

CENTRE STAGE
THEATRE

Presents

*Blithe
Spirit*

A classic comedy
by Noel Coward

*Directed by Mindy Vinqvist-Tymchuk
Co-Directed by Ewan Fox
Produced by Suzie Blatt & Mike Butler*

Oct. 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28 @ 7:30pm
Sunday matinees Oct 15 & 22 @ 2pm

BLITHE SPIRIT IS PRESENTED WITH SPECIAL
ARRANGEMENT THROUGH SAMUEL FRENCH



Cast:

Ruth Condomine.....Melanie Clouthier-Coleman
 Edith.....Chantal Pitcher
 Charles Condomine.....Alan Slipp
 Dr. Bradman.....Ewan Fox
 Mrs. Bradman.....Liz Stern
 Madame Arcati.....Allyson Higgins
 Elvira Condomine.....Penny Nelson

Production Team:

Director.....Mindy Vinqvist-Tymchuk and Ewan Fox
 Producer.....Suzie Blatt & Mike Butler
 Stage Manager.....Carole Anne Beaulne
 Stage Assistants.....Chantal Pitcher
 Light/ Sound Tech.....Michael Schepp
 Lighting Designer.....Shaun Whynacht & Michael Schepp
 Costumes.....Lana Churchill & Carole Anne Beaulne
 Set Design.....Mindy Vinqvist-Tymchuk & Ewan Fox
 Set Construction, Painting.....Blanchard Smith, Vince Fredericks,
Bruce Tymchuk, Mike Beaulne & Cast
 Headshots.....Jeannie Myles
 Poster.....Erin Mercer
 Website/ Newsletter.....Shaun Whynacht & Lana Churchill
 Marketing/ Publicity.....Mike Butler
 Front of House.....Lana Churchill
 Program.....Jeannie Myles

Note from the Director



I hadn't anticipated directing two shows this year (the Altos and Blythe Spirit), but I am so glad that I did. This is a marvelous show - well written, and entertaining. It's a bit long, but I am thinking that you will not notice the passage of time :-). Few things delight me more than when new people get involved with us or I get to work with new people (Ewan, Chantal, Penny, Carole & Michael)...new friends and new shared experiences are a blessing. I am also delighted to work again with folks I've not seen in a while (Melanie, Alan, Liz & Allyson). What a fabulous team! Losing a dear dear friend, when Nancy Henry passed, has made me value the good people in my life even more. Nancy had two wishes at the end - to not go in pain, and to not go at home. It was another blessing that both wishes were granted. I hope that you will consider a free will donation to Valley Hospice, to help support that fine, supportive facility as it supports valley families.



Ewan Fox (Co-Director) - Ewan is super happy to be helping Mindy out and to be back in his happy place in the theatre, directing. He has directed more than 20 shows, ranging from musicals to Shakespeare, dramas to farces. He is thrilled to begin here at CentreStage, meeting and getting to know his new theatre family, and he hopes this will be his first of many shows

Setting:

All scenes take place in The Condomine's house in Kent in the living room

Act One:

- Scene 1 - Evening, 8:00pm
- Scene 2 - Later that evening
- Scene 3 - The next morning, 9:30am

Intermission

Act Two:

- Scene 1 - The following day, late afternoon
- Scene 2 - Several days later, evening
- Scene 3 - Several days later, evening
- Scene 4 - A few hours later





Melanie Clouthier as *Ruth Condomie*

Melanie is no stranger to CentreStage-- performing in *Scrooge!* the Musical and tormenting director Mindy in *My Favourite Husband*-- but this is her first non-musical stage production! She has also been involved in *Mamma Mia* (QAAW), *Children of Eden* (Stage Prophets), *A Little Night Music* (Halifax Summer Opera Festival) and *Die Fledermaus* (Acadia). After spending many years in the trombone section, Melanie discovered a love of singing

through *Phantom of the Opera*. She has performed throughout Nova Scotia as a featured soloist (Chebucto Symphony Orchestra, GAG Events) and on choral tours in Quebec, France, and the Czech Republic.



Ewan Fox as *Dr. Bradman*

Ewan is new to Valley and happy to be working on his first show here at CentreStage. He is an alumnus of the National Theatre School of Canada and Algonquin College. He was in shows such as *Bemused* (Actor), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Director), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Director), *Therac 25* (Actor), *Schoolhouse* (Director), and a whole lot more. In the Before times, he made his living doing production management for large-scale events and festivals. These days

he is settling into his new home in the Valley and can often be found behind the bar at Paddy's Pub right here in Kentville.



Allyson Higgins as *Madame Arcarti*

Allyson is happy to be on stage again after last year's involvement in *The Unexpected Guest* and *The Ladies Foursome*. She is very excited to play Madame Arcarti who delves into the spirit world with sometimes surprising results! A poltergeist maybe? One can never tell...

With a bit of the bizarre, a bit of the eccentric and a bit of humour, she hopes to bring this interesting character to life for you all. Enjoy!



