



LIMELIGHT 2023-2024

presented by South Valley Civic Theatre

Gilroy Arts Alliance, 7341 Monterey Road, Gilroy



Patrick Barlow's
a
CHRISTMAS
CAROL
By Charles Dickens

Directed by Andrew Cummings

December 1st-17th, 2023



Limelight by SVCT
7341 Monterey Street Gilroy, CA
svct.org

Patrick Barlow's
A Christmas Carol
Adapted from the story by Charles Dickens

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

Please note that strobe lights and fog effects will be used during the performance.

It wouldn't be Christmas without *A Christmas Carol* and we're delighted that you've made this Limelight by SVCT production part of your holiday season.

Charles Dickens' story about the original Christmas grinch has been a holiday staple for nearly two centuries, with hundreds of adaptations. In this very innovative and funny stage version, Patrick Barlow takes Charles Dickens' classic story of greed, grief, ghoulish ghosts and eleventh-hour redemption, and makes it feel brand new again. Director Andrew Cummings has also thrown some new twists into our production assuring that there are extra elements of fun and chaos in each performance of our run — and our amazing cast and crew have risen to the challenge!

We hope you'll join us for more great theater in the coming months, including SVCT's teen performers in ***The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical*** (Feb 22nd-Mar 16th) on the Morgan Hill Playhouse stage. Then please join us back here at Limelight for the classic American comedic drama ***On Golden Pond*** (Mar 22nd-Apr 14th).

South Valley Civic Theatre (SVCT) is a non-profit 501(c)3 community theater organization directed and staffed entirely by volunteers. Our mission is to entertain, enlighten, engage, and inspire through the magic of live theater, and your support enables us to provide high quality performing arts experiences for the residents of South Santa Clara County and surrounding communities. Please visit our website to learn more about ways to get involved.

Thank you for being here and Happy Holidays!

Peter Mandel, *Executive Director*
Emily Shem-Tov, *Managing Director*
Limelight by SVCT, svct.org



CAST

Mason Bell
Denee Lewis
Bruce Pember
Stacia Stuart
Roberta Vinkhuyzen
Christy Wright

BEHIND THE SCENES

Andrew Cummings

Director & Scenic Designer

Allie Purtell

*Assistant Stage Manager
& Deck Crew Lead*

Coco Crowley

*Assistant Stage Manager
& Lighting Operator*

Lorraine Bell

Costume Design

Claire Oliphant

Sound Operator

Jenn Oliphant

Scenic Painting

Miriam Shem-Tov

Stage Crew/Costume Coordinator

Aris Parson

Stage Crew

Peter Mandel

Limelight Executive Director

Emily Shem-Tov

Limelight Managing Director

Elizabeth Mandel

Publicity

Marilyn Pifer

Box Office Manager

Christopher Foster

Photography

Jason Leong

Puppet Maker

Special thanks to: The Gilroy Arts Alliance, Marianne Snook, Shachar Shem-Tov, Janell Cummings, Clara Shem-Tov, Oliver Oliphant, Erik Vinkhuyzen, Cheyenne Duarte, Carol Harris, Nate Cummings, Mindy Brown, Robin Harris, Brody and Brian Burke, Joyce Bedard, and everyone else who volunteered time and effort to make this show possible!

Meet the Cast



Mason Bell

Mason Bell is thrilled for you to be here seeing this show! While this is his first show with Limelight, this is his 5th show with Andrew directing him. Mason was last on stage in SVCT's *Sweeney Todd*, and before that was SVCT's *Cabaret*. He wants to thank you for coming, the amazing cast and crew for putting this show together, and a very special thanks to his mother for doing so much for him, this show, and every show he has been a part of. Mason hopes you enjoy the show as much as he has enjoyed putting it together, Happy Holidays!



Deneé Lewis

Deneé Lewis is thrilled to return to the Limelight stage and is grateful to be a part of this unique and creative show. Deneé was last seen on the Limelight stage this summer as Becky in *Becky's New Car*. She has performed some of her favorite roles here at Limelight including Kat in *Mom's Gift*, Brooke in *Other Desert Cities*, and Truvy in *Steel Magnolias*. On the South Valley Civic Theater stage, Deneé was Masha in *Sonya and Vanya* and *Masha and Spike*, and Claire in *Proof*. Other favorite roles include Meredith in *First Night*, and multiple characters (Pam Gerard, Ellie Young and Sharon Freeman) in *Office Hours* at Pintello Comedy Theater. At Tabard Theater Company she played Ima in *The Immigrant* and at Northside Theatre she was Sis in *Queen of Bingo*. Her film credits include *The Biggest Game in Town* (Tessa) and *On the Couch* (Dr. Braga). Deneé is thankful for the continued support of her family and friends.



Bruce Pember

Bruce is beyond excited to return to the Limelight by SVCT stage after playing Steve in *Becky's New Car*. If Bruce looks familiar to you, it's not just because he's another middle-aged bald man with a beard. It might just be because he's been performing on the Limelight stage consistently since 2015 in such shows as *The 39 Steps*, *Lend Me A Tenor*, *Inspecting Carol*, *The Country House*, *It's Only A Play*, *Tigers Be Still*, *Ripcord*, *Later Life*, and *Becky's New Car*. He's also been seen at Pintello Comedy Theater in *Opening Night*. Perhaps you've even seen him both backstage and on stage at South Valley Civic Theatre's productions. But if none of that rings a bell for you, then maybe it really is just because he looks like another middle-aged bald man with a beard? Lucky for Bruce, he found a wonderful woman who's really into middle aged bald men with beards! She also happens to be so supportive that he gets to exercise his creativity in the land of make believe, something for which Bruce is eternally grateful.



