

Perils of Persephone

by Dan Needles



The Township of Persephone is threatened when a truck which may contain toxic waste crashes into the swamp on the farm of the township reeve, Eldon Currie. Understandably, he calls for help, but be careful what you wish for!

A comedy about fossils, radioactive material, cows, toxic dumps, and – most importantly – damage control.

From the playwright who brought us the Wingfield series and “Ed’s Garage

STUDIO THEATRE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS

THE
DIARY
OF
Anne Frank
BY FRANCES GOODRICH
& ALBERT HACKETT
DIRECTED BY
MARILYN NICHOLAS-DAHAN
A BRIGHT LIGHT IN DARK TIMES

MAY 16, 17, 23 & 24 AT 7:30PM
MAY 18, 19, 25 & 26 AT 2:00 PM
2024

THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK GOODRICH, HACKETT is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection, (www.dramatists.com)
Poster Credit: Melissa Baker Nguyen

The Studio Theatre
studiotheatreperth.com

63 Gore St. East
In historic Perth, Ontario

Cast

Otto Frank	Alfred von Mirbach
Miep Gies	Mandy Steele
Mr. Van Daan	Martin Treffers
Mrs. Van Daan	Joanna McAuley Treffers
Peter Van Daan	Eric Staines
Mrs. Edith Frank	Heddy Sorour
Margot Frank	Olivia Swett
Mr. Kraler	Rob Glas
Anne Frank.....	Addy Brown
Mr. Dussel	Dave Clark

Mise-en-Scene

The Secret Annex, Amsterdam, 1942 to 1945

Director's Notes

What a journey this play has taken us on, those of us in the cast and crew! From the very first read through to the performances seen on the stage today, it has been quite remarkable! We hope you will think so too.

This play is based on the beloved and powerful memoir of Anne Frank, a teenage girl forced to live in hiding with her family and 4 other Jewish people during the Nazi occupation of Amsterdam in WWII. In fact, Goodrich and Hackett, the husband and wife writing team collaborated with Anne's father Otto Frank, not long after the end of the war, to extract parts of the diary and craft this multi award-winning play (including the Tony Award for Best Play, and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama)

While it's a story of fear and claustrophobic tension (with the ever-present torment of being discovered hanging over their heads), it also captures some of life's very ordinary moments, albeit under extraordinary circumstances. Yes, because we know the outcome, its heart-wrenching drama touches us deeply, but the play has some wonderful moments of levity, tenderness, and even romance, as well.

If you take away anything from the play, perhaps let it NOT be the overwhelming tragedy, but rather let it be the shimmering LIGHT of Anne's optimism that stays with you: "I keep my ideals, because in spite of everything, I still believe that people are really good at heart." She really was wise beyond her years.

Marilyn Nicholas-Dahan

Due to our theatre Fire Regulations we cannot light our candles on stage. So imagine their warm glow!

The Production Crew

Hailey Bellmore (Assistant Stage Manager) Hailey is new to the Perth Theatre but has done other shows with the Smiths Falls Theatre. She is looking forward to meeting everyone and hopes they enjoy the show.

Elizabeth Chatelain (Assistant Stage Manager, Props)

Elizabeth is a relative newcomer to Perth, and a total newcomer to Studio Theatre! She brings a lifelong love of all things theatrical and is thrilled to be working with such a talented and welcoming group!

Costume Team: Ann Hawthorne, Elaine Scott, Rosalie Williams and Mary Elizabeth Clark. This costume team has worked on musicals, and school plays, and one act plays and 10-minute plays. Some of us have known each other for 30 years, some are new to our town, but with plenty of experience in other places. We have tried to use all our experience and interests and talents to bring the world of the past into your present.

Lori Hunter (Assistant Stage Manager, Props) Lori moved to Perth 7 years ago. She went to a movie at the theatre and decided to volunteer. She was amazed that there were so many different areas to volunteer. She has helped in Front of House and as a Props Assistant and enjoys getting to work with so many interesting people.

Joseph Nieforth (Lighting Design) This is the fourth production that Joseph has designed. Previous shows were *Jane Austen's Lady Susan*, *Tempting Providence* and *Art*. When not in the tech booth he can be found painting scenery, helping with Front-of-House, or on stage.

Dave Shaw (Sound & Lights)

Dave has been involved with the Studio Theatre for about two years. He enjoys the tech part of theatre production, designing lighting and working with sound. Recently, he has become the Technical Manager for the theatre. Dave is hoping to get into the acting part of theatre one of these days or even try stage managing. Dave lives just outside of Perth and is also a volunteer with the Stewart Park Festival and the local Legion.

Coming This Fall

October 17— 20

Laugh Out Loud

Two One-Act Plays by Richard Turtle

November 28— December 8

Mandy Steele (Miep Gies) Mandy is a mom of 2 teens who lives just outside of Perth with her partner and many pets. This is Mandy's first time on stage since her teen years when she participated in plays with the North Frontenac Little Theater. She credits her elementary French teacher for inspiring her to try acting all those years ago and seeing the performer just waiting to get out!

Olivia Swett (Margot Frank) My name is Olivia and I'm portraying the role of Anne's older sister, Margot. This is my fourth production, I have always had a passion for theatre, now I get to help make stories like this come to life

Joanna McAuley Treffers (Mrs. Van Daan) Hello amateur theatre supporter, thank you for being in our audience and indulging our passion! As part of the ensemble, bringing you this revered and poignant story, Jo is humbled, honoured and grateful for the opportunity to work with so many people whom she admires, respects, appreciates and loves. It is an added bonus (icing on the cake!) for this Studio Theatre veteran to be in the company of so many new-to-us faces, on-stage, back-stage, crew and production.

