# Ripcord

# **LIMELIGHT 2021-2022**

By SVCT in Gilro



September 10 - October 2, 2021



November 28 - December 20, 2021



May 20 - June 11, 2022

## David Lindsay-Abaire

Angie Higgins
Director

**Denee Lewis**Assistant Director

Rosalind Farotte

Christy Wait
Marilyn

Andre Leben Scottv

Roberta Vinkhuyzen Colleen / Woman in White

Erik Browne

Derrick / Masked Man / Clown

**Bruce Pember** 

Benjamin / Lewis / Zombie Butler



...on behalf of the SVCT Board of Directors

SVCT filmed nine plays over the pandemic, streaming them for free to our patrons to raise spirits and keep the heart of theater beating in our community. Filming our plays

was worth pursuing. As twenty-five centuries have shown, theater can have a strong claim on the human spirit. However, watching a streamed play was no more than a spark in the darkness of the pandemic. Theater is meant to be an intense, personal experience with energy flowing between the actors and the audience. That connection makes it a special, emotional art form. While watching a filmed play at home can be enjoyable, it is nothing like the experience of walking into a theater, seeing the crowd, hearing the excited chatter of expectation, seeing the lights lower, and feeling the energy of that actor stepping out and saying the first line of the play. That is live theater. That is what we will experience together tonight. This is Limelight Theater by SVCT, and welcome back!

Peter Mandel, Limelight Executive Director



Limelight Theater 7341 Monterey Street Gilroy Ripcord is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York



Erik Browne ~ Derrick / Masked Man / Clown
This is Erik's first time appearing at Limelight. Favorite past shows include Much Ado About Nothing (Friar/Sexton), Sherlock Holmes... (Mr. Henry), Shakespeare In Hollywood (Joe E. Brown), Othello (Roderigo), and Twelfth Night (Andrew Aguecheek) at Silicon Valley Shakespeare, and A Christmas Carol (Bob Cratchit) and Beauty Queen of Leenane (Ray) at Northside Theatre Company. During the day, Erik plays with smartphones and gets paid for it.



Rosalind Farotte  $\sim Abby$ 

Rosalind holds a BA in Theater Arts from Santa Clara University and an MA in Theater Arts from San Jose State University. She has performed with Center Stage, South Valley Civic Theater, Pintello Comedy Theater, Gavilan College and Limelight Actors Theater.

Rosalind was last seen in Pintello Comedy Theater's production of *The Foreigner*. She previously appeared in Limelight's production of *Belles: The Reunion*. Other Limelight productions include *The Velocity of Autumn, The Outgoing Tide, It's Only a Play, Inspecting Carol, The Country House, Exit Laughing, Other Desert Cities, Rose's Dilemma, Love, Loss and What I Wore, Nunsense, Love Letters, Cemetery Club, Steel Magnolias and <i>The Outrageous Adventures of Sheldon and Mrs. Levine*. Other credits include *Blythe Spirit, King Lear, Social Security, Noises Off, Kitchen Witches, Christmas Belles, Moon Over Buffalo, Crimes of the Heart* and *Vanities*.

Rosalind enjoys both comedy and drama. She does not partake in musicals. She has enjoyed all her theatrical endeavors, particularly those at Limelight Actors Theater and looks forward to continuing her relationship with Limelight under the tutelage of South Valley Civic Theater.



Andre Leben ~ Scotty

Andre is an Artistic Director at Imagineerz Learning. He attended "The Hogwarts of Acting" at CSU Long Beach, under the instruction of Hugh O'Gorman, Alexandra Billings, Craig Anton, Christopher Shaw, and more. Some of his most memorable roles include Salvador Dali in Lobster Alice, Robert in Boeing Boeing, John Dee in Dr. Rowan, the Demon and Love, Constantine in The Seagull and Harpagon in The Miser. Some of his TV credits include various roles on the Reelz network. Andre is thrilled to be back on stage and feels blessed to be working with such a wonderful cast and crew. He would like to thank Angie Higgins and SVCT at Limelight for this wonderful opportunity.



Originally commissioned by the Manhattan Theatre Club (Lynne Meadow, Artistic Director; Barry Grove, Executive Producer) with funds provided by US Trust and received its world premiere there on October 1, 2015.



**Bruce Pember** ~ *Benjamin / Lewis / Zombie Butler* 

Bruce Pember is so happy to be a part of Limelight's reopening after what has been such a challenging time for everybody in the community. He is also thankful to be able to be a part of such a stellar cast and crew and working with such an amazing script as well. He is dedicating this performance to Kevin Heath and Alan Obata in the hope that he can help uphold the quality of theatre that those two started here. Before the world shut down, Bruce was seen in Pintello Comedy Theater's production of *Opening Night* as well as Limelight Productions such as *It's Only a Play*, *The Country House*, *The 39 Steps*, and others. He can also be seen on and behind the SVCT Morgan Hill stage performing in shows as well as volunteering to get them running. And finally, he would be an idiot not to thank his lovely wife for the patience and time to itch his artistic scratch from time to time in these shows. Please enjoy the show!



