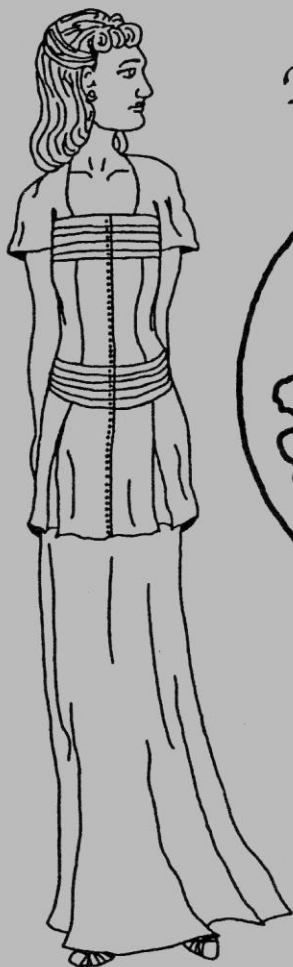


# South Valley Civic Theater

Resident Company of the Morgan Hill  
Community Playhouse

Presents

Noel Coward's



Opening Aug. 22  
through Sept. 13

Produced by Richard and Becky Kaiser  
Directed by Steve Spencer

By special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc

# Blithe Spirit

An Improbable Farce in Three Acts

## Synopsis of Scenes

### ACT I

Scene 1—Before dinner on a summer evening.

Scene 2—After dinner.

### ACT II

Scene 1— The next morning.

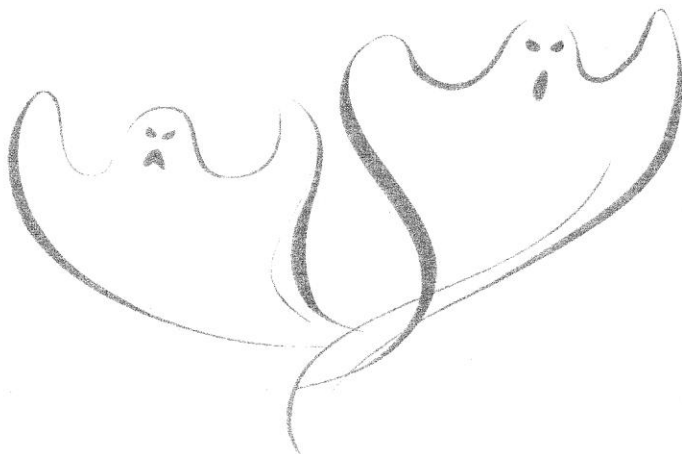
Scene 2— Late the following afternoon.

Scene 3— Early evening. A few days later.

### ACT III

Scene 1—After dinner. A few days later.

Scene 2— Several hours later.



# The SVCT President's Message

Now that you are gathered in a room full of friends, sit back and close your eyes. Picture an evening where the unexpected can happen, where the unseen can be seen (by a select few), where everyone is in for a wonderfully fun evening.

Welcome to South Valley Civic Theatre's production of *Blithe Spirit*. This is the first production of our exciting 2003-2004 season and it is a great show with which to start the new year. It is full of laughter, unexpected twists, and excellent performances from our actors.

Our next show will be *1940s Radio Hour*, opening in November here in the Morgan Hill Playhouse. This will be followed by *Peter Pan*, *Footloose*, and *Guys & Dolls*. I hope that you will come out to see all of these great productions, and if you feel the urge, to join us onstage or behind the scenes!

SVCT is a non-profit organization and all of our performers, staff, and support crew are volunteers. We exist through the support from you, the audience. In addition to attending this performance, you can further support us by purchasing a season ticket or by becoming a member of SVCT. Membership is inexpensive and brings additional benefits, including discounted tickets and the chance to vote in our annual "Members Choice" awards.

It takes a lot of work to put on a play and I would like to thank the staff and actors of *Blithe Spirit* for giving of their evenings and weekends to get ready for the performance that you are about to see. I'm sure you will agree with me that it has been worth all the effort!

