



September 2022 Newsletter

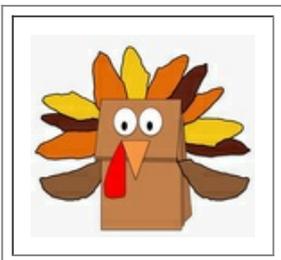
In this issue:

- ***The Thanksgiving Play*** opens our 2022-23 season on November 4, 2022
- From the President's Desk
- Unmasked: ***Proof*** opens January 20, 2023
- ***The Foreigner*** opens March 4, 2023
- ***Moon Over Buffalo*** opens May 5, 2023
- Unmasked: ***The Gin Game*** opens July 15, 2023
- Season and individual tickets on sale NOW
- MIGS Spotlight: Hertsel Shadian
- Using your Fred Meyer Rewards Card can benefit *Mask & Mirror*

The Thanksgiving Play by Larissa FastHorse

Good intentions collide with absurd assumptions

By Gary Romans, Director



September will find a seasoned group of *Mask & Mirror* regulars, plus at least five new faces, finally back on stage rehearsing a show NOT planned before COVID. ***The Thanksgiving Play*** will be something entirely different for a mainstage offering by Mask & Mirror: a unique set, or non-set, to set the scene; singing Pilgrims & pumpkins, and dancing

thugs; and laughter or controversy – you pick one!

Some teasers from reviews of ***The Thanksgiving Play*** by other theater companies.

“...provokes serious concern over how well history is taught to kids today.”

“...aiming for a takedown of American mythology — white American mythology, that is.”

“...themes explored in ***The Thanksgiving Play*** include privilege, wokeness, performative activism and the amplification of unheard voices.”

“...satirically handling topics such as decentralizing white voices, the journey of being antiracist, and how expectations can affect people...”

And all of it written by Larissa FastHorse, a prizewinning Native American (Sicangu Lakota) female playwright.

You may not get to see another production of this show for some time. Mask & Mirror is one of the few theater companies to get performing rights prior to ***The Thanksgiving Play*** opening on Broadway in the spring of 2023.

The show, directed by Gary Romans, runs November 4 – 20, 2022, Friday and Saturday performances at 7:30pm and Sunday performances at 2:30pm.

The Cast:

Logan	Sophia Caruso
Jaxton	Damon Apelt
Alicia	Gina Eslinger
Caden	Steve Hotaling
Teacher	Eden Francis
Students	Gnyanesh Trivedi Luis Perez Christopher Gettel-Gilmartin Zachary Zeutzius Natalie Vierra

Performances are at the Main Stage at Rise Church, 10445 SW Canterbury Lane in Tigard.

More general details about [***The Thanksgiving Play***](#) here.

Tickets are available NOW ... [just click here!](#)

Click [here](#) for the latest COVID protocols in place for the performance.

The Thanksgiving Play is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

From the President's Desk

By *Mask & Mirror* President Rick Hoover



It's been another busy month. I met with Gary Romans to discuss **The Thanksgiving Play** and how he wants the set to look. The rehearsals for **The Thanksgiving Play** will begin on September 6th. Wow, can it already be September???

We also had 2 very productive sessions at Rise. We first had to take down the **Suite Surrender** set (day 1) and then we went back and completed the set takedown (day 2). The stage was a disaster with all the stuff we have. You could barely take 2 steps without stepping on something. So (day 3) we went in and pulled most everything off the stage and re-arranged the flats, set pieces and went through some of the costumes. The stage is now pretty close to ready for Gary to use as a performance area.

The group that showed up for each work day were so helpful. It is great to see so many *M&M* people taking interest in helping out. The great thing is that, with all the flats and set pieces there at Rise, the next 2 shows (**The Foreigner** and **Moon Over Buffalo**) will be able to get working on set construction as soon as the prior show is a wrap.

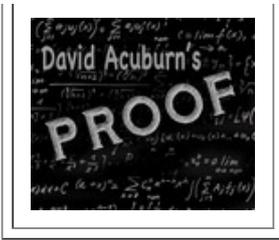
I was also able to get Kraig Williams, the director for **Moon Over Buffalo**, to see the set concept for **The Foreigner** so we can work together to see how parts of **The Foreigner** set can be used for **Moon Over Buffalo**.

Be sure to check our [Home Page](#) for more exciting news, including more information about the upcoming shows.