Roberta Vinkhuyzen ~ Colleen, Woman in White

Roberta is thrilled to be back for Limelight's reopening and honored to be part of the talented Ripcord cast!

She is proud to be a long time member of both the Limelight and SVCT families. You may have seen her in *Steel Magnolias*, *Love, Loss and What I Wore, Momalogues*, or *The 39 Steps* at Limelight.

At SVCT, she has appeared in *Curtains, Damn Yankees*, and *Vanya* and *Sonya* and *Masha* and *Spike*.

Roberta sends a heartfelt thank you to *Ripcord's* extremely supportive, creative and talented Director - Angie, Assistant Director - Denee, and Producers - Robin and Peter. Enjoy the show!!



Christy Wait  $\sim Marilyn$ 

Christy is delighted to return for her 10th production on the LAT stage, last appearing as Carlene in *The Hallelujah Girls*. Other LAT roles include Mom Mom's Gift, Sherry in Belles: The Reunion, Ethel Banks Barefoot In The Park, Gingy Love, Loss and What I Wore, Melissa Love Letters, Louise Always...Patsy Cline, Millie Exit Laughing, and Jinx Savannah Sipping Society. In the 1980's and 1990's, Christy performed major and supporting roles in 12 productions with San Jose Civic Light Opera, winning a record 7 Ginny Awards for her performances. Christy has also graced the stages of Tabard, SBMT, WVLO and as Bev and Jetta in SJ's longest running production Angry Housewives with San Jose Stage Company. Christy is a retired special education teacher/speech pathologist (MHUSD). Her paintings, a skill developed in retirement, have been featured in 2 exhibits at the Gilroy Center for the Arts in recent years. She thanks her husband, Gary, for his unwavering support of her artistic outlets.





Angie Higgins ~ Director

Angie is excited to have the opportunity to direct at Limelight after appearing on stage in several South Valley productions, including *Proof* (Catherine) at SVCT, *Mom's Gift* (Brittney) at Limelight, and *The Foreigner* (Catherine) at Pintello Comedy Theatre. Most recently, she directed *Three Sisters* for Utopia Theatre Project and the TBA

recommended production of *The White Snake* at Silicon Valley Shakespeare. Other favorite directing credits include: *Hamlet* (SVS: all-female production) *Art* (Northside Theatre Co.), *I Hate Hamlet* (Broadway West), *The Woman in Black* (Northside Theatre Co.), *The Comedy of Errors* (SVS: all-female production), and *The Taming of the Shrew* (SVS). When not directing, Angie can be found utilizing her MA in Theatre Arts Education teaching Theatre and Dance, serving as the Artistic Director for Silicon Valley Shakespeare, consuming fruity Starbucks beverages, and spending time with her favorite gentlemen and loves of her life, Tom & Charlie. A huge thank you to the *Ripcord* team AND to all of you for supporting live theatre!

#### **Warning**

Strobe effects are used during the performance and may cause adverse health effects.

#### **Special Thanks**

Bridget Harnett
Clara Shem-tov
Javier Garcia
Tom Shamrell
Roger Traverso
Mary Beth Anderson
Marilyn Pifer
Michelle Griffin
Carol Harris
Gilroy Arts Alliance

#### **Limelight Staff**

**Peter Mandel** Executive Director

Robin Bezanson Managing Director

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Dence Lewis ~ Assistant Director
Dence Lewis is thrilled that SVCT is
bringing Limelight Theater back! She has
performed some of her favorite roles here at
Limelight including Kat in Mom's
Gift, Brooke in Other Desert Cities, Truvy
in Steel Magnolias, and she was honored to
work with Kevin Heath in his last production

at Limelight as Sugar Lee in *Hallelujah Girls*. Denee is not a stranger to South Valley Civic Theater. She played Masha in *Vanya and Sonya and Masha and Spike*, and Claire in *Proof*. Other favorite roles include Meredith in *First Night* at Pintello Comedy Theater, Ima in *The Immigrant* at Tabard Theatre Company, and Sis in *The Queen of Bingo* at North Side Theater Company. She is so excited that theater is returning all over the Bay Area. Denee's film credits include *The Biggest Game in Town* and *Mother's Milk*. Her latest film project, *On the Couch*, is coming soon to local theaters. Denee is honored to assistant direct *Ripcord* and has thoroughly enjoyed working with Angie and the very talented cast and crew.

WELCOME BACK & ENJOY THE SHOW!



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