

CLAGUE PLAYHOUSE
presents



by Matthew Barber

**From the novel *Eleanor and Abel*
by Annette Sanford**

Directed by Fred Sternfeld

January 20 - February 12, 2023

FIREFLIES (BARBER) is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)

HOUSE INFORMATION

In case of FIRE or OTHER EMERGENCY, please walk to the nearest exit indicated by a lighted exit sign.

PLEASE NOTE: Our productions may contain Adult language.

Clague Playhouse is a NON-SMOKING facility.

Up-to-date COVID-19 information will be posted in the lobby or visit our website at clagueplayhouse.org.

RESTROOMS are located in the theater lobby.

FOOD AND BEVERAGES are not permitted in the auditorium.

Local EMERGENCY CALLS may be made at the Box Office.

CAMERAS AND RECORDERS are not permitted in the theater.

Please silence PAGERS, CELL PHONES, ELECTRONIC WATCHES.

SPECIAL NEEDS SEATING, subject to availability.

LATECOMERS will be seated at first convenient pause in the performance.

Please report LOST or FOUND items to the Box Office. We are not responsible for lost or damaged items left unattended.

BOX OFFICE INFORMATION

BOX OFFICE HOURS: Wednesday - Saturday from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and one hour before curtain time on performance dates.

Closed Monday and Tuesday. **PHONE: 440-331-0403** Tickets available online at www.clagueplayhouse.org.

ADMISSION:

Adults: \$21, Seniors (60+): \$20, and Students: \$13

Limited FREE Student tickets for all Thursday performances - call the Box Office for more information

PREPAYMENT IS A MUST. Payment may be made by cash, check, money order, American Express, Discover, MasterCard, Visa, and Clague Playhouse Flexitix or Gift Ticket. Prepaid tickets held at the Box Office should be picked up one half-hour before curtain time.

GROUP DISCOUNTS are available for groups of 20 or more. For more information, please call the Box Office.

GIFT TICKETS are available. Call the Box Office for more information.

CURTAIN TIMES: Performances on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday begin at 8:00 p.m. Sunday matinees begin at 2:00 p.m.

Fireflies

Our Cast (in order of appearance)

Molly CornwellGrace Bodell
Anne McEvoyEleanor Bannister
Joseph KerataAbel Brown
Jeremy JenkinsEugene Claymire

Setting: Jackson County, South Texas, July 1995.
Groverdell, twenty miles north of the Gulf Coast,
population 1,742.

Act I:

Scene 1: Midday
Scene 2: That evening
Scene 3: Two days later, early afternoon
Scene 4: Two days later, noon

15 minute intermission

Act II:

Scene 1: Three days later, summer twilight

*World Premiere Production Presented by Long Wharf Theatre
(Gordon Edelstein, Artistic Director; Joshua Borenstein, Managing Director)
October 18, 2017*

FIREFLIES was workshoped at White Heron Theatre Company, June 2017

FIREFLIES is a recipient of an Edgerton Foundation New Play Award

**PLEASE NOTE: For the safety of our cast and crew,
please do not walk across or touch items on our stage.**

About Our Cast



Molly Cornwell (Grace Bodell) is thrilled to be performing at Clague Playhouse. One of the bonuses of performing in *Fireflies*, is reconnecting with

Fred after 36 years, having been directed by him in *Gypsy*, as Gypsy in the 1986-1987 season at Beck. Molly's theatre work is extensive as

an actor with performances at The Cleveland Play House, The Milwaukee Rep, Great Lakes Theatre Festival, Dobama Theatre, The Hanna Theatre, Beck Center For The Arts, Eldred Theatre. As a Director, her work has been seen at Willoughby Fine Arts, Lake Erie College, CPT's Station Hope for Kulture Kids, and over 50 performances at Hathaway Brown School where she was Theatre Director from 1994-2018. Molly received her M.F.A. from CWRU.

About Our Cast *continued*

She is a performing member of Women In History, SAG/AFTRA, and has done voice-over and on-camera work. She is also a Master Teacher of the Michael Chekhov Acting Technique. Currently Molly and her husband Mike sing and perform at local restaurants, wineries, and retirement communities. She considers herself extremely lucky to have both her daughters, son-in-law, and adorable granddaughters living close by. Life is good!