Larry Tom— President, SVCT Board of Directors

## SVCT Board of Directors

### Executive Board

President.....	Larry Tom
Past President.....	Richard Kaiser
VP Box Office.....	Diane Webb Stephens
VP Publicity.....	April Ouellette
Treasurer.....	Marie Haluza
Secretary.....	Kathy Tom
Membership Chair.....	Becky Kaiser

### General Members

Marion Pintello	Steve Spencer	Joy Reynolds
Beth Dewey	Stephanie Hamik	Diane Webb Stephens
Tracy Van Gundy	Stacey Dean	Peter Mandel
Rebecca Little	Jon Reed	Vivian Varela
	Frank McGill	

# *Blithe Spirit*

## **Cast Members**

Edith (a Maid)	Alika Spencer
Charles Condomine	John Brewer
Ruth Condomine	Rosalind Farotte
Doctor Bradman	Jon Reed
Mrs. Bradman	JoAnna Evans
Madame Arcati	Carol Harris
Elvira	Laura Glasspool

## **Director's Message**

*Blithe Spirit* was written and directed by Noel Coward in 1941, and it remains one of his best-known works. Even after 62 years, Coward's wit and sarcasm shine through as he pokes fun at human nature and our foibles. To me, this is exemplified by a favorite line from Charles, "Its discouraging to think how many people are shocked by honesty, and how few by deceit."

Theater is unique in that it relies on individual talent and skill and intense collaboration with others to make it work. We in Community Theater do it purely for the love of "putting on a show". In our cast are actors with years of experience, and others taking on their first major roles. Our Lighting Designer, Danny Dunn, is working with SVCT for the first time. Our production of *Blithe Spirit* boasts some of the most talented people in the area, both on stage and in the production and technical staff. As director, I can take very little credit because their work is so outstanding.

Steve Spencer

# Cast Biographies

## John Brewer

Charles Condomine

John is here fresh from last season's successful musical *Sugar* to play yet another Englishman - his last being the decidedly musical Henry Higgins from SVCT 2001-2002 season's *My Fair Lady*. John lives and works in San Jose and has been involved in theater up and down the peninsula for almost twenty years. This is his 11th show with SVCT.

## Jo Anna Evans

Mrs. Bradman

*Blithe Spirit* is JoAnna's third production with the wonderful South Valley Civic Theatre. She would like to thank her "loved-ones" for their support and she wishes to send loving and healing thoughts to her dear Normie. "I miss you Daddy - I hope you get to see the show from wherever you are!"

## Rosalind Farotte

Ruth Condomine

Rosalind received a BA in Theater Arts from Santa Clara University and a MA in Theater Arts from San Jose State. She has performed with Pintello Comedy Theater, Center Stage, Gavilan College, John Bisceglie Presents and South Valley Civic Theatre. Some of her credits include *King Lear*, *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *Nunsense*, *Holiday Snap*, *The Foreigner*, *The Odd Couple*, *Wait Until Dark*, *Vanities* and *Crimes of the Heart*. Rosalind appeared as Elvira thirteen years ago in SVCT's production of *Blithe Spirit*.

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## Laura Glasspool

### Elvira

Blithe Spirit is Laura's first "speaking" role in a show and she is absolutely thrilled! Her past performances have been in South Valley Civic Theatre's *Joseph and Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *The Pirates of Penzance* and Odyssey Theater Company's *Oliver!*. Laura would like to thank the production staff for "taking a chance" on her and giving her this great opportunity to play Elvira. "It is so much fun playing a character who is **'feckless, irresponsible and morally unstable'**". Laura would like to dedicate her performances to her family, who supported her 110% in this endeavor and whom she loves with all her heart.

## Carol Harris

### Madame Arcati

Having worked mostly backstage of late - directing, designing, painting, leading orchestras, playing the piano, choreographing, and whatever, Carol is delighted to be on stage again reprising one of her favorite zany roles. She thanks the cast, crew, and director for a tremendous time and cautions everyone to beware of cold gusts of wind! Her performance is dedicated to her loving family, especially her son Tom.

