; **Jean** for all her hard work on the props **Mo** for all her hard work on everything; **Deborah** for the dahilas; **Eleisa Cambra** for stepping in; **Pepe Soria**, our first Bernard: Thank you for bringing us so far – we will see you in Hamlet; **Julie** for her amazing work on the costumes – thank you for your eye; **Barbara Gala** for her costume stock; **Pat Church**, our lifeline and voice of reason; **The Company** of players that make it worth all the freaking out I do by bringing so much to the process.



*In an ocean of ashes, islands of order.*  
— valentine Coverly

# *Cast (in order of appearance)*

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THOMASINA COVERLY .....	Becky Potter
SEPTIMUS HODGE, her tutor .....	Edwin Peabody
JELLABY, a butler .....	John Butterfield
EZRA CHATER, a poet .....	David Hardie
RICHARD NOAKES, a landscape architect .....	Ken Sollazzo
LADY CROOM.....	Deborah Doyle
CAPT. BRICE, RN, Lady Croom's brother.....	Evan Weiss
HANNAH JARVIS, an author .....	Maureen-Theresa Williams
CHLOË COVERLY .....	Julia Scharlach
BERNARD NIGHTINGALE, a don .....	Donald L. Hardy
VALENTINE COVERLY .....	Peter J. McArthur
GUS COVERLY.....	Alexander Murphy
AUGUSTUS COVERLY .....	Alexander Murphy
GUS/AUGUSTUS Alternate (2/19 performance) .....	Ian Williams

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## *The Setting*



The Coverly Estate, Derbyshire



Scene 1 – 1809

Scene 2 – Present Day

Scene 3 – 1809, the following day

Scene 4 – Present Day, several days later

INTERMISSION

Scene 5 – Present Day, several more days later

Scene 6 – 1809, the next morning

Scene 7 – Present Day, a few days later & 1812



## The Cast

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**John Butterfield** (Jellaby; Director) is the founder and Artistic Director of Butterfield 8 Theatre Company, now in its fourth season at Cue Productions Live, and has been directing and choreographing productions in the Bay area for many years. He studied directing at Toi Whakaari/ Victoria University in New Zealand, and while there performed in *Shifting*; a devised work at BATS theatre in Wellington. He just returned from another trip to New Zealand where he staged *Mates and Lovers* to critical acclaim at BATS. He has taught theatre and dance locally at CTA and San Ramon Dance Academy and is currently teaching at Berkeley Ballet. As a dancer he has toured the US with Dance Through Time and ODC, and was a member of Company Chaddick for 8 years. He is a LEAP graduate from St. Mary's College, and in addition to directing and choreographing continues to perform both locally and in New Zealand. To his whanau in NZ "Kaore i taea e au te huna taku manako te koe."

**Deborah Doyle** (Lady Croom) made her Butterfield 8 debut last year in *Cymbeline* and is delighted to return. She plays Queen Elizabeth I at various California renaissance faires and is dedicated to bringing history to life through performance. As a member of several women's vocal troupes, Deborah's repertoire includes songs of the sea, Old California and the British music hall, but she confesses to being a closet traditional jazz fan. She is an advocate and fundraiser for public libraries and lives in San Francisco's Excelsior District with her husband.

**David Hardie** (Ezra Chater) is honored to be back with Butterfield 8, having performed in the past in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in 2002, *Twelfth Night* in 2004, *Blithe Spirit* in 2006, *Romeo and Julian* and *Much Ado About Nothing* in 2007, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *The Merchant of Venice* in 2008, and as Caius Lucius in *Cymbeline* and as Le Beau/Amiens/ Sir Oliver Martext/William in *As You Like It* in 2009. This, and every performance he gives, is dedicated to the memory of his BEST friend Terri "Buster" Bischel who passed away from cancer in 2006. Love you, miss you! Giddy Up!



It's wanting to know that makes us matter.