Martin Treffers (Mr. Van Daan) Martin once said that he would only appear on stage 'Over my dead body!' Since then, he has appeared in a dozen or so productions! He has also stage managed, produced, worked front of house and served on the board of Studio Theatre. Having Dutch heritage makes *The Diary of Anne Frank* a special play to have a part in.



Studio Theatre now has Play Pass!

Purchasing a Play Pass gets you 5 plays for just \$20! Passes can be shared and make great gifts. Use them yourself or treat a guest.

(Available only at our Box Office. Not Valid for Musicals, Films or Concerts)

Production Team

- Producer**..... Alan Humphreys
- Director**..... Marilyn Nicholas-Dahan
- Stage Manager** Katherine Hooton
- Asst. Stage Managers** Hailey Bellmore, Lori Hunter, Elizabeth Chatelain

- Set Design** Marilyn Nicholas-Dahan
- Set Décor**..... Lori Hunter, Tamara Fairchild, Marilyn Nicholas-Dahan, Katherine Hooton

- Head Builder** John Hodges

- Set Construction**..... Jeff Collver, Geoff Mason, Ross Dickson, , Mike Erion, Andrew Hickey, Alan Humphreys, John Hodges, Peter Martin, Bob Langland, Dirk Veldman

- Set Painting**..... Mike Erion, Manon Guerin, Linda Lilley, Fiona Bladon, Alan Humphreys.

- Video of Anne** Marilyn Nicholas-Dahan, Dave Corbishley, Vanessa Torres

- Costumes** Ann Hawthorne, Elaine Scott , Rosalie Williams, Mary Elizabeth Clark

- Props** Elizabeth Chatelain, Lori Hunter, Cast and Crew

- Lighting Design** Joseph Nieforth
- Sound** Dave Shaw
- Publicity**..... Kat Watring Ellis, Vanessa Torres

- Writer** Ben Bennet
- Photographer** J. D. Labelle
- Poster** Melissa Baker Nyguen
- Program**..... Penny Silberhorn
- Front of House** Liz Theobald & Team
- Box Office Manager** Annemarie Polis & Team

The Director

Marilyn Nicholas-Dahan

Marilyn recently retired from working in the television industry as a Producer, Director, Writer and Video Editor. A relatively new resident to the community, she became involved with Studio Theatre, delighted to find such creative and passionate theatre folks. Though she enjoys treading the boards, she's happiest in the director's chair. Some directing highlights include: Ethan Claymore's Christmas; A Streetcar Named Desire; Steel Magnolias; The Melville Boys; The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.

The Producer

Alan Humphreys

This is Alan's first venture as a Producer for the Studio Theatre although he has enthusiastically taken on acting, stage management, set construction and painting. He believes The Diary of Anne Frank should truly touch and inspire each of us today as much as when it was written in the dark days of war. But please remember, while tears might be optional, laughter will be inevitable. Thank you for being part of the experience.

The Stage Manager

Katherine Hooten

Katherine first read the Diary of Anne Frank many years ago, when she was around the same age as Anne. She is so pleased and honoured to help bring Anne's story to life in this wonderful, touching play. As stage manager Katherine enjoys working closely with her talented, and endlessly patient, director as well as an amazing group of extremely talented actors and a fantastic, supportive crew. She is very grateful to Studio Theatre for the opportunities to be part of such wonderful creativity.

Special Thanks

Tulips courtesy of Fiori Row
Nicola Oddy
Kim Nash
Tamara Fairchild
Anil Kuchinad
Dani Corbishley

The Cast

Addy Brown (Anne Frank) Addy is so excited to be part of this production. This is only her second play with the Studio Theatre, premiering back in 2017 in *A Christmas Story*. She wants to thank her cast mates and production team for being endless supporters and making the experience as wonderful as possible, and for working together with her to put on such a powerful show!

Dave Clark (Mr. Dussel) Dave has been in theatre for almost 40 years, as a drama teacher in the Cobourg/Port Hope area and as an active member of the Northumberland Players since 1987. He has directed, performed, built and designed sets and lights as well as written and directed his own scripts over the years. He is thrilled to be a part of the Perth area now and a member of this great production. He hopes you will enjoy the show.

Rob Glas (Mr. Kraler) Rob Glas was born and grew up in Nepean. Recently, he played Jack Cooper in "The Tomorrow Box", Mon-signor O'Hara in *Sister Act*, Norman Thayer in *On Golden Pond*, Sir Thomas Godfrey in *Queen Millie of Galt*, Hamish in *Hamish*; Justin in *Taking Care of The Browns*, Marley's Ghost in *Scrooge*, *The Musical* and Douglas McLaren in *Ethan Claymore*.

Alfred von Mirbach (Otto Frank) I'm excited to be back on the Studio Theatre stage after a few years absence - my last role being Angus, in *The Drawer Boy*. What a powerful play to be a part of, and what a role to inhabit. It is truly an honour to be a part of this story of hope and inner goodness. May it inspire us all!

Heddy Sorour (Mrs. Frank) Heddy has been involved in theatre for more than 50 years. She loves to act but recognizes that age-appropriate roles are becoming scarcer as the years march by, so she's slowly transitioning to directing. This is Heddy's second Perth production, she played Whistler's mother with Perth last year. Hailing from Merrickville, Heddy is also a member of Theatre Night in Merrickville and The Station Theatre in Smiths Falls. "You learn a lot from participating with different groups," she says.

Eric Staines (Peter Van Daan) Eric has been part of the Studio Theatre community, in one capacity or another, for two years now. From performing in plays and participating in the theatre's youth program to backstage roles, he is eager to learn about all the different aspects of theatre production and is loving every minute of it. Eric is happy he seems to have broken the cycle of holiday plays (with the exception of the Hanukkah scene).