## Jon Reed

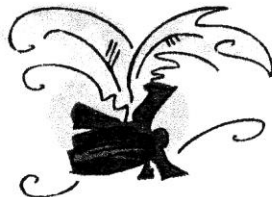
### Dr. Bradman

Jon presently serves on the Board of Directors of SVCT and has co-produced, performed in, or worked back stage with a number of their shows. What fun, says he, to get to play a Sargeant or a Colonel or a Doctor or Sir Ozzy something-or-other with such a talented and fun-loving group of people. They give off such good emanations.

## Alika Spencer

### Edith (the maid)

Alika is a senior at Live Oak High School. She has just finished AMT's Summer Conservatory Theater Arts Institute. Her favorite role on stage was Louise in SVCT's *Gypsy*. She has had a lot of fun working on *Blithe Spirit* and she would like to thank her friends and family for all their support.



# Staff Biographies

## Steve Spencer The Director

*Blithe Spirit* is the fourth show that Steve has directed for SVCT. His previous directing credits include *Wash Your Troubles Away*, *Run For Your Wife and Gypsy*. Steve recently appeared on stage as Mr. Saunders in *Lend Me A Tenor*. *Blithe Spirit* is another opportunity for Steve to work with his beautiful and talented wife, Kae and his wonderful daughter, Alika. "Thanks to all for a joyous experience."

## Becky Kaiser Co-Producer

This is Becky's seventh SVCT production as producer. Although she refuses to "perform on stage", Becky has done just about everything there is to do behind the scenes. Her philosophy is "I'm here to make the performers look good!" She would like to give special thanks to her and co-producer husband Rich—"I am glad we were a 'team' on this one."

## Richard Kaiser Co-Producer

Richard has produced several SVCT shows and occasionally performs on stage as well. In addition to his role as producer, Richard was the master carpenter, responsible for construction of the sets. He enjoyed the challenge of creating the special effects during the séance and ghost attacks. Richard thanks his wife for her willingness to co produce and her dedicated support of SVCT.



# Production Staff

Director	Steve Spencer
Producers	Richard and Becky Kaiser
Director's Assistant	Nicole Stephens
Costume Coordinator	Kae Jenny-Spencer
Set Design	Steve Spencer
Master Carpenter	Richard Kaiser
Scenic Artist	Beth Dewey
Set Construction/Set Dressing Crew:	
	Brian Scott, Charlie Hamik, Chris Reynolds, Larry Tom, Alika Spencer, David Sandhu, Mitzie Imagawa, Jim Bray, Jon Reed, Zana Vartanian, Peter Mandel, Wayne Dewey, Carol Harris, Rosalind Farotte, Becky Kaiser, Kae Jenny-Spencer, Steve Spencer
Prop Coordinator	Maureen Imagawa
Light Design	Danny Higgins Dunn
Lighting Crew	Beric Dunn, Ivo Salemink, Brian Scott
Sound	Vada Dean
Stage Manager	Maureen Imagawa
Stage Crew:	Peter Svensson, Mitzie Imagawa
Concessions/Reception	Stephanie Hamik
House Manger	Joy Reynolds
Lobby Design	Becky Kaiser Joy Reynolds
Box Office	Diane Webb Stephens
T-Shirt Design	Alika Spencer
Program	Becky and Richard Kaiser
Photographer	Kathy Tom

**And all the family and friends who supported  
this production.**



# SVCT Members

## Benefactors

"Out and About" Magazine - Paul & Sylvia Myrvold  
Bill Corneth

## Sponsors

Wayne & Beth Dewey                      Bill & Ruby Hart  
Diane Webb-Stephens

## Patrons

Norihito and Patti Hamaguchi      Paul and Betty Reed  
Jon and Jan Reed      Peter, Elizabeth, Alexandra and Emily Mandel

## Family

The Borgia Family	Leon and Jo Ann Bray
Donald and Donna Cowan	Melissa Dean
Vada, Stacey & Carson Dean	The Drake Family
JoAnna Evans	Marshall & Rosie Evans
John & Karen Fletcher	Phil & Sarah Flowers
Marian Gaddis	The Glasspool Family
The Hamik Family	The Heath/Obata Family
The Imagawa/Sandhu Family	David & Debbie Jackson
Loritta Bonfante Johnson	Dana and Mary Kellogg
Richard and Becky Kaiser	David and Linda Matuszak
Frank & Del McGill	The Minderler Family
The O'Hara Family	The Ouellette Family
The Parker Family	Rod & Marion Pintello
Pam & Nicole Rayner	The Rigdon Family
Reynolds/Damron Family	The Spencer Family
The Tom Family	The Van Gundy Family
John and Vivian Varella	Bill & Nancy Wollman
The Vartanian/Haskell Family	The Woolsey Family

