

GROVE PLAYERS PRESENTS



BAD SEED

BY MAXWELL ANDERSON



OCTOBER 15-24, 2004

DIRECTED BY FRANCIS MOSES VALACH

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS:

MARIELLEN BASALONE AND CHRISTI GRANATO

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GROVE PLAYERS

2004-2005 Season

An independent, not-for-profit organization, serving the western suburbs since 1936.

For nearly seven decades, our mission has been to bring quality entertainment to our neighbors, and to keep our ticket prices affordable for anyone who wants to experience live theatre.

As we begin a new season, we'd like to thank the following individuals and organizations.

Their generous donations of cash, goods and services during 2004 enabled us to be in a position to replace our 30-year old light board and to purchase a digital sound system, acquisitions which will greatly improve the technical quality of our shows for our audience.

Angels (\$1000+)

The Illinois Arts Council
The Lock Up Storage Center
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Village of Downers Grove Community Grants

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Dr. & Mrs. Paul C. Holinger Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Kasciewicz
Marcia Koppenhoefer Roger and Sharon Place
Mr. & Mrs. Irwin Proksa

Our goal for 2005 is to raise enough money to replace our many obsolete lighting instruments and to purchase our own remote microphone system in time for the spring musical.

If you are in a position to make a donation this year, your tax-deductible contribution will aid us in our mission to improve the quality of our product without having to raise ticket prices.

Please call us at 630-415-3682 if you wish to help. Thank you.

The 2004-2005 Grove Players Executive Board

Rob Pold - president, Mariellen Basalone - vice president, Sarah Chiappano - secretary
Danna Durkin - treasurer, Cheryl Siwek - executive producer, Terry Locke - ways and means

ABOUT THE PLAY

by Danna Durkin

Maxwell Anderson was born in Atlantic, Pennsylvania in 1888. He received his M.A. from Stanford University in 1914. After a brief stint at teaching and journalism, Anderson began writing plays. He claimed to be weary of "plays in prose that never lifted from the ground." His first play, *White Desert*, did just that and Anderson temporarily abandoned his dream and focused on *What Price Glory?*, a World War I comedy which proved to be a solid hit. He finally fulfilled his dream of successfully using poetic tragedy in verse with *Elizabeth the Queen* (1930) and *Mary of Scotland* (1933). His crowning glory was *Winterset* (1935), a poetic tragedy based on a true story and set in contemporary America, winning for Anderson the very first New York Drama Critics Circle Award.

Anderson's later dramas were many and varied, but they all dealt with American citizens or immigrants of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries who were beset with one or more problems such as legal injustice, tragic love, commercial greed, chronic dissatisfaction with job and marriage, racial and religious intolerance, or bad heredity. Most of these plays embody poetry or fantasy or both.

Bad Seed, based on the 1954 novel *The Bad Seed* by William March, was written with surgical coolness and mounting horror. Anderson considered this one of his "pot boilers"—written to make money and pay off previous debts. However, *Bad Seed* was, by far, Anderson's best work of his later years. He skillfully adapted the play into a shocking thriller that pleased both the critics and the crowd.

Bad Seed opened on Broadway in December of 1954 and ran for 334 performances with Patty McCormack playing the part of Rhoda Penmark. It went on to become a popular movie starring much of the original Broadway cast.

Grove Players is a proud recipient of a
2004-2005 Grant from the Village of Downers Grove



CAST OF CHARACTERS

Rhoda Penmark	Lauren Patten
Col. Kenneth Penmark	Alan O'Brien
Christine Penmark	Lori Ann Gerdisch
Monica Breedlove	Danna Durkin
Emery Wages	Jim Orlando
Leroy	Mike Mailloux
Miss Fern	Mariellen Basalone
Reginald Tasker	Manny Schenk
Mrs. Daigle	Cheryl Siwek
Mr. Daigle	Eric Robson
Richard Bravo	James A. Leonard

SCENE

The apartment of Col. and Mrs. Penmark, in a suburb of a Southern City, during the 1950s.

ACT I

- Scene 1: Early morning. A day in early June.
- Scene 2: 2:30 P.M., the same day.
- Scene 3: Evening, the same day.
- Scene 4: Mid-morning, a few days later.

ACT II

- Scene 1: Late afternoon, the next day.
- Scene 2: After breakfast, the next morning.
- Scene 3: After dinner, the next day.
- Scene 4: A few days later.

There will be a 15-minute intermission. Refreshments will be served in the lobby.