Stacia Stuart

Stacia is delighted to be making her Limelight debut in this exciting show! Local audiences may have seen her recently in SVCT's *Matilda the Musical* or last year's *Beauty and the Beast*. She has been in several South Bay Musical Theatre shows including *Jerry's Girls*, *Fiorello!*, *The Producers*, *42nd Street* ("Phyllis"), and *Kiss Me, Kate*. She played "Maggie" in *A Chorus Line* at West Valley Light Opera and has done many Sunnyvale Community Players shows including *Snoopy!* ("Woodstock"), and *West Side Story* ("Velma"). Other favorite credits include Theatre in the Mountains' *Spamalot* and *Into the Woods*, "Tessie Tura" in *Gypsy*, and "Luisa" in *The Fantasticks*. She thanks the staff and cast of *A Christmas Carol* for welcoming her into this unique show and thanks her wonderful husband Andrew and twins Austin and Skylar for their love and support!



Roberta Vinkhuyzen

Roberta is delighted to be back on the Limelight stage and honored to be part of the talented cast of *A Christmas Carol*. 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* and *Ripcord or Later Life* at Limelight. At SVCT, she has appeared in *Curtains*, *Damn Yankees*, & *Vanya and Sonya and Masha and Spike*. Roberta sends a heartfelt thank you to our very professional and creative Director/Artistic Designer Andrew Cummings, Dance Captain Christy Wright, Assistant Stage Managers Allie Purtell and Coco Crowley, Producers Emily Shem-Tov and Peter Mandel, and Costumer Lorraine Bell. Roberta thanks her loving husband for supporting her in her craft. Enjoy the show!!



Christy Wright

Christy is thrilled to return to the Limelight stage. Recent Limelight credits include Lulu Peakes in *The Outsider* and serving as assistant director for *Becky's New Car*. Favorite acting credits include: *Little Women* (Jo March, South Valley Civic Theater), *Sweeney Todd* (Mrs. Lovett, UC Berkeley), *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Logainne, SVCT), *Spamalot* (Lady of the Lake, Pintello Comedy Theater), and *Legally Blonde: Concert Version* (Elle Woods, San Jose State University). Love to Janet and Rob Boyd for supporting every single local production for the past two decades.

Andrew Cummings (Director & Scenic Designer)

Credits include direction and scenic design for many local theaters and education programs, including the Live Oak High School Theater Department, which he directed 2014-2020. Favorite productions include: *Becky's New Car* (Limelight), *Spelling Bee* (SVCT), *Sweeney Todd* (Barestage), and *Prelude to a Kiss* (Custom Made Theater Co., dir. Stuart Bousel). Andrew can occasionally be seen onstage: *An Ideal Husband* (Lord Goring, UC Berkeley), *Twelfth Night* (Malvolio, Fore Players), *Proof* (Hal, SVCT). He is a founding member of FaultLine Theater of San Francisco and is the recipient of the Mask and Dagger Award for Extraordinary Contributions to the Department of Theater and Performance Studies at UC Berkeley, his alma mater. Enormous thanks to the whole team (this one took a village, and they all deserve more gratitude than can be conveyed here). Special thanks to Christy. In addition to working hard to perform many roles herself, she dedicated dozens of additional hours teaching the blocking to the whole team.

Patrick Barlow (Playwright/Adaptation)

Patrick is a playwright, screen-writer and director as well as a film and television actor. He is the adaptor of the hit show *The 39 Steps* with 150 characters played by four actors. It has performed in over 40 countries worldwide. The play was nominated for a Tony Award and won an Olivier Award for Best Comedy and Helpmann and Molière Awards for Best Play. It plays around the world today. His Olivier-nominated adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* has played off-Broadway and London's West End. Patrick's four person version of the classic epic novel *Ben-Hur* opened to critical acclaim at The Tricycle Theatre in 2015. His comedic alter ego, Desmond Olivier Dingle, is the founder, Artistic Director and Chief Executive of the two-man National Theatre of Brent, which has performed on stage, on television and on radio.



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“A Christmas Carol (Barlow)”
 is presented by arrangement
 with Concord Theatricals on behalf of
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A CHRISTMAS CAROL was first premiered at Delaware Theatre Company in Wilmington, Delaware opening on December 8, 2012.
 Original Off-Broadway Production produced by Terri & Timothy Childs and Rodger Hess.
 Originally presented by Delaware Theatre Company Bud Martin, Executive Director.

A Christmas Carol is based on novella by English author Charles Dickens, first published by Chapman & Hall on December 19, 1843.



LIMELIGHT

presented by South Valley Civic Theatre

2023-2024

Gilroy Center for the Arts, 7341 Monterey Road, Gilroy



THE WOLVES

A PLAY BY SARAH DEL APP

Contemporary Slice of Life
September 1-10, 2023



Patrick Marber's
CHRISTMAS CAROL

Reimagined Classic
December 1-17, 2023



ON GOLDEN POND

American Classic
March 22 - April 14, 2024

SVCT AT THE PLAYHOUSE 2023 - 2024



Moana Jr.

Coming of Age Quest
Sept 22 - Oct 7, 2023




The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

Dazzlingly Inventive Play
Nov 17 - Dec 9, 2023



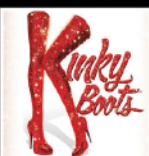
The Lightning Thief

The Percy Jackson Musical
Mythical Adventure
Teen Production
Feb 23 - March 16, 2024



A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder

A Murderous Romp
April 28 - May 20, 2023



Kinky Boots

Tony Award Winning
Ode to Individuality
June 21 - July 13, 2024

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