## Individual

Doug Bennett	Jeremy Borgia	John Brewer
Patricia Cianci	Dick DeBolt	Lisa Evans
Rosalind Farotte	Fernando Garces	Marie Haluza
Jennifer Hamilton	Carol Harris	Robert Homenway
Katen Kirsten	Dave Leon	Sarah Martindill
Franz J Mayrhofer	Ryan McBride	Shirley McGee
Michael McGill	Kathryn McGill	Deanna McGill
John Scherrer	Christopher D Souza	Edward Jay Steiner
Nicole Stephens	Jordan Stephens	Peter Svensson
Nicole Tom	Christine Varela	Patsy Joyce Vierra
	Sheila Walters	

LIVE THEATRE CANNOT  
SURVIVE BY  
TICKET SALES ALONE!

**Become a South Valley Civic  
Theatre Member!!**

Share in the excitement of the performing arts in your community. As a member of SVCT, your tax deductible donation makes it possible to bring the excitement of quality live major musicals, comedies, children's plays and teen productions to the South County area.

Members receive reduced ticket prices, reduced cast fees, special mailings, voting privileges for the Annual Members Choice Awards and individual or business listings in all our show programs.!

(for one year from date of purchase)

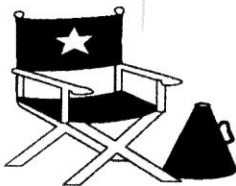
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# The Tradition of the Gypsy Robe

Each South Valley Civic Theatre production awards to a chorus or supporting cast member the right to wear the "Gypsy Robe" for the run of the show. This award is given to a cast member who has made special contributions of time and energy towards the good of the production. The robe is presented to the winner opening night and the individual will put on the robe and bless the stage before the performance. It is the duty of the winning cast member to affix a patch to the robe, which signifies the show. The robe is then returned on closing night, to once again perform its duty and continue on with the tradition.

The producers and director of  
*Blithe Spirit* are pleased to  
present the Gypsy Robe to:

**Alika Spencer**



# 1940's Radio Hour



## Audition Notice

South Valley Civic Theatre

**Carol Harris,  
Director**

Co-produced by Jon Reed and Beth Dewey

**Written by Walton Jones**

A blast from the past! A live radio variety show for an audience in New York City, 1942. Audition dates:

**Friday, September, 26th**  
**7 p.m. check-in for 7:30 audition**

**Saturday, September, 27th**  
**9:30 a.m. check-in for 10:00 audition**  
**1:30 p.m. check-in for 2:00 audition**

Auditions held at:

SVCT Warehouse, 8565 Monterey Rd., Gilroy.  
The warehouse is between and behind Kelly Moore and Sherwin Williams paint stores one block north of the intersection of Monterey Rd. and Welburn Ave.

Auditioners should also provide a resume and photograph.

Vocalists should bring a prepared song and sheet music. Vocalist/musicians should also prepare an instrumental solo.

performances at Morgan Hill Community layhouse:

November 21, 22, 28, 29, \*30

December 5, 6, \*7, 12, \*13, \*\*\*31

Sunday Matinees

Saturday Matinee

\*New Years Eve Performance/Party.

roduced by arrangement with Samuel French, Inc. For more information about 1940's Radio Hour auditions phone (408) 846-9100 or 779-8984.

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### Character Roles

**10 Male; 4 Female**

3 Female Vocalists  
4 Male Vocalists

1 Female vocalist/dancer  
1 Male vocalist/dancer

1 Male vocal/trumpet or saxophone  
1 Male bandleader/pianist  
1 Male stage mgr./pianist

3 Nonvocal/nonmusical

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### Musicians

Interested brass, woodwind and acoustic musicians for onstage band -- phone Beth Dewey, 846-9100.