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It's very affordable, and a great way to support the arts in your community.

Direct your inquiries to our Ways and Means Director, Terry Locke.

PRODUCTION CREW

Director - Francis Moses Valach

Assistant Directors - Mariellen Basalone, Christi Granato

Producer - Jackie Weiher

Set Designer - Cheryl Siwek

Set Construction/Painting - Stan Thomas*, Mariellen Basalone, Mike Chuman, Danna Durkin, Rich Kropp, Mike Mailloux, Alan O'Brien, Mike Pavia, Rob Pold, Cheryl Siwek, Frank Valach, Jackie Weiher

Set Dressing - Cheryl Siwek*, Ada Koelle, Rob Pold, Eric Robson

Stage Manager/Lighting Designer - Mike Chuman

Light Operator - Steve Siwek

Sound Designer/Operator - Alan O'Brien

Properties - Jackie Weiher*, Mariellen Basalone, Mark Cunningham, Danna Durkin, Tom Lindsay, Jennifer Schmidt, Cheryl Siwek

Costumes - Mariellen Basalone*, Danna Durkin*, Susan Langenfeld, Joann Patten, Cheryl Siwek

Hair/Makeup - Jan Lown

Dialect Coach - Debra Lenhausen

Box Office Chair/Lobby Photos/Archive Display - Danna Durkin

Hospitality - Joyce Tumea*, Marilyn Weiher*, Camille Budach, Carol Clarke, Michael Pemberton, Tony Tumea, Chad Wilmer

Poster/Program Design - Rob Pold

Program Editors - Tom Lindsay, Jennifer Wilson

Publicity - Mariellen Basalone*, Danna Durkin, Tom Frohnafel, Gary Charles Metz, Rob Pold, Marilyn Weiher

* denotes crew chief

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Dawn Balicki

Tina Thiele

Paul's Shoes of Lisle

Jennifer Robbins from St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

B.J. Boyd from Consider It Done

Ann Schepple and the staff of the Lincoln Center

Thank you all for your contributions to the success of this production.

Box Office Crew: Karen Arnold, Dawn Balicki, Sarah Chiappano, Shirley Evans, Rich Gannon, Sue Kuehnhold, Lori Proksa

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MEET THE CAST

MARIELLEN BASALONE (Miss Fern) has enjoyed serving double duty on this show as Ms. Fern and Assistant Director. She has performed for Grove Players in "Applause", "Play It Again Sam", "Oliver", "Anything Goes" and "Cabaret". Other theater credits include productions for Vortex Theatre and Chicago Park District - Theatre on the Lake. She has danced professionally with several Las Vegas Revues as a dancer/showgirl and the Chicago Bulls "Luvabulls" as a dancer/choreographer. She would like to send a "shout out" to her "Luvabull" sisters for their support and special friendships.

DANNA DURKIN (Monica) is thrilled to be on the Grove Players stage once again. She loves playing the part of Monica for this production. Danna has also been seen on Grove's stage as Mrs. Kirby in "You Can't Take It With You" and as Betty in "The Foreigner". Besides being in the cast, Danna is currently Treasurer on the Board of Directors and has done costuming and props for many shows. Aside from theater, Danna works at McDonald's corporate office and enjoys her two children and the grandchildren. Thank you to daughter Dawn for pitching in and helping here and there (we'll get you hooked on theater yet).

LORI ANN GERDISCH (Christine) is very excited to be in her first Grove Players production and would like to thank everyone she has been working with for this wonderful opportunity. She feels very lucky! Lori Ann also enjoys on-camera projects and taking Advanced Scene Study classes in Chicago. She would like to give a very special thank you to her beautiful mother for her unconditional love, babysitting services, patience and understanding. She could not do without the love and support of her husband, Marc, and boys, Robert and Matthew. "I love you, Gram!"

JAMES A. LEONARD (Bravo) is making his debut at Grove Players. He is a native of Chicago and has a background in theater as an actor and as a director. His many stage credits include Stanley Kowalski in "A Streetcar Named Desire", Lenny in "Of Mice and Men", Carl Magnus in "A Little Night Music", El Gallo in "The Fantasticks" and Caiphus in "Jesus Christ Superstar". His most recent stage appearances were at Stage Right Dinner Theatre in "Mame", "Anything Goes" and "Breaking Legs"; and at North Shore Theatre in "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Kiss Me Kate".



