

Moon Over Buffalo



by
Ken Ludwig
directed by
Michael McCarty

March 10 - 20 2022



MassArtsCenter
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DIRECTOR'S NOTE



"Do you see what I mean?! About the theater?! I'm back here for three hours and I'm acting like a lunatic. I'll be in analysis till I'm a hundred."

- Roz (*Moon Over Buffalo*)

I was one of the few lucky people to see *Moon Over Buffalo* before its out-of-town tryout in Boston. The play was still in flux and the director and producers wanted to bring in an invited audience of about 50 people to watch a dress rehearsal so they could get a sense of what worked comically and what didn't. Watching Carol Burnett and Philip Bosco bring their comic skills to the stage was highly entertaining as they used all the farcical elements celebrated in the television variety shows of the 1950s and 60s like The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour, the Red Skelton Show and, of course, The Carol Burnett Show. The producers needn't have worried; the play was so well crafted that the audience roared with delight and the production ran on Broadway for over 300 performances.

A normal comedy takes a dramatic situation and, by means of clever, funny word-play and unexpected conflicts, makes an audience laugh and learn something. A farce starts with the comedy and stuffs it with buffoonery, running gags, and improbable situations. In essence, it's choreographed confusion...and lots of fun.

The choice to present this particular production at the Mass Arts Center for the new season was obvious. We all need to celebrate something after being cooped up for so long by the pandemic. And a play about lies, deception, misunderstandings, and infidelity all mashed up into a typical farce takes us out of the present and, for a moment, lets us fully appreciate Ken Ludwig's genius.

So sit back and enjoy this respite from the present insanity.

MICHAEL MCGARTY, Director
Moon Over Buffalo



*Thanks to
Special Occasion Rentals
for helping us prepare for our
summer concert/comedy series!*

Cast

(in order of appearance)

George Hay Bill Roberts
Charlotte Hay Jennifer Shotkin
Ethel Martha Brooks
Roz Hay Catherine Haverkamp
Howard Glenn Wakeley
Paul Singer Mitchell Kiliulis
Eileen Kristen Annese-Laurenson
Richard Maynard Paul Warner

SETTING:

The action of the play takes place on stage and backstage at the Erlanger Theatre in Buffalo, New York.

TIME:

1953

ACT ONE:

Scene 1: A mid-morning in June
Scene 1: Two hours later

ACT TWO:

Scene 1: Immediately following
Scene 2: Two hours later

MassArtsCenter programs are supported in part with grants from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the MCC Cultural Facilities Fund, MassDevelopment and the local cultural councils of Attleboro, Easton, Mansfield, Foxboro, North Attleborough, Norton and Sharon.





MassArtsCenter Production Staff

Executive Director	Ken Butler
Artistic Director	Dori Bryan-Ployer
Director	Michael McGarty
Asst. Director/Stage Managers.....	Katie O'Rourke, Katelyn Miller
Fight Choreography	Ben Heath
Set Design.....	Ted Talanian, Ken Butler
Lighting Design	Ken Butler
Set Dressing/Painting	Glenn Fournier, Rose Noice
Props Design.....	Gail Gilman
Sound Design.....	Bruce Webster
Hair/Makeup Design.....	Daniel Gravely, Katelyn Miller
Costume Design.....	Beth Drummey, Michael McGarty
Set Contruction/Crew.....	Ken Butler, John Meyer, Caitlin Meyer, Bob Molitor
Publicity & Marketing.....	Ken Butler
Program Design	Michael McGarty
Website/Communications.....	Steve Ide



STEVE IDE
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Steveidephotography.com
steveide@gmail.com



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March 25

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3rd Prize: \$100 in scratch Tickets

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3rd Prize: \$1,000
4th Prize: \$500

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Cast and Crew



Martha Brooks (Ethel) - Martha has appeared in numerous Central Mass theatre productions. Having begun over 25 years ago, under the direction of the amazing Michael McGarty, she is thrilled to have come full circle with this Mass Arts Center production of *Moon Over Buffalo*. She was nominated twice for EMACT's Best Supporting Actress award for her roles in *Morning, Noon & Night in Central Park* (Harvard Community Theater) and *A Comedy of Tenors* (Nashoba Players). Some of her favorite roles include Mildred Bagshot in *Murdered to Death* and the wicked stepmother in *The Slipper and the Rose* (Cannon Theatre), Ilona in *She Loves Me* (Calliope Productions), Sister Mary Robert in *Nunsense* (Harvard Community Theatre), and Mae in *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof* (Groton Littleton Theatre). Most recently, Martha played the title role of Rose in Neil Simon's *Rose's Dilemma* (Nashoba Players). Martha just retired after 25 years of teaching Digital Arts and directing the Theatre Arts program at The Bromfield School in Harvard, MA., and is presently enjoying a busy retirement, acting, directing, and working in her art and design business in Bolton MA.



