

ACTORS GUILD

OF PARKERSBURG PRESENTS



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July 26, 27, August 2, 3, 9 and 10 at 8 PM
July 28 at 2:30 PM and August 4 at 6 PM

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GENERAL DENTISTRY

Actors Guild of Parkersburg Presents

LA CAGE AUX FOLLES

Book by Harvey Fierstein
Music and Lyrics by Jerry Herman
Based on the play by Jean Poiret

“La Cage aux Folles” is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.
The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

THIS PROGRAM IS PRESENTED WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM
**The West Virginia Division of Culture and History
and the National Endowment for the Arts**



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ADDITIONAL FUNDING PROVIDED BY
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MUSICAL NUMBERS

Time: Summer Place: St. Tropez, France

Act One

Prologue	Orchestra
We Are What We Are.....	Les Cagelles
A Little More Mascara.....	Alvin and Friends
With Anne on My Arm.....	Jean-Michel
With You on My Arm.....	Georges and Albin
The Promenade.....	Townpeople
Song on the Sand	Georges
La Cage Aux Folles	Albin, Jacqueline, Les Changelles
I Am What I Am	Albin

Act Two

Entr'acte	Orchestra
Song on the Sand reprise	Georges and Albin
Masculinity.....	Georges, Albin, Renaud, Mme. Renaud, Tabarro
Look Over There	Georges
Cocktail Counterpoint.....	Georges, Dindon, Mme. Dindon, Jacob
The Best of Times	Albin, Jacqueline, Patrons
Look Over There reprise.....	Jean-Michel
Finale	Company

ORCHESTRA

Keyboard	MARIE MALLORY
Bass	ANGIE HARKNESS, BOB HERCEG
Percussion.....	HUNTER PHILLIPS
Flute.....	MELISSA HERZOG
Clarinet/Saxophone.....	MIKE SEELY AND HAYLEIGH JOHNSON
Trumpet.....	ERIC DAVIS
Trombone	ERIC STAATS, SHEILA WISEMAN

THERE WILL BE ONE FIFTEEN-MINUTE INTERMISSION

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CAST

Georges	CHRIS PARSONS
Chantal	SAM MISER
Hanna	GAVIN HONSE
Mercedes.....	DEVON MARTIN
Bitelle	SYDNEY REYNOLDS
Angelique.....	GARRETT HONSE
Phaedra.....	SHAWN PRICE
Francis.....	ROBERT FRANCIS
Jacob	HECTOR VELEZ
Albin.....	JOE REEVES
Jean-Michel	SETH FEARNOW
Anne.....	CASSIE CLINE
Jacqueline	ALEXIS PARSONS
M. Renaud.....	DANNY BAYER
Mme. Renaud	VERONICA FIELDS
Adele	ADELINE SMITH
Colette.....	HALEY MATTHEWS
Tabarro	JAY RABER
Edouard Dindon	GEORGE LITMAN
Marie Dindon	LORI ULLMANN

STAFF & CREW

Director	BRENT NULL
Musical Director	MIKE LOCKNEY
Assistant Musical Director	MARIE MALLORY
Assistant Director	OLIVIA PARSONS
Choreographer	LORI ULLMANN
Costume Designer	VERONICA FIELDS
Hair and Make-Up.....	GAVIN HONSE, VERONICA FIELDS
Stage Manager	LYNDSAY NIKOLE RICHARDS
Assistant Stage Manager	SARAH BARKDULL
Set and Lighting Design	BARTOLO CANNIZZARO
Set Construction Crew	BARTOLO CANNIZZARO, THOMAS NUTTER, CAST AND CREW
Props	NICOLE RABER
Backstage Crew	ASHLEY DOYLE, MADISON McHUGH, LEXI RABER
Sound Design and Operator.....	RANDI MARSHALL
Lightboard Operator	SABRINA DYE
Follow Spot Operators.....	HEATHER COOPER, CINDY McCUNE
Advisor	DIXIE SHOWALTER
Special Thanks.....	MARSHA PARSONS, MIKE DOTSON
Playbill Layout and Design.....	BRETT MEADE



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President's Letter



Things are changing, yet continuing. This is my last President's Letter, as my term ended June 30, followed immediately by the term of our next president David Rexroad. I have no doubt whatsoever that the Actors Guild will be in good hands under David's leadership. Having been in existence for over 60 years, we have had lots of turnover in Presidents, in Vice Presidents, in Board members, in directors, in membership, and on and on. We've had change in leadership, change in people, and change in locations, but we have also had continuity. We

always have someone around who has history with our organization and is willing to share that with the new people. And, thankfully, we always have new people. We have thrived through the years with change and continuity.

