

Backstage Notes

Theatre Victoria Newsletter January 2018

Boeing-Boeing to Open January 18

Boeing-Boeing by **Marc Camoletti** is known to all as a “classic” French farce. Okaaay, what does that mean?

Farce is a type of comedy that uses absurd and extremely improbable events in the plot. Farce uses both verbal and physical humor with deliberate character exaggerations. However, characters in farce are ordinary people in situations that are OUT of the ordinary. Farce is also known amongst theatre folk as plays requiring at least 5 doors on the set, all of them available for slamming.

The word “farce” comes from the old French, and means “stuff” or “stuffing.” Historically, farces were comedic interludes between more serious dramas—therefore “stuffing.” Farces are fun to watch and fun to perform.

Set in the 1960’s, bachelor Bernard is very happy. He has a flat in Paris and three beautiful flight attendants (stewardesses) who are all engaged to him, but they don’t know about each other. With each girl on a different flight schedule, Bernard manages to juggle three fiancées without much trouble.

His problems start when his friend Robert comes to stay, the ladies’ schedules get mixed up, and poor Robert can’t keep his stories straight. Add to that a grumpy housekeeper, 7 doors to slam, and an enthusiastic cast. Farce heaven.

Boeing-Boeing is directed by **Lori Williamson**.

The Cast: * Theatre Victoria debut

Bernard— Joey Ochoa*	Robert— Jabe Reynolds*
Berthe— Mickey Short	Gloria— MJ McMichael
Gabriella— Laura Saenz	Gretchen— Natalie Brown*



Donkey (Michael Urbano) onstage in *Shrek, the Musical*.
Photo courtesy of Johnny Vera.

2nd Annual Playwriting Competition

Submissions are now being accepted for Theatre Victoria’s 2nd Playwriting Competition.

The contest is the brainchild of TV volunteer, **Patrick McLaughlin**. Designed to encourage and support budding, but un-produced, playwrights, last year’s competition involved over 50 submissions from all over the country (and 1 from Australia!).

The guidelines require that the submitted play be a full-length comedy and unproduced at the time of submission.

The selection committee chooses the best three of the submitted plays. Then, we perform all three scripts (cut to an hour in length) before at a one-day festival. The audience chooses the winner. The festival winner is placed on our next season for a full-length production.

The winner of our first annual competition (2017-2018 season) was **Four Old Broads** by **Leslie Kimbell**. It has been cast and rehearsals start soon. It is scheduled to open on February 15.

Play submission will be accepted until March 15. If there is a Shakespeare in you, share it with us.

More information about submissions is on our website—theatrevictoria.org

We are reviving our newsletter, *Backstage Notes*. Expect one monthly, as we share information about our productions and the wonderful people who make the magic on stage and off.

Harvey—(Not the play, the hurricane)

Our performance home, the Leo J. Welder Center for the Performing Arts, was thankfully undamaged by the storm. However, the Annex where we had our scenic shop and props and costume shop suffered water damage from the loss of the roof. We had to move out. That was the tragedy—now we are getting to the comedy.

Our new scenic shop is located at 1403 N. Liberty. We are getting settled in, still moving costumes from the Annex and other things from storage units. All of our scenic flats and a great deal of our furniture and props were lost to water damage. The scenic crew is building new. The set of Boeing-Boeing features all new flats and replaced furniture.

Here is a shout-out to some of the people and organizations that worked to help us dry out:

Laredo Community College

Brazosport Center Stages

Estate of Timothy Locher

Mike Luster

Joe Ferguson & the Theatre Victoria Board of Governors

Omar Rachid and Jennifer Rhode Hartman

Theatre Victoria staff—Michael, Hillary, and Lynn

George Matthews

Portsmouth High School, Rhode Island

Ethel Lee Tracy Foundation

Victoria College

The Shorts—Mickey, Gary, Curtis, Jennifer, Kia, and Amber

Karen and Paul Locher

Lori Williamson

Richard Vallejo

And many others whose names have been inadvertently omitted



Above: a section of the props room after the storm



Right top: props retrieved from storage units waiting for a new home

Right bottom: The new home





Got a talent? Then bring it on!

Open to anyone between the ages of 4 through 18.

Auditions on January 27 and **FINALS!!!** on February 23

[Read all about it](#)

On the Calendar

January 1–March 15—Submission period for **2nd Annual Playwriting Competition**

January 11—Start of the **Spring Acting Academy**

January 18-21—Performances of *Boeing-Boeing* by Marc Camoletti

January 27—**Talent Show Auditions**

February 15-18—Performance of *Four Old Broads* by Leslie Kimbell

February 23—Finals of **2nd Annual Talent Show**

February 27—AUDITIONS! - *Leading Ladies* by Ken Ludwig

Read more about everything on our [website](#)



Cast of *The Wedding Singer* taking their bows.
Photo courtesy of Jennifer Stratton Short