Catherine Haverkamp (Roz Hay) - Catherine is delighted to be returning to the Mass Arts Center after appearing as Mary Detweiler in *How the Other Half Loves*, Anna Sommers in *Breaking the Shakespeare Code* and Gloria in *Boeing Boeing*. A recent transplant to Massachusetts, Catherine has previously been seen in Connecticut, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania in productions including *The Underpants* (Gertrude), *Mythology Project* (Psyche/Eurydice), and *Hello, From Berthe* (Goldie).



Mitchell Kiliulis (Paul Singer) — Mitchell is excited to perform in the new and improved Mass Arts Center Reservoir Theater. His most recent projects include the roles of Fipp in *Cannibals of the Heart* (Vanilla Box Productions), Dwight in *Dead Man's Cell Phone* (Mass Arts Center), Bobby in *American Buffalo* (Pilgrim Soul Productions), and directing, adapting, and producing an outdoor production of Chekhov's *Marriage Proposal* at the Ashland Farmers Market. Mitchell is a proud alumnus of Roger Williams University's Theatre Department and Stella Adler Summer Conservatory.



Kristen Annese-Lawrenson (Eileen) - Kristen is thrilled to be back at the Mass Arts Center! She was last seen here on stage as Diane de Poitiers in *The Mistress Cycle*. Kristen is a member of the Screen Actors Guild and was recently credited in the Showtime Series, *Dexter: New Blood*, playing the role of Shawna. She would like to thank her husband and family for their continued support.

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Cast and Crew



Bill Roberts (George Hay) — Bill is thrilled to be back on stage with the Mass Arts Center. Over the past 20 years, he has performed in productions in Mansfield MA, Foxboro MA, Franklin MA, Worcester MA and Ogunquit ME. Some of his favorite roles include Oscar Madison in *The Odd Couple*, Ciaphas in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Julian Marsh in *42nd Street*, Moonface Martin in *Anything Goes* and Charles Smith in *November*. He wishes to thank his family for their encouragement and support.



Jennifer Shotkin (Charlotte Hay) Jen is thrilled to be making her Mass Arts Center debut! Some of her recent roles include Camila in *In The Heights* (Nashoba Players), Trix in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Concord Players), and Finn in *Love is a Blue Tick Hound* (Quannapowitt Players), for which she won a DASH Excellence in Acting Award. Thanks go out to Rich for his countinuous encouragement, and to Sam, for being her favorite.



Glenn Wakeley (Howard) *Moon Over Buffalo* marks Glenn's debut with the Mass Arts Center. Previous favorite roles include Milt Fields in *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* and Speed in *Oscar & Felix* (Hovey), Gary/Roger in *Noises Off!* (Spotlight Playhouse), Carl in *A Nice Family Gathering* and Axel in *The Nerd* (Burlington Players), Tristram in *Taking Steps* and Paul in *Moon Over Buffalo* (Quannapowitt Players). He is an annual director and occasional writer for QP's *Suburban Holidays* one-act festival. He was co-writer/co-director of the original comedy *The Wake of One Ira Chang* and also co-writer/co-director for *Abbott & Costello: Still Laughing*, where he played Lou Costello. Always looking for great comedies, Glenn is happy to be working with a new cast of talented actors in a very funny show. Thanks to Glenn's family and friends for always supporting him, and Michael and the cast and crew of "Moon" for welcoming him.



Paul Warner (Richard Maynard) Paul is excited to be returning to the Mass Arts Center stage albeit this time in a beautiful new theater! Previous roles at MMAS include Vice Principal Panch in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and as Gaston in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (DASH Award for Best Supporting Actor). Paul has also appeared as Slim in *Of Mice and Men* at Quannapowitt Players in Reading, Professor Moriarty in *Sherlock Holmes and The Final Adventure* at Vokes Theater in Wayland, and as Felix Unger in *Oscar & Felix* at Hovey Players in Waltham. Paul would like to thank everyone for letting him be part of this hilarious production and his lovely wife Carolyn for her incredible patience and support.



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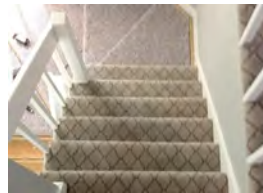
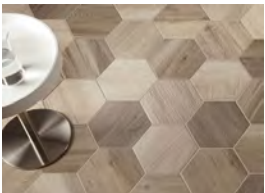
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Cast and Crew



Michael McGarty (Director) — Michael McGarty has been active in community and professional theaters in the New York/New England area for 50 years. He served as The Harvard Community Theater's Artistic Director from its inception in 1990 to 2012, directing over 100 plays including four New England premieres of New York composer Jenny Giering's work: *Show, Crossing Brooklyn*, *Still Life* and *The Mistress Cycle*. He was named Best Director at the 2012 EMACT festival for *Crossing Brooklyn*, and for both the latter productions at the New England Regional Festivals. In 2002, his production of *'night Mother* won the EMACT Best Production Award. In 2018, he won the DASH Best Director Award for his production of *Out of Order* at Mass Arts Center. He thanks his cast and crew for their dedication in this chaotic time and Ken Butler for his passion to continue the incredible work at the Mass Arts Center. He also thanks his wife Maryellen for putting up with so many rehearsal/production nights for 35 years.



