# Corpus Christi Community Theatre

**Presents** 



## Written by John Bishop Directed by Bob Shindle

Production
Stage Manager
Robin Grounds

Set & Lighting
Design
Bob Shindle

Produced by Father Ray Holmes

Costumes By
Kathy Wallace

Props **Geri Berhain** 

Presented through special arrangement with Dramatist Play Service, NYC

The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940 is set in the von Gruseneuten Estate, Chappaqua, Westchester County, N.Y.

December, 1940

#### <u>ACT I</u>

Scene I- 10:00 PM
Scene II- The next Morning
Scene III - 5:00 PM the same day

#### Act II

Later that same Day

#### CAST

(in Order of Appearance)

Helsa Wenzel	Tracy Costa
Elsa von Grossenknueten	
Michael Kelly	
Patrick O'Reilly	
Ken De La Maize	
Nikki Crandall	Cheryl Rossillo
Eddie McCuen	
Majorie Baverstock	
Roger Hopewell	
Bernice Roth	

Corpus Christi Community Theatre is a member of NJ Act/ Perry awards. NJ Act is a non-profit corporation dedicated to recognizing achievements by artists of all disciplines involved in the performance and production of Community Theatre in NJ. Corpus Christi Community Theatre has been nominated for five Perry awards for past performances.

#### Share your comments about the show......

We love to get feedback Let us know what you thought of this years production. Send an email to <a href="mailto:ccct@historyonline.net">ccct@historyonline.net</a>

### Production Staff

Production Stage Manager.....Robin Grounds Props......Geri Berhain Sound......Joann DeCongelio, Patrick Aulotto Stage Crew.....Rebecca Pianese, Barry Kulig, Jared Fattoross Lights....Liz Kulia Set Construction/Decoration......Paul Carris, Bob Shindle, Robin Grounds, Geri Berhain, Anthony Visconte, Carol Visconte, Rich Ruymen, Kathy Wallace, Bill Wallace, Liz Kulig Katilyn Kulig, Mary Anne Armellino, John Calabrese Costumes......Kathy Wallace Musical Composer......James Mastronardy Paul Fitzpatrick, Mary Ann & Kara Armelino Publicity/Photography.....Anna Panzini House Management......Carroll Carrris Program......Paul Fitzpatrick

Thank you to all of our ushers and refreshment staff for this evenings performance. A special thanks to Father Lew and the entire school/parish staff fir their support. And thanks to anyone who may have been inadvertently left out of this program or who started working on the production after the program went to press.

Look for Corpus Christi Community Theatre and other community theatre news on NJTheater.com and www.hasbrouck-heights.com

#### Who's Who in the Cast

John Calabrese (Slasher Double) A life-long member of Corpus Christi, John enjoys working with the youth of the parish as a Core Team member in the Life Teen program. He teaches eighth-grade science in Belleville. He got involved with the theatre group two years ago helping to build the set, and backstage for Don't Drink the Water. The following year he acted as Deputy in The Mystery of Edwin Drood. Acting in this year's production, he has had the enjoyable opportunity to be working again with the cast and crew of the Corpus Christi Community Theatre group.

James Campion (Eddie) is a 2000 graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts night division in NYC. He just finished the part of Bill in Blood Love in the Red Room at the Crane Theatre. His other musical theatre credits include one of the guards in Kiss of the Spider Woman with PMT Productions in 2002. He is now helping with the production end on the board of PMT Productions for the show Shenandoah this October. Besides theatre, James has appeared in 2 episodes of the Dave Chappelle show last season, and a promo commercial for The People's Court. James is very happy to be a part of this production and has really enjoyed the opportunity to work with such a professional group of cast and crew members.

Tracy Costa (Helsa) is thrilled to be back at CCCT. She was last seen here playing Susan Hollander in Woody Allen's Don't Drink the Water. She has also worked as a monkey with Theater Under the Stars in West Orange in David Ives' All in the Timing. Tracy studies acting with T. Schreiber Studio in New York City. She would like to thank Bob for typecasting her as the deranged, blonde German maid, Kathy for all the unnecessary sweets, and Ian for putting up with her schizophrenic outbursts at home (she swears they were just practice!).

Kimarie Machinga (Marjorie Baverstock) Kimarie is thrilled to be playing Marjorie. She was last seen in The Sunshine Boys at Ocean County College. She has also been seen in The Good Doctor; My Heinous Life; Love, Sex and the IRS; and Grandpa Stole My Girl. She dedicates all her performances to her children Joey and Elyse. Thank you for all of your support.

James Mastronardy (Roger Hopewell) Jim has performed in a number of community theatre productions, though this is his first with CCCT. Among his favorite roles: Glenn in Rumors, Paco in Man of La Mancha, Henry in Outward Bound, Gerald in An Inspector Calls, and multiple roles in The Dining Room. Outside of his regular job as a civil engineer, Jim also enjoys piano, singing, and writing. Love to DiDi and Luke.

Betsy Newberry (Elsa von Grossenknuten) is happy to be making her debut with CCCT. Her most recent credits are Sr. Robert Anne in the St. Paul Players production of Nunsense, Arsenic and Old Lace, The Glass Menagerie, Mornings at 7, 3 Tall Women, Steel Magnolias, Picnic, Marvin's Room at various theaters in New York, New Jersey and California. Her most important role is "Ma" to Eric and Laura, and Sonny's best friend. Many thanks to her sister Peggy, cousin Kay, and Johnny Nucera and BFF Dance Troupe for all of their love and support, and Jim for his sound professional advice. Special thanks to Bob Shindle and the talented cast and crew for sharing their time and talents making this another great theatre experience for her.