Proof by David Auburn

A play on the struggle between genius and mental illness





Proof, directed by Tony Broom, is the story of an enigmatic young woman, Catherine, her manipulative sister, their brilliant father, and an unexpected suitor. They are all pieces of the puzzle in the search for the truth behind a mysterious mathematical proof.

On the eve of her twenty-fifth birthday, Catherine, a troubled young woman, has spent years caring for her brilliant but unstable father, a famous mathematician. Over the long weekend that follows, a burgeoning romance and the discovery of a mysterious notebook draw Catherine into the most difficult problem of all: How much of her father's madness - or genius - will she inherit?

Proof will be directed by Tony Broom and is scheduled to run January 20 – February 5, 2023, Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday matinees at the Tualatin Heritage Center in Tualatin.

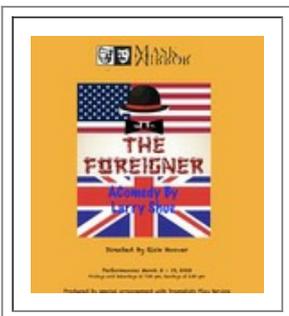
Tickets are on sale NOW and available [here](#).

NOTE: Auditions will be October 16-17 at 7pm. More information [here](#).

This show won the 2001 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and Tony Award for Best Play. ***Proof*** is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection.

The Foreigner by Larry Shue

A hilarious comedy of unintentionally mistaken identity



In a rural fishing lodge in Georgia, Froggy LeSueur, a British demolitions expert, is trying to put his friend Charlie Baker at ease. The problem is Charlie is pathologically shy and is terrified at the prospect of having to converse with strangers at the lodge. Froggy tells Betty, the owner of the lodge, that Charlie is from an exotic foreign country and neither speaks nor understands English. Froggy then departs for three days.

Conversations at the lodge carry on around Charlie much as if he weren't there at all. Charlie learns much and influences what he can, to hilarious results.

The Foreigner, directed by Rick Hoover, runs March 4 – 19, 2023. Friday and Saturday performances at 7:30pm. Sunday matinees at 2:30pm, on the Main Stage at Rise Church, 10445 SW Canterbury Lane, Tigard.

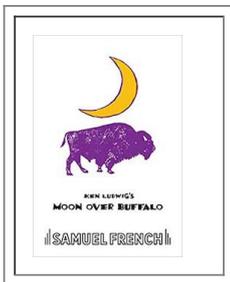
NOTE! Auditions will be held December 12 - 14. More details [here](#).

Tickets are on sale now and are available [here](#).

The Foreigner is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection.

Moon Over Buffalo by Ken Ludwig

A comedy where everything that could go wrong...does!



Moon Over Buffalo centers on George and Charlotte Hay, fading stars of the 1950s. On the brink of a disastrous split-up caused by George's dalliance with a young ingénue, they receive word that they might just have one last shot at stardom: Frank Capra is coming to town to see their matinee, and if he likes what he sees at the matinee, he might cast them in his movie remake of *The Scarlet Pimpernel*.

Moon Over Buffalo, directed by Kraig Williams, is scheduled for May 5 – 21, 2023 on the Main Stage at Rise Church in Tigard.

Tickets are on sale NOW ... [here](#).

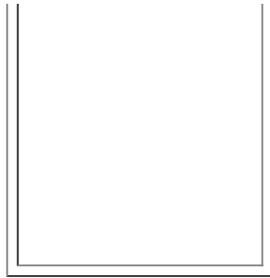
Ken Ludwig's ***Moon Over Buffalo*** is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordiatheatricals.com

Unmasked: ***The Gin Game*** by D.L. Corbin

Winner of the 1978 Pulitzer Prize for Drama



The Gin Game, by D.L. Corbin, has been announced as the fifth and final production of *Mask & Mirror Community Theatre's* 2022 – 23 season. This winner of the 1978 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, which originally starred Jessica Tandy and Hume Cronyn and was later revived with Julie Harris and Charles Durning, uses a card game as a metaphor for life. Weller



Martin is playing solitaire on the porch of a seedy nursing home. Enter Fonsia Dorsey, a prim, self-righteous lady. They discover they both dislike the home and enjoy gin rummy, so they begin to play and to reveal intimate details of their lives. Fonsia wins every time, and their secrets become weapons used against one another. Weller longs for a victory to counter a lifetime of defeats, but it doesn't happen. He leaves the stage a broken man, and Fonsia realizes her self-righteous rigidity has led to an embittered, lonely, old age.