Katie O'Rourke (Stage Manager/Assistant Director) - Katie graduated from Salve Regina University in 2014 with a degree in Theatre Arts and Business Administration where she was resident box office manager of the historic Casino Theatre. Her college acting credits include Edith Bouvier Beal in the Rhode Island premiere of *Grey Gardens* (Irene Ryan Acting Nominee), Vivie Warren in *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, and Mortimer in *The Fantasticks*. She graduated and went on to work as Company Manager/Core Ensemble Member for OUT LOUD Theatre, and Marketing Associate/Ensemble for Striving Artists Theatre Company. Some of her other credits include Botard in *Rhinoceros*, Untouchable Vixen in a completely devised movement production of *Dracula*, Silvius in *As You Like It*, Melantho in *The Penelopiad*, and Portia in *The Merchant of Venice*. Katie is so grateful to Michael and Katelyn for giving her the opportunity to be a theatre kid again, and so excited to work on her first production with MassArtsCenter!



Katelyn Miller (Stage Manager) — Katelyn is excited to be with her Mass Arts Center family in our brand new space after performing as Teresa Philips in *How the Other Half Loves* in December. Katelyn has been a long time participant in South Shore theatre. She is known for participating in productions with Norton Singers, FPAC; and often runs programming for Applause Academy in Taunton. Some of her favorite productions include *The Mistress Cycle*, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. In her recent experience with the Mass Arts Center, she won a DASH award for Stage management and Hair and Makeup Design for the production of *Boeing Boeing*. She would like to thank the cast for all their support through this process and all the laughs along the way. Enjoy the show! WE'RE BACK!!!



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Cast and Crew



Bruce Webster (Sound Design) Bruce can't think of a better way to continue his eleventh season at Mass Arts Center than by working with Michael and these crazy-talented actors on this amazing farce of a show. A few past Mass Arts Center favorites include: *The 39 Steps*, *Next To Normal*, *Avenue Q*, *Our Town*, *Hair*, *Out of Order* and *Autobahn*. Bruce has received DASH design awards for *Cabaret*, *Becoming Dr. Ruth*, *Barefoot in the Park*, *The Tempest* and *Dead Man's Cell Phone*. A huge heartfelt thanks to his wife Paula for her encouragement and endless patience.



Ken Ludwig (Author) - Ken Ludwig has had six shows on Broadway, seven in London's West End, and many of his works have become a standard part of the American repertoire. His 28 plays and musicals have been performed in over 30 countries in more than 20 languages and are produced throughout the United States every night of the year. *Lend Me a Tenor* won two Tony Awards and was called "one of the classic comedies of the 20th century" by The Washington Post. *Crazy For You* was on Broadway for 5 years and won the Tony and Olivier Awards for Best Musical. In addition, he has won the Edgar Award for Best Mystery of the Year, two Laurence Olivier Awards, two Helen Hayes Awards, and the Edwin Forrest Award for Contributions to the American Theater.

A photograph of a modern living room interior featuring a light-colored sofa, armchairs, and a coffee table. The room has large windows with sheer curtains and a chandelier. The text "Egger's FURNITURE" is overlaid in a large, stylized font. Below it, a quote reads: "WHERE THE EXPERIENCE IS PRICELESS BUT THE QUALITY FURNITURE IS SURPRISINGLY AFFORDABLE". At the bottom, the address "177 CENTRE STREET, MIDDLEBORO, MA 02346", website "WWW.EGGERSFURNITURE.COM", and phone number "508-947-0680" are listed.

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The Mass Arts Center (formerly MMAS) provides a cultural home for artists, audiences, and aspiring performers of all ages. At our core is a rich schedule of theater productions, performing arts education, art exhibits, and live entertainment. The synergy of these offerings honors individual artistic interests through diverse creative opportunities.

In 1993, eight friends formed a non-profit (501 (c)(3)) organization known as The Mansfield Music and Arts Society (MMAS) to support the arts and artists. Today, the organization is known as The Mass Arts Center and operates at 888 South Main Street with three branches of the organization: The Reservoir Stage, the Morini Art Gallery, and The Academy at Mass Arts. The organization seeks to provide a wide array of education, programs, performances, and opportunities for both aspiring and experienced performers, artists, and patrons from across the region.

Audiences come to The Mass Arts Center because they know they will see exceptional productions in the newly renovated 100-seat house of the Reservoir Stage for a fraction of the cost of a ticket in Boston or Providence. The Mass Arts Center is also home to the Morini Art Gallery which offers exhibitions of works by local and regional artists. The Academy at Mass Arts is the educational branch that offers a variety of classes and education programs for all ages.

The Mass Arts Center is a volunteer organization. Our actors, and technicians are all volunteers, as well as everyone who works the ticket office and concession area for every performance. Each year, volunteers give almost 30,000 hours to ensure its success.



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During this unprecedented time, The Mass Arts Center gratefully acknowledges the support of the individuals, foundations, corporations, and institutions whose gifts help strengthen the Center's activities each year. The Mass Arts Center would greatly appreciate your support to keep our community strong and help us mitigate expenses created by these current circumstances. Thank you in advance. We all will get through this and we hope to see you at one of our programs soon.

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