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MEET THE CAST

MIKE MALLOUX (Leroy) has been a regular contributor to the Grove Players since 2002, when he first appeared onstage in "Everything in the Garden". Since then, he has acted in several other Grove productions, including "Macbeth", "The Runner Stumbles" and most recently "Applause". He has also been active behind the scenes, serving as assistant director and working on the technical crews for several other shows over the past three seasons. Mike wishes to extend special greetings to his young friends Kia and Neema Webber: "Happy Birthday, Boys! I hope you enjoy the show - and don't play with matches!"

ALAN O'BRIEN (Col. Kenneth Penmark) has recently appeared on the Grove Players stage as Jimmy Perry in "The Gingerbread Lady" and as Dick Christie in "Play it Again Sam". He also played Winston Smith in the Vortex Theater production of "1984". Alan has a background in audio technology, and he recently lent us his expertise to upgrade Grove Players' sound system. With our new digital technology, we'll be able to do so much more with sound effects and background music than we could in the past. Thanks Alan.

JIM ORLANDO (Emery Wages) has over 30 years in the electric industry, and is currently employed as Energy Trader for Northern Indiana Public Service. However, even while his job keeps him quite busy, he still makes time for his true passion, entertaining people. Jim has performed stand-up comedy and emcee work for special occasions and functions for over thirty years. He also has the following credits to his resume; Scapino in "Scapino", Ebenezer Scrooge for Naper Settlement throughout the 1990's and has hosted the cable TV show, "Movers and Shakers" for 3 years.

LAUREN PATTEN (Rhoda Penmark) is thrilled to be in such a challenging play as "Bad Seed". She has felt destined to play Rhoda ever since she was crowned with the title Daimonette. Other credits include Scout in "To Kill a Mockingbird", Anybodys in "West Side Story", Eva in "Kindertransport" and Dormouse in "Alice in Wonderland". She would like to thank her family and the Enebachs for their love and support.

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MEET THE CAST

ERIC ROBSON (Mr. Daigle) - Eric is a newcomer to the Grove Players scene, and he is very excited to have found such a fun, friendly and hard working theater. This is his first full length show following a four year hiatus from acting. Previous performances include "Turandot", "Three Sisters" and "Torture for Breakfast". He'd like to thank his wife and son for supporting him in his return to the stage.

MANNY SCHENK (Reginald Tasker) is pleased to be working with Grove Players for the first time. He has been involved in theater for a number of years and has appeared in over 30 productions with various companies. Some of his favorite roles include Otto Frank in "The Diary of Anne Frank", Tito Morelli in "Lend Me a Tenor", Abe Dreyfuss in "Squabbles", Basil in "The Diviners" and Adolph Freitag in "The Last Night of Ballyhoo". Manny is also involved in "Those Were the Days Radio Players" performing old-time radio shows in the Chicago area.

CHERYL SIWEK (Mrs. Daigle) has been working with Grove Players for the past ten years on and off stage. Her favorite shows include "Woman in Mind", "Anything Goes", "Laura", "Everything in the Garden", "MacBeth" and "Play it Again Sam". Cheryl recently hung up her dancing shoes and looks forward to choreographing "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" in the Spring. She would like to thank the Director for giving her this challenging opportunity.

FRANCIS MOSES VALACH (Director) after directing the final show of last season, "The Gingerbread Lady", Francis is happy to return to help kick off Grove Players current season with "Bad Seed". Other directing credits include "Everything in the Garden", for the Grove Players as well as "Goodbye Charlie" and "The Dining Room" for the Vortex Theater. Francis would like to thank Grove Players and everyone who assisted in the mounting of this production.



This program is partially sponsored
by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council.

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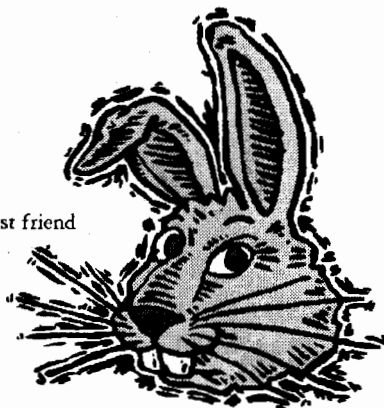
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Harvey

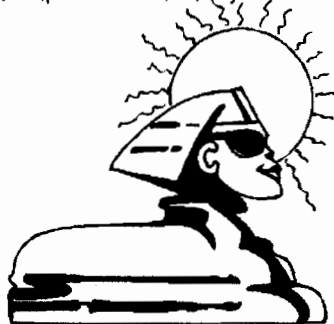
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