Jeremy Jenkins
(Eugene Claymire) is excited to reunite with Fred Sternfeld on their fifth production. Fred previously directed Jeremy in *A Little Night Music*, *The Miracle*

Worker, *The Glass Menagerie*, and *Death of a Salesman*. This is also Jeremy's fifth time treading the boards of Clague Playhouse, where he was seen in *The Psychic*, *The Fox on the Fairway*, *The Woman in Black*, and *Hate Mail*. Jeremy has worked at numerous theatres in the NE Ohio area including the Beck Center, Ensemble Theatre, Dobama Theatre, Cleveland Public Theatre, Weathervane Playhouse, Coach House Theatre, Cassidy Theatre, Lakeland Civic Theatre, Brecksville Little Theatre, and the Ohio Shakespeare Festival. Other favorite productions include *1776*, *August Osage County*, *Annie*, *The Odd Couple*, *The Iceman Cometh*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Chicago*, and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. Jeremy teaches Speech and Theatre at Strongsville High School, where he also directs the fall plays and spring musicals. Love to his "purty" wife, Debbie, his 3-year old son, Nolan, and his favorite deputies, Dylan and Nash! High Four!



Joseph Kerata
(Abel Brown) started acting in 1979 while teaching in Lima, Peru. Since then, he has been active in many community and professional

productions. Joe directed theater programs and taught Advanced Biology in Northeast Ohio. In addition to his acting credits, he has received numerous teaching awards, including being named Ohio Teacher of the Year. He is currently a science instructor at Breckenridge Village in Willoughby. Favorite productions include *Amadeus*, *Speed the Plow*, *American Buffalo*, *Inherit the Wind*, *The Lion in Winter*, *Private Lives*, and *Deathtrap*. Joe is thrilled to be making his Clague debut with old buddies Fred Sternfeld, Molly Cornwell and Lance Switzer.



Anne McEvoy
(Eleanor Bannister) is always happy to be back at Clague, where she last appeared in *Other Desert Cities*, also directed by Fred

Sternfeld. Elsewhere she's been seen on stage at Beck Center, Blank Canvas, CATCO, Cleveland Play House, Cleveland Public Theatre, Convergence Continuum, Dobama, Ensemble, None Too Fragile, Ohio Shakespeare, and Seat of the Pants. Anne is currently working towards her teaching certificate through the Great Lakes Michael Chekhov Consortium and will be directing Clague's upcoming production of Lauren Gunderson's *Ada and the Engine* which opens St. Patrick's Day.

Production Staff

Production ManagerLance Switzer
DirectorFred Sternfeld
Assistant to the Director/Stage ManagerCharlene Hartley
Lighting DesignerLance Switzer
Sound DesignerDale Hruska
Set DesignerRon Newell
Light/Sound OperatorsTyler Batholomew
Mary Kahelin, Neal Silvester
Set Construction Dave Bartsche, Chuck DoBroka, Donna Hughes
Connie Kytler, Charlie Moran, Ron Newell
Bill Nordgren, Kathy Whitmore, Dave Young
Costume Designer Meg Parish
Props DesignerLisa Wiley
Props Procurement.....Gig Giauque, Margy Haas
Donna Hughes, Donna Nordgren
Prop CrewChristina Easter, Deena Napp
Dialogue CoachBrian Zoldessy
BookholderNita Marie Bedocs
Audition Staff.....Gig Giauque, Margy Haas
UshersDottie Palazzo, Barbara Moran
Program & Website.....Pam Kilpatrick

Acknowledgements

Algernon Lee - violin lessons
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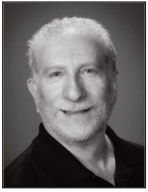
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Gene's



** CLEVELAND, OHIO **

About Our Production Staff



Fred Sternfeld (Director) is pleased to return to Clague Playhouse where he previously directed *Other Desert Cities*. Over the past 40 years, he has directed more

than 140 productions, garnering numerous honors and awards. Recent productions include *Tuck Everlasting* at French Creek Theatre, *Mamma Mia!* at Chagrin Valley Little Theatre, *You Can't Take It With You* at Karamu Theatre, *Of Mice and Men* at Coach House Theatre and *Good People* at Aurora Theatre. Additionally, he and his wife Randi recently started producing shows on Broadway, including the Lortel Nominated Best Musical *Be More Chill* and the upcoming revival of *The Secret Garden*. www.fredsternfeld.com.

Charlene Hartley (Assistant to the Director/Stage Manager) is thrilled to be back at Clague Playhouse, where she previously worked on *Ethan Claymore*. She has also worked at French Creek Theatre on shows including *Steel Magnolias*, *Tuck Everlasting*, and *Death of a Salesman*. She runs the drama department at Eastern Heights Middle School in Elyria, and has worked on productions in various backstage positions in Ohio and Michigan. Her favorite past shows include *Newsies* at Mercury Theatre, *The Glass Menagerie* at French Creek Theatre, *The Secret Garden* at Interlochen Arts Academy, and *Coppelia* at Alma College.

Dale Hruska (Sound Designer) is a retired electrical engineer from Bay Village who has been active in Cleveland Area Community Theatre for over 45 years. He's acted, directed, and worked backstage for countless shows. He worked with Bay High School as Technical Director for six years, designed lights for Brooklyn High School's musicals for five years, and was Light and Sound Designer for

Huntington Playhouse for almost twenty years.