We're approaching yet another important milestone. Next summer's *Rock of Ages* will be our 400th show!!! Seven decades of shows!! We began in the 50s when we performed in local schools and the City Park, we graduated to our first location which was on Dudley Avenue, beside the current Pizza Place, then went to St. Marys Avenue, then finally to this location on Market Street, originally the Lincoln Theatre, then J.C. Penney. Many changes, but still we continued.

Some of us who have been around the longest have memories of our former locations, but we were wondering if any of our patrons remember going to shows in any of our previous locations. Do any of you remember going up the steep stairs on St. Marys Avenue to see any shows? Is there anyone who remembers going to our Dudley Avenue location? As we approach our 400th show, we would love to hear from you and see what you remember. If you know of anyone who attended shows in either of our previous locations, please get in touch with us at president@actors-guild.com

I hope you will continue to be with us on our theatrical journeys as our leadership changes, but The Actors Guild of Parkersburg continues.

BARBARA FULL
President of the Board of Trustees



“Actors are agents of change.

A film, a piece of theater,
a piece of music, or a book
can make a difference.

It can change the world.”

—ALAN RICKMAN



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Director's Note



Family. Family is at the very heart of our show. Family today is very different from the days of June and Ward Cleaver or Ozzie and Harriet. Today, families come in all shapes, sizes, and combinations. Our show today features a family that may challenge our view of what family is. But isn't that what theatre is supposed to do? Yes, theatre is supposed to entertain, but theatre is also supposed to enlighten, to educate, and even to challenge us to “see things from a different angle”. Open your eyes! For if we've done

our job correctly, you will leave with more than a torn ticket stub and a folded program. Messieurs-dames, we give you *La Cage Aux Folles*!

La Cage aux Folles began life as a 1973 French farce by Jean Poiret. The original French production premiered at the Théâtre du Palais-Royal on February 1, 1973 and ran for almost 1,800 performances. The principal roles were played by Jean Poiret and Michel Serrault. A French-Italian film of the play was made in 1978. In 1983, Poiret's play was adapted in the United States as a musical with a book by Harvey Fierstein and music and lyrics by Jerry Herman and later remade as the American film *The Birdcage*, starring Robin Williams and Nathan Lane. The musical has won a total of 11 Tony Awards over 3 productions, including Best Musical, Best Original Score, Best Book of a Musical, and two Best Revival of a Musical Tony's for revivals in 2004 and 2010.

Brent Null

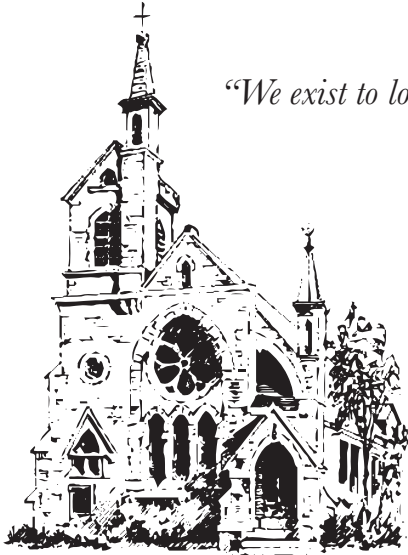
Director, *La Cage Aux Folles*

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Ben Bradley	Myla Kreinik	★ Teri Robert
Natalie Bradley	Alice Lawrence	William Roberts
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Judy Chevront	Jane Mancini	★ Dixie Showalter
★ Kim Clovis	Jesse Mancini	Ann Simonton
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★ Susan Courtney	★ Charlie Matthews	Beth Sour
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★ Mike Dotson	Gary McIntyre	Deanna Spring
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Who's Who in the Cast & Crew

DANNY BAYER (Renaud) has recently moved back to the MOV after living in Cincinnati for 25 years. He was recently seen in *On Golden Pond* as Charlie. While he does not appear in a dress in this production, here is a list of other production in which he did: *Charley's Aunt*, *Funny Girl*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *Nunsense Amen*. Danny lives in Vienna with his dog Lucy.

CASSIE CLINE (Anne) has been singing from a very young age, but has never been in a theatrical production. She is excited to make her stage debut with the amazingly talented cast and crew of *La Cage Aux Folles*. She is thankful to everyone involved including the director, Brent Null, for giving her a chance and her partner, Lyndsay Richards, for encouraging her to audition. While not singing, Cassie is a full time nanny, a certified yoga teacher, member of the Parkersburg Choral Society, member of Parkersburg Pride, and fur mom to 4 dogs, 3 cats, and two fish.

VERONICA (NIKKI) FIELDS (Costumer and Mmc. Renaud) is a long time AGP volunteer. She is an award winning costumer and *La Cage aux Folles* is a dream show for her to design. She has appeared on the Guild stage in *The Rocky Horror Show* & *Man of La Mancha*, as well as many other productions here and around the MOV. Nikki is also an accomplished director, *Sweeney Todd* & *Hairspray* are some of her past favorites. IRL Nikki is employed by Le Colour Bar on Grande as a Color Specialist Cosmetologist. She would like to thank her Family, Friends and Clients.

SETH FEARNOW (Jean-Michel) Strap in, reader, we're going on a journey. Memphis, 1992. 8 lbs 10 oz of unorthodox behavior is thrust on the world. With a less than average sense of shame and too much free time, Seth Fearnow found the theater in high school. It was a union none could tear asunder. Except living expenses and an undergraduate degree. Have no fear, reader, Seth returned to the stage after moving to West Virginia to work in 2018, and because of a legal loophole to an ALLEGED prop theft incident, he's acting in his second show with the Actors Guild.

ROBERT FRANCIS (Francis) served in the USMC in Security Company at Camp David under President Ford, is a retired air traffic controller and has stage experience in *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Porgy and Bess*, *The Full Monty*, *The Grandest Canyon*, *9 to 5*, *Scrooge*, and *Sister Act*. Television credits include a commercial and AMC's *The American West* episode 5. Bob was an extra in the film *Marauders* and had roles in the movies *Khange*, *The Game*, and *Martown*. Bob directed the building of the set for *Avenue Q*.

GARRETT HONSE (Angelique) is a student and has been very active in theatre from a very young age. He was heavily involved with the Blennerhassett Middle School Theatre Program, under the director his mentor Doug Parks, where he performed his favorite role to date: Aladdin in *Aladdin JR*. He has also performed with the Guild Builders teen program where he was last seen as Ichabod Crane in *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* and will be playing Judge Turpin in the teen program's production of *Sweeney Todd* in October at WVU-P.

GAVIN HONSE (Hanna) is a student at Parkersburg South High School. He has been very active with our Guild Builders program as a makeup artist for *The Little Mermaid* and *Aladdin JR*. He has also been involved in our Guild Builders teen program playing the role of The Headless Horseman in *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* and will be playing the title role in their upcoming production of *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*.

GEORGE LITMAN (Edouard Dindon) This marks George's fourth appearance on the Guild stage, having also been featured in 2016's "*Scrooge: The Musical*" (Scrooge), and this season's "*The Game's Afoot*" (Felix) and "*Mamma Mia*" (Bill). He has also had roles at The Peoples Bank Theater in "*Oklahoma!*", "*Cabaret*" and "*Guys and Dolls*", as well as the last five seasons of Marietta's Shakespeare in the Park and The Mid-Ohio Valley Players Theater in "*The Fantasticks*", "*Inherit the Wind*" and "*The Odd Couple*". George hopes you enjoy the love and joy that went into the show you're about to see!

HALEY MATTHEWS (Colette) has been performing on the Guild's stage since she was eight years old. Haley completed six years of the Guild Builders program and was an active member of her thespian troupe in high school. She has previously performed in Actors Guild productions such as *Hairspray*, *Shrek the Musical*, *All Shook Up*, *August Osage County*, *Legally Blonde the Musical*, *Spamalot*, *Company*, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*, and *A Christmas Story*. Most recently you may have seen her as Lisa in *Mamma Mia!* Welcome to *La Cage Aux Folles* and Enjoy the Show!

DEVON MARTIN (Mercedes) is a student at Parkersburg South High School. He is the new public relations officer on

student council and lives for the stage. He is happy to be back on stage after he finished *Mamma Mia*. Since January he's performed in *Clue!* on stage at South as Colonel Mustard and *Aladdin JR*. here at the Guild as Jafar. He would also like to give a special thanks to his loving and caring family and J.T. Spivy, Elizabeth, Jennifer, and my *Mamma Mia* Family!

SAMMISER (Chantal) is a recent graduate of Alderson Broaddus University, with degrees in music education and musical arts. He has been performing on the Actors Guild since 2008 when he appeared as Young Josh Baskin in "*Big the Musical*." He has appeared in several other Guild shows since then, such as "*Hairspray*" and "*Big Fish*." Other credits include Ben from Menotti's "*The Telephone*" and Mozart's "*La Nozze de Figaro*" as the titular character.

ALEXIS PARSONS (Jacqueline) is so excited to be returning to the Actors Guild stage! She was last seen as Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Guild audiences may remember her as Elizabeth in *Young Frankenstein*, Miss Sandra in *All Shook Up*, Vicki Nichols in *The Full Monty*, and Janet Weiss in *The Rocky Horror Show*. She is so excited to share the Guild stage once again with her husband, greatest love, and bestie, Chris Parsons! Thanks to Eden and Harmony for always being amazing troopers so that their parents can live the theater life!

CHRIS PARSONS (Georges) was last on the Guild stage as Frederick in *Young Frankenstein* (2015). Since then, he has become the managing director of Ohio Valley Summer Theater, director of drama at Athens High, and an award-winning filmmaker. Chris is sharing our stage with his incredibly talented wife Alexis, and looks forward to their two daughters Harmony and Eden becoming Guild alumni in the future as well.

Chris' other notable Guild credits include Frank in *The Rocky Horror Show*, Corny in *Hairspray*, and many more. Chris thanks you for your contribution to the arts!

SHAWN D. PRICE (Phaedra) is a fun loving, kindhearted guy. The exact opposite of his character. He has been in such Actors Guild productions as *Legally Blonde*, *Monty Python's Spamalot*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Sister Act*, *Big Fish*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*. He'd like to thank his mom for always being his impromptu practice scene partner, his best friends Phil, Anthony, Tanre, Ashley, and George for guiding him down the right path, and his girlfriend Maddy for everything she does and always putting up with him. Shawn thoroughly enjoys having a supportive family and mediocre self-esteem.

JAY RABER (Tabarro) is making his Actors Guild debut in *La Cage*. Jay decided to trod the boards after being encouraged by his wife, Nicole, and daughters, Lexi and Olivia, who have all three been involved in many different areas at the Guild. Jay serves as the treasurer of the Actors Guild and also has a son, Declan, who hopes to join Guild Builders when he's old enough.

JOE REEVES (Albin/Zaza) has had a varied career as a stand-up comic and a radio disc jockey. He works as a senior network analyst at WVU Medicine – Camden Clark. His current passion is restoring pinball machines and thinks there's always room for one more. He wishes to thank his family, Debbie and Brayden, and all his new friends at the Actors Guild. He dedicates this performance to Bob Davis. Joe was previously on stage as The Old Man in *A Christmas Story: The Musical* and Mr. Mushnik in *Little Shop of Horrors*, and recently assistant-directed *The Game's Afoot*.

SYDNEY REYNOLDS (Bitelle) is in the 10th grade at Parkersburg South High School. He is the Sophomore class president and in the student council. He has been King Triton in *The Little Mermaid JR.*, Mr. Green in *Clue!*, Daddy Warbucks in *Annie JR.*, Buddy the Elf in *Elf JR.* Ensemble in *Big Fish*, and Eddie in *Mamma Mia!* He also enjoys politics and football. Go Steelers! He'd like to thank his whole family for their support. Thank you for coming to see the show!

ADELINE SMITH (Estelle) is making her Actors Guild debut with *La Cage*. She is a student at Parkersburg South High School and was selected to attend the WV Governor's School for the Arts in 2018. She has extensive dance training through Schrader Youth Ballet. Welcome Addie!

LORI ULLMANN (Choreographer and Mme. Dindon) is excited to be choreographing *La Cage Aux Folles* and working with this talented cast and crew. She has appeared on the Guild stage in *Sister Act*, *Hairspray*, and *The Full Monty*. Lori has choreographed Guild Productions of *Legally Blonde*, *Sister Act*, *Mamma Mia*, and Guild Builders *Aladdin JR.* She has been involved with community theater since 1989 with the late John Lee and the late David Sindledecker. Lori would like to thank her family for all of their love and support especially David, Olivia, Andrew, Alexis, Zane, Derek, Ellie, and Fletcher.

HECTOR VELEZ (Jacob) Way back in the long, long ago, this single dad from the projects discovered his love for the stage in his high school in New York. This shy boy found his home on the stage. He then found his way to West Virginia and eventually found home in the Guild. He did his first show, "*South Pacific*" thirteen years ago. Some bumps along the road distracted him from his passion

but he finally came back home. Hector was most recently heard as the voice of Audrey II in *Little Shop of Horrors*.

BRENT NULL (Director) returned to the Guild in 2016 after spending 18 years working, acting and directing in California. He directed last season's *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Some of Brent's favorite directing experiences include *The Drowsy Chaperone* (which won an Elly Award for Best Overall Production of a Musical from the Sacramento Area Regional Theatre Alliance in 2010), *Ragtime*, *Lost in Yonkers*, *My Fair Lady*, *Big River*, *Oklahoma*, *Shenandoah*, *Crossing Delancey* and *The Goodbye Girl*. Brent serves as 2nd VP on our board of directors and chairs our Guild Builders committee.

MIKE LOCKNEY (Musical Director) has played in the pit for numerous productions at the Guild and elsewhere, most recently including *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Company*, *9 to 5*, *White Christmas*, *The Full Monty* and *Camelot*. He now moves behind the baton as musical director for *La Cage*. In addition to working with the Guild, Mike can be found playing trumpet or bass with numerous musical groups from the area. Mike lives with his wife Cindy in Parkersburg and is a recently retired chemist.

BARTOLO CANNIZZARO (Technical Director) is excited to be working with the Actors Guild. Bartolo toured non-stop for ten years with theatre, dance and opera, and continues to work nationally and internationally. *La Cage Aux Folles* is his 14th Guild production. Bartolo lives in New Martinsville with his wife Clare and three sons Spencer, Simon and Safford.

OLIVIA PARSONS (Assistant Director) is very excited to be making her

assistant directorial debut at the Guild! She is a part-time preschool teacher and a full-time mom to her three kids. Most recently, Olivia was the stage manager for *Mamma Mia!* and *Aladdin JR.* here at the Guild. Earlier this season, she was music operator for *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* and was on the running crew for *Little Shop of Horrors*. She has also been the assistant choreographer for *Legally Blonde* and *Sister Act* at the Guild. Olivia would like to thank her whole family; especially her children Derek, Ellie, and Fletcher.

LYNDSAY NIKOLE RICHARDS (Stage Manager) is making her stage managing debut. She is a title abstractor and is in training to be a yoga teacher. Previously at the Guild, she was part of the running crew for *A Christmas Story* and was assistant stage manager for *Little Shop of Horrors*. She is excited to work on a production with her partner, Cassaundra Cline.

HARVEY FIERSTEIN (Book) appeared in more than 60 Off-Off-Broadway productions before he began his career as a playwright. Early works like *Flatbush Tosca* and *Cobra Jewels* led to his underground hit, *Torch Song Trilogy*, which transferred Off-Broadway in 1981, and then to Broadway in 1982, where it won the Best Play Tony Award as well as Drama Desk, Obie, and Dramatist Guild Awards. As an actor, Fierstein also won Tony, Drama Desk, and Theater World Awards for his portrayal of the lead. Harvey won his third Tony for the libretto of the musical *La Cage Aux Folles*, which is the only show in history to have won Best Musical and two Best Revival of a Musical Tony Awards. His other plays include *Newsies* (Tony nominated for Best Book), *Kinky Boots* (Tony Award for Best Musical, nominated for Best Book), *A Catered Affair* (Drama League winner



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Outstanding Musical of the Year), *Casa Valentina*, *Safe Sex*, *Spookhouse*, and *Legs Diamond*. In 2015 he adapted the book of *The Wiz* for TV, and the following year he wrote and starred in the live television broadcast of *Hairspray*.

For television, Harvey wrote and starred in the HBO film, "On Tidy Endings" and the Showtime film "Common Ground." He has appeared as an actor in "Nurse Jackie," "The Good Wife," "How I Met Your Mother," "Family Guy," and "The Simpsons," and was nominated for an Emmy for his work on the classic, "Cheers." Films include *Mrs. Doubtfire*, *Independence Day*, *Death to Smoochy*, *Bullets Over Broadway*, and the Academy and Emmy Award winning documentary, *The Times of Harvey Milk*. Fierstein's starring role as Edna in the musical *Hairspray* won him a fourth Tony Award as well as another Drama Desk Award, New York Magazine Award, and the Drama League Award for Outstanding Performance of the Year. This made him the first person in history to win Tony Awards as an actor as well as a writer on both the dramatic and musical sides of the theater world. In 2005, Harvey spent a triumphant year on Broadway as Tevye in the record breaking revival of *Fiddler on the Roof*, and then reprised the role in 2009 and 2010 on tour across North America. In 2011 he stepped into the Broadway revival of *La Cage Aux Folles*, playing the lead of Albin for the first time. In 2017 he starred in the Public Theater's production of *Gently Down the Stream*. Fierstein was inducted into the Theater Hall of Fame in 2008. His children's book, *The Sissy Duckling*, is published

by Simon & Schuster and the HBO film version won him the Humanitas Prize. As a social and political commentator, Harvey's opinion pieces and essays have been featured on the TV series "In the Life," and on the Op-Ed pages of the *New York Times* and *Huffington Post* among other publications. Fierstein lives in a small fictional town in Connecticut.

JERRY HERMAN (Music and Lyrics) Hello, Dolly!, Mame, and La Cage Aux Folles are home to some of the most popular, most-often performed and most successful musical hero(in)es of all time, and have given Jerry Herman the distinction of being the only composer-lyricist in history to have had three musicals that ran more than 1,500 consecutive performances on Broadway. His first Broadway show was Milk and Honey (1961), followed by Hello, Dolly! (1964), Mame (1966), Dear World (1969), Mack & Mabel (1974), The Grand Tour (1979), La Cage Aux Folles (1983), Jerry's Girls (1985) and "Mrs. Santa Claus" (1996), a CBS TV special starring Angela Lansbury. Showtune, a revue of his life's work, is performing in regional theatres around the country and two of Jerry's classic songs are the emotional highlights of the hit Disney-Pixar film WALL-E. His string of awards and honors includes multiple Tony Awards, Grammys, Olivier Awards, Drama Desk Awards, the Johnny Mercer Award, the Richard Rodgers Award, the Oscar Hammerstein Award, the Frederick Lowe Award, the Songwriters Hall of Fame, the Theatre Hall of Fame and most recently The Kennedy Center Honors.

The Staff, Cast, and Crew would like to dedicate our production of La Cage Aux Folles to the memory of our dear friend, Don Geibel.



*Come see us
after the show!*

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11am to midnight Friday & Saturday

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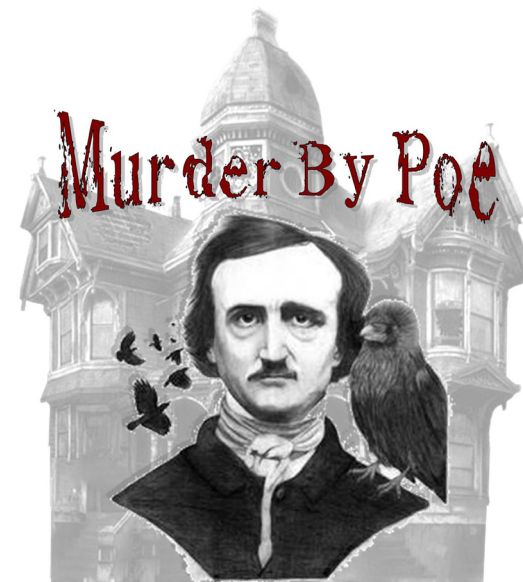
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