Penny Nelson as *Elvira*

Penny has been involved in community theatre in Nova Scotia since 2014, first with the North Shore Players in Tatamagouche, and since in the Annapolis Valley. She has been in *Broken Glass* (Lighthouse Theatre Company), *Wise Women* (CentreStage) and *Oliver!* (North Shore Players). She's delighted to be back at Centre Stage with this fantastic cast and crew, and hopes you enjoy the show as much as she does!



Chantal Pitcher as *Edith*

It was at CentreStage, Chantal saw her first play when she was six. She caught the acting bug, unfortunately this is a bug you can never really recover from. She began her journey of doing a lot of acting camps and previously was in 'Christmas Cabaret'. She is super excited to dip her toes back into the world of theatre. Chantal's last performance on stage was more than a decade ago. Wish her luck and she hopes you enjoy this ghostly show.



Alan Slipp as *Charles Condomine*

Alan Slipp is a familiar face to Valley audiences. He was last seen at CentreStage in Neil Simon's *The Dinner Party* but has kept busy with other productions including *Mamma Mia* (*Quick As A Wink*), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (*Stage Prophets*) and his one-man show about John Herbin in *Grand Pre*. Alan continues to perform with Valley Ghost Walks and we're sure to see him in more productions following *Blithe Spirit*. Alan wishes to thank his friends, family and supporters of live theatre, and a special thank you to Mike Butler for writing this bio!



Liz Stern as *Mrs. Bradman*

Liz Stern is happy to be back at CentreStage after acting with other local drama companies such as Stage Prophets in (*Mary Poppins*), *Romeo and Juliet* with the Valley Drama School and singing with Kings Chorale and The North Mountain Chorus. Noel Coward plays are always enticing for her the last one being *Hay Fever* back in the last century! Thanks to my grandchildren who help me learn my lines and who usually have them memorized long before I do!

Get in the *Blithe Spirit* of things!

Visit our fun display in the lobby, snap a photo and share it to your socials!





Carole Anne Beaulne as *Stage Manager*

Carole Anne is no stranger to theatre having participated in several such as Ragtime, Christmas Carol, Scrooge the Musical, Devil's Disciple, Brigadoon, Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat, Violet, Parade, Sound of Music, Godspell, Butterflies Are Free, White Christmas, State Fair the Musical, My Fair Lady, Fiddler On the Roof, The Music Man, Sunday in the Park with George and many more. Carole Anne is a lifelong learner of the arts. She is

a dancer/choreographer, musician, vocalist, actor, and director. Originally from Ottawa, she moved from the US in 2019 to Nova Scotia. In 2021 She directed Shorts and Suites in Chester on the Summer Without Walls season. She has worked in many aspects of theatre. She worked for 4 years at Only A Stage a Children's theatre company in Chicago before moving to NE Iowa where she had the privilege of having many opportunities to further her skills on stage and backstage. She has sat on several arts boards and has owned and operated two arts performance studios and created two non-profit arts organizations.



Michael Schepp as *Lights and Sound*

This is Michael's debut with CentreStage and he looks forward to helping with whatever show needs help in the future! Coming from away with no theatre experience, Michael could easily be taken for an invasive specimen. 5 years and eyewitness accounts have proved there is no danger. Sightings have happened in a range of environments. Michael appears to be comfortable clearing and maintaining trails, gardening and landscaping, and in the kitchen making

a variety of goodies, to name but a few. Characterized by a slow warming to strangers, sources say it is a worthwhile endeavor. Remember, Michael is likely much more apprehensive meeting you, than the reverse. Now why are you still reading this? Enjoy the show!



Suzie Blatt as *Co-Producer*

Suzie is happy to be sharing the role with Mikey! This is her third show as a Producer with CentreStage. Each time is allowing her to learn the various ways Directors work with their cast and crew and to really understand the inner workings of a show. Preferring to be behind the scenes, you can find her doing miscellaneous jobs around the Theatre such as painting sets, sanding drywall, working in the Box Office and attending to the Secretary role for the CentreStage Theatre Society Board. She hopes you enjoy this show and return for many many more!

CentreStage Theatre Society Board. She hopes you enjoy this show and return for many many more!



Mike Butler as Co-Producer

Mike has taken more of a backseat to theatre life lately with directing, producing and diving into his duties with the CentreStage Board of Directors. He most recently directed *Murder on the Canadian* (CentreStage) and *Mamma Mia* (Quick As A Wink) and was seen in *The Late, Late, Late, Late Show* dinner theatre at the Old Orchard Inn (with a holiday show in the works). Up next, Mike is producing the *Holiday Double Feature* at CentreStage, acting and stage

managing in *Frankenstein* for Quick As A Wink (October) and planning out his 2024. He is a Councillor for the Town of Wolfville and loves time with friends, and family. And while he wishes he could have been on stage with *Blithe Spirit*, producing the show was lots of fun. Enjoy the show everyone and thank you!



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About The Artist



Robin Hindle