Cheryl Rossillo (Nikki Crandall) is thrilled to be working with the gang at CCCT for the first time. Some of Cheryl's past roles include Miss Drake in Teaching, Ophelia in Hamlet, Tranio in The Taming of the Shrew, Airie in The Robber Bridegroom, and Deirdre McDavey in I Hate Hamlet to name a few. She has recently finished writing her first play and loves directing as well. Her favorite directing endeavor was The Merchant of Venice. Cheryl is an English teacher and drama coordinator at Nutley High School where she has directed the musicals Bye Bye Birdie and The Mystery of Edwin Drood. Cheryl has received her training from Action Theatre Conservatory in Clifton, NJ and the New Actors Workshop in NYC. Love and hugs to family and friends for their continual support! And thanks to Bob for being an awesome director!

Rich Ruymen (Sgt. Michael Kelly) This is Rich's 4th season with the CCCT and he is happy to share the stage with such a hard-working and talented group. Rich has performed in Jerry's Girls. He has also appeared as Ambassador Magee in Don't Drink the Water and Durdles in The Mystery of Edwin Drood. He has performed in special holiday programs, concerts, and Broadway revues. A life-long resident of Hasbrouck Heights, he is married to Ginny and has two sons, Jim and John. Rich is a family dentist, practicing in Wood-Ridge. He enjoys working with choirs, playing piano, organ, and guitar as well as singing in barbershop quartets. He particularly enjoys the network of friends and acquaintances that have come about by performing in community theatre. To my "fan club"....... Thanks for the support!

William Schineller (Ken) is very happy to be working with this wonderful collection of people that make up the Corpus Christi Community Theatre group. Favorite recent credits include multiple characters in Poems From Under the Pool Table and Nicholas Thorpe in Transatlantic with the Spotlight Theater Group; Antonio in The Merchant of Venice with the Hudson Shakespeare Company; John Barrymore in I Hate Hamlet with the West Milford Players; Professor Terrence O'Keefe in Breaking Legs and Tito Merelli in Lend Me A Tenor with the Smoke Rise Players; Big Harp in Robber Bridegroom, David in To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday, Sgt. John Lawrence in John Loves Mary, the Gentleman Caller in The Glass Menagerie, Reverend David Lee in The Foreigner, and Bo Decker in Bus Stop at the Nutley Little Theatre; and Linus Larrabee Jr. in Sabrina Fair at the Barn Theatre in Montville. Thanks to my family and friends for sharing me with the stage.

Bob Shindle (Director, O'Reilly) This is Bob's 9th production for CCCT. Bob has directed and/or designed over 50 productions for companies in NJ, NY and PA. Bob has been nominated for 4 NJACT awards, including Outstanding Lighting Design this year for Poems From Under the Pool Table for Spotlight Productions. He has directed musicals and plays and amongst his credits are: On the 20th Century, Candide, The Secret Affairs of Mildred Wild, Annie Warbucks, Don't Drink the Water, Jerry's Girls, The Curious Savage, Rumors. Bob has just completed his first writing endeavor - a spoof on Soap Operas entitled Soap Scum, which will be presented this Fall. Bob also designs and executes interior mural work and has been associated with the Deborah Hospital Showhouses in Haddonfield, NJ. Bob will continue his work with the students of Corpus Christi this year after the successful productions presented this Spring. Thanks to all crew and cast for their dedication, trust and success of this production.

Kathy Wallace (Bernice Roth) is very happy to be performing in her eighth CCCT production. Her favorite roles include Marion Hollander in Don't Drink the Water; Geraldine O'Dare in Irene; and Dolly, Mame and Gooch in Jerry's Girls. Kathy is a Girl Scout advisor, Eucharistic Minister, co-chair of the Art and Environment Committee at Corpus Christi, and co-owner of Floral Expressions by Kathy & Stephanie. She thanks her family, Bill, Pat, Emily, Kate and Gizmo for their continued love and support. Congratulations to the cast and crew on another wonderful show.

#### From the Production Manager,

It has been a busy year for us at CCCT. This past spring year we produced the CCCT Children's Experience. We had over twenty five students from Corpus Christi School participate it an evening of theatre. From that school club CCCT was able to give a one thousand dollar Theatre Arts Scholarship to an eight grader who would be attending a Catholic High School in the fall. We were happy to present the scholarship to Christopher Codero. We hope to give another scholarship this year. We would also like to purchase a new curtain for the stage. Your support here tonight helps make these goals possible

We are so glad that you could join us for our eighth season at Corpus Christi Community Theatre. There is truly nothing like being a part of a community theatre. It has literally taken hundreds of hours if not more of work to bring you this complicated show. Where else in our community can you find teenagers and senior citizens working together for a common goal? Our theatre provides a venue for the community to work together and bring our audience a quality theatre experience. It takes a lot of hard work to transform this space into the little theatre you see tonight and I wish to send a great big thank you to our crew.

That said, on behalf of Bob the actors, and the crew, we hope you enjoy tonight's fast paced comedy who-dun-it. You will see secret passages, Nazi's, and a cast of zany characters. No one is whom they seem to be and before long the bodies start piling up. So sit back be a detective and try to solve tonight's mystery. Just be sure not to stand on the blood soaked carpet!!

Robin Grounds

#### Corpus Christi Community Theatre

Was established in 1997. The goal of the group is to enrich the quality of family parish and community life by offering a wide spectrum of individuals and families to be a part of a theatre production as members of the show cast, production staff, or stage crew.

We offer an affordable, family oriented theatre experience to our audience. If you interested in being involved in a future production, Please call Robin at 201 393-0636.