Ron Newell (Set Designer) Clague Playhouse is glad to have Ron onboard for our 95th season adding to his long list of achievements in theatre starting in 1956.

His journey includes the worlds of stage, screen and television, commercials, industrial films, sets and staging for the world of high fashion and classical music and on and on...

In 1982, Ron decided to turn professional, joining actors equity, SAG/AFTRA of which he is a proud member.

Along the way there were stops to pick up a few awards. The Northern Ohio Live Award for Achievement for *Angels in America Part 1 and 2* at Dobama Theatre, Times Newspaper - Set Design Berea Summer Theatre, *The Will Rogers Follies*, Cleveland Critics Award - Set Designs and Performance, Dobama, Ensemble, Berea Summer Theatre and Playhouse Square.

When asked about the future Ron replied, "When it gets here, I'll deal with it!"

"To you, our audience, for attending live theatre - I can only offer my thanks, my love and respect...and of course *Fireflies*. Enjoy the Show!"

Of course all would not be possible without the love of
MLSQPOODEDEHARPER.

- Ron

Meg Parish (Costume Designer) Fascinated by a box of Halloween costumes in her grandmother's attic, Meg has been playing mix-and-match since age 5. In her 40+ years draping performers, she has combined a love of history and fabric in *The Miser* and *Summerland* (Clague Playhouse), *1776* and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (North Ridgeville Old Town Hall), and *Dark of the Moon* (Lorain County Community College), among others. After reading about the Swedish custom "death cleaning" (clearing out one's belongings to spare one's

About Our Production Staff *continued*

relatives the trouble) her 2023 Resolution is to organize/use up her fabric stash.

Lance Switzer (Lighting Designer) is pleased to start his 18th year working on productions at Clague Playhouse. Lance has over 150 local productions to his credit at various theaters around the area.

Lisa L. Wiley (Prop Designer) has designed props for productions in several local theaters. When it comes to building props she has built everything from Expressionistic “newspapers” and old polaroids to old apple cores and exotic plants, tricky drink glasses, and edible dirt. Lisa holds a bachelor's degree in Theatre from Ashland University and has years of experience in stage managing, designing, and directing. In addition to “gettin’ her crafty on”, she is a voice-over artist,

standardized patient, and performs various historical women as a member of Women in History. She currently serves on the Board of Clague Playhouse.

Brian Zoldessy (Dialect Coach) Ph.D., Professor Emeritus - Director of the Theatre Arts Department at Cuyahoga Community College (1991-2019). In 1995, before receiving tenure, Brian was the first non-tenured faculty member to receive CCC's prestigious Ralph M. Besse Award for Teaching Excellence and was honored with The Outstanding Achievement Award for Teaching by the International Conference for Teaching and Leadership, Austin, Texas. Currently, Brian's most important roles are father and grandfather.

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Lobby Gallery Display

During the run of *Fireflies*, **Paul Johanni** will have his works on display in our lobby.

After retiring from a successful career teaching social sciences at John Marshall High School in Cleveland, Ohio, Paul discovered another exciting source of happiness, "The World of Art". Over the past 21 years Paul has taken the art of "pine needle stitchery" from traditional baskets to free form three dimensional art. Nature's garden has given him simple fibers like fallen pine needles, dried grasses, soft clay, fascinating glazes, and funky wood which he fashions into functional structures and whimsical, free-form sculptures. Having no formal education in art or natural sciences and therefore none of the learned restraints, his journey is an exciting adventure of exploration, discovery and creation. He searches for materials that can be married with the pine needle stitchery into complimentary partnerships. His collection of works has been exhibited in numerous one man shows and has won many awards in juried art shows. His free spirit is represented in his work.

The lobby gallery is open during Box Office hours, Wednesday through Saturday 1:00-6:00 pm.

CLAGUE PLAYHOUSE DONATIONS

Please consider a donation to Clague Playhouse. Contributions help us to maintain the professional quality of our productions and keep ticket prices low. All donors are listed in the current program, receive a quarterly newsletter, and may attend membership meetings. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Clague Playhouse is certified as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Thank you to the following Donors for our 2022-2023 Season.

Donations received April 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022

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Visit our website, www.clagueplayhouse.org, or Facebook page for a complete look at our season, purchase tickets, audition dates, and up-to-date information on what's happening at Clague Playhouse.

Clague Playhouse is certified as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

OUR 2022-2023 SEASON CONTINUES...

Ada and the Engine

by Lauren Gunderson

March 17 - April 9, 2023

Failure: A Love Story

by Philip Dawkins

May 12 - June 4, 2023

Tickets for all shows now on sale!



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