— Hannah Jarvis

## *The Cast (cont'd)*

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**D**onald L. Hardy (Bernard Nightingale) has appeared in theatrical productions on both the East and West coasts, performing *The Normal Heart*, *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *The Tempest*, *The Secret Garden*, and *Falsettos*. In October of 2006 he first appeared with Butterfield 8 as Charles Condomine in Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit*, and then as Prince Escalus in *Romeo and Julian*. He performed as Benedick in B8's *Much Ado About Nothing*, a part he's wanted to play since Eisenhower was in the White House, and followed that with creating the role of Mr. Kale in the B8 workshop production of *The Bird House*. He then took an unexpected turn as Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and performed the dual roles of Lane and Merriman in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Last season he portrayed Antonio in *The Merchant of Venice* and the title role in *Cymbeline*, and began this season with the dual roles of Duke Senior and Duke Frederick in *As You Like It*. When he isn't onstage or in rehearsal, he's an avid Renaissance (Faire) Man—proving that even when he's offstage, he's onstage—or working on one of several novels/ novellas/ short stories that are percolating in his feverish little brain. His current project is a stage adaptation of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*.

**P**eter J. McArthur (Valentine Coverly) has been acting on stage and on camera for over 20 years. He is a graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York City where he was also a member of the Academy Company. He has done independent and regional theater on the west coast since then and has worked with such local companies as CalShakes, Brookside Rep, DAE, and Onstage. Most recently he has been seen as Max Brod in *Franz Kafka's Love Life, Letters and Hallucinations* at the Berkeley City Club, as Pisanio in B8's *Cymbeline*, as Christian in *Cyrano de Bergerac* with Orinda Starlight Village Players, and as Orlando in B8's *As You Like It*. Special thanks to his family, for all their love and support.



It's the best possible time to be alive, when almost everything you thought you knew is wrong.  
— Valentine Coverly

## *The Cast (cont'd)*

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**A**lexander Murphy (Gus Coverly/Lord Augustus) is excited to be debuting with Butterfield 8's main season! He was seen here in the staged (all-male) reading of *The Women* last year. He was most recently seen as William Barfée in STARS 2000's production of ...*Spelling Bee*. Highlights include: *Oliver!* with Willows Theatre, *Brigadoon in Concert* with DLOC and the Diablo Symphony Orchestra, *Evita* and *Fiddler on the Roof* with CCMT, *Joseph... Dreamcoat* (Brother Benjamin) and *Seussical* (Cat in the Hat u/s), with Contra Costa Christian Theatre, *Lucky Stiff* (Luigi Gaudi) with STARS 2000, *Bat Boy* (Dr. Parker) with Willows Theatre Conservatory, *High School Musical* (Ryan) with CCCT's Summer Conservatory program, and *BIG: the Musical* (Mr. MacMillan) with Paul Plain's Youth Theatre Ensemble. He would like to thank his family, the G-Man, and the rest of his support group for helping him get to where he is today!

**E**dwin Peabody (Septimus Hodge) is thrilled to be involved in his second season with Butterfield 8 Theatre Company. He was most recently seen as Posthumus and Cloten in *Cymbeline* with Butterfield 8, as the title role in *Cyrano de Bergerac* with Orinda Starlight Village Players, and as the melancholy Jaques in B8's *As You Like It*. He trained at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Hollywood, where he graduated with the Voice & Speech award and was invited to attend the coveted Third Year Academy Company. This role, like all others, is dedicated to his wife's unwavering love and support for his theatrical endeavors. I hope you enjoy the show!

**B**ecky Potter (Thomasina Coverly) is always thrilled to be returning to Butterfield 8 where she has appeared as Nerissa in *The Merchant of Venice*, Nancy in the staged reading of *Abigail Dreary*, Cecily in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Hero in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Imogen in *Cymbeline*, and Leona in *Zelda's Mama's Cookin'* by Harold Smith. Becky graduated from UC Irvine where some of her favorite roles included Claire in *Fuddy Meers*, Silvius in *As You Like It*, Dunyazade in *Arabian Nights*, and Ruthie in *Bat Boy*. In the Bay Area she has been seen in such shows as *In the Beginning*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Inherit the Wind*, *Brimstone*, and every performance of *John Muir's Mountain Days* (all for the Willows Theatre Company) and in *Peter Pan* (DLOC). Becky is currently in the Masters in Drama program at San Francisco State University.

## *The Cast (cont'd)*

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**J**ulia Scharlach (Chloë Coverly) is excited to be making her second appearance with Butterfield 8. You previously saw her as Touchstone in this season's *As You Like It*. Thank you to the people that matter, and remember - even in Arcadia it's all about sex.

**K**en Sollazzo (Richard Noakes) has been in several shows for Butterfield 8 over the years, including *Zelda's Mama's Cookin'* (Sheriff Rag Chambers) and, most recently, *Cymbeline* (Dr. Cornelius). He has also performed at Pittsburg Community Theatre, in *I Hate Hamlet* (Andrew Rally), and at the Orinda Starlight Village Players' outdoor amphitheatre. Last season he was in all three shows ... *Spider's Web* (Jeremy), *Cyrano de Bergerac* (Le Bret) and *Harvey* (Dr. Sanderson). Ken lives in Martinez with his wife and three furry companions.

**E**van Weiss (Captain Brice) returns to Butterfield 8 where he was last seen as Lysander in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He received his bachelor's degree in Language Studies from UC Santa Cruz, and currently works as a computer repair technician. In his spare time, Evan enjoys movie-watching, cooking/eating, and Taiko Drumming.

**I**an Williams (Gus Coverly/Lord Agustus alternate) makes his third appearance with Butterfield 8, seen previously as the Changeling Boy in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and as Thurmond in *Zelda's Mama's Cookin'*. He made his theatrical debut at the age of seven, appearing in the Willows Theatre Company production of *Children of Eden* as a Young Storyteller, and later in the ensemble of *John Muir's Mountain Days*. Ian studied with the Willows Conservatory, where he appeared as the duckling Squat in *Honk Jr.*, and as Franklin in *Snoopy!* He is in the eighth grade at Walnut Creek Intermediate School, where he recently appeared as Principal Crisp in their production of *Flower Power*.

**M**aureen-Theresa Williams (Hannah Jarvis), a founding member and Co-Artistic Director of Butterfield 8, has performed with the company in *Last Letters* (Madame Un), *Dracula* (Mina Murray Harker), *Medea* (First Woman of Corinth), *Twelfth Night* (Maria), *Blithe Spirit* (Ruth), *Romeo and Julian* (Nurse), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Beatrice), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hippolyta), *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Miss Prism), *The Merchant of Venice* (Duchess of Venice), *Zelda's Mama's Cookin'* (Zelda), and *The Women* (Edith), and was last seen as Veta Louise Simmons in *Harvey* for Contra Costa Civic Theatre.

Dear Audience Member,

You may not be a millionaire, yet when you purchased your ticket for this show you became a philanthropist and a supporter of the arts in your community. Every ticket that you buy for local theatre, every drink or snack you purchase in the lobby, supports the hidden organization of people behind the scenes who supply space for rehearsal and performance, costumes, sets, props, programs, publicity, and all the hidden structure that supports the work that the actors do. Please, continue to be our philanthropist, and our partner, in shaping and keeping the theatre alive.



Artistic Director  
Butterfield 8



*Am I the first person to have thought of this?*  
— Thomasina Coverly



*...do you think I'm the first person to think of this?*  
— Chloe Coverly

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*Thank you!*

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We are always looking for people to be active members of our Board of Directors. The job requires people who have experience living and working in the world, with an interest in helping us grow as a theatre company. Please contact John Butterfield at (510) 282-6174 or [8butterfield@gmail.com](mailto:8butterfield@gmail.com).

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