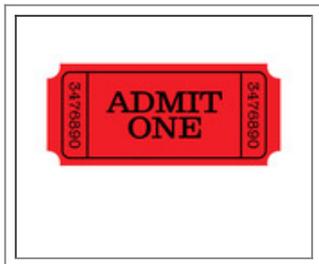
The Gin Game, directed for Mask & Mirror by Linda Talluto, will close out Mask & Mirror's 2022 – 23 season in July, 2023 at the Tualatin Heritage Center.

Tickets are on sale NOW...[here](#).

The Gin Game is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

Tickets are on sale **NOW!**

Note special savings on Main Stage only season tickets



Tickets for all Mask & Mirror shows for the 2022-23 go on sale September 1, 2022.

Note that you will save by purchasing season tickets. Savings is \$10.00 on the full season adult ticket and \$11.00 on senior, students, MIGS, and Active Military full season tickets. You also can buy season tickets for the Main Stage at Rise Church shows only, saving \$7.00 per season ticket.

[Here is the link](#) for season tickets.

Here are the links to purchase individual show tickets:

- [The Thanksgiving Play](#)
- [Proof](#)
- [The Foreigner](#)
- [Moon Over Buffalo](#)
- [The Gin Game](#)

MIGS Spotlight - Hertsel Shadian

M&M members' "bond and appreciation for each other is unmistakable."



Hertsel Shadian is one of *Mask & Mirror's* newest members, currently serving his first term as a member at large on the Board of Directors.

"From my earliest days as a lawyer, I have advised clients on the formation of nonprofits, as well as have advised many others in their nonprofit operations. This experience also has allowed me to gain valuable knowledge in the service of nonprofit boards and committees."

It was because of this experience that *Mask & Mirror's* immediate past President, John Knowles, asked Hertsel to join the board.

Until his role with *Mask & Mirror*, "almost everything to do with the theater has been from my seat in the audience, appreciating the talented work on the stage, and behind the scenes. I was not blessed with such talents (although many lawyers are probably closet actors, I have never been drawn to the stage to perform). My experience with the theater from an early age always has been as a great fan of watching theater, both small and large-scale performances."

Still, he comes from a family with a variety of talents, noting "my father is a professional artist, my mother a poetry writer and one-time Sweet Adelines singer, my younger brother a musician, and my youngest brother a former theater thespian, theater crew veteran, and screenwriter."

Hertsel was born in Israel, and immigrated to the United States as a very young boy. "My family moved frequently – from New York, to Hawai'i, to California, back to Hawai'i. I often joked it was as if we were running from the law."

He went to undergraduate school at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa in Honolulu (majoring in Political Science and Philosophy). He later attended law school at Gonzaga University, and after finishing his J.D., went to the University of Washington for a Masters of Law in



Taxation. After finishing school, Hertsel's legal career brought him to Portland, where he got his first full time job as a lawyer. He's now a resident of Tualatin, which has been home since 1998. Hertsel's been married to Tita since 1993 and they have two (now grown) children, Anthony and Ashley.

Which brings us back to what draws Hertsel to *Mask & Mirror*. “The people, of course, and their genuine love for community theater. Their bond and appreciation for each other is unmistakable.”

Hertsel volunteers at a number of non-profits because “I genuinely cherish the opportunity to volunteer and make even a small difference in the lives of the people that are benefitted by the work of these great organizations. That includes my professional time forming and advising nonprofits, as well as the time I give back as a volunteer.”

Thank you, Hertsel. And welcome to *Mask & Mirror*. We’re happy to point the MIGS Spotlight in your direction!

Help ***Mask & Mirror*** when you shop at Fred Meyer
Link your Fred Meyer Rewards Card to ***Mask & Mirror***



Mask & Mirror has enrolled in a Community Rewards program sponsored by Fred Meyer. If you shop at Fred Meyer and use a Rewards Card, please log in to the [Fred Meyer reward system](#) and sign up. Our reward number is: 82527.

Once you are signed up, when you shop at Fred Meyer and use your Rewards Card, *Mask & Mirror* will get a donation from Fred Meyer. The donation to *Mask & Mirror* will be a percentage of sales logged from the use of the Reward Card. This contribution will NOT reduce your personal Rewards benefits in any way.

[There are other ways you can help *Mask & Mirror*.](#)

This newsletter was written and produced by Peter Bolger and edited by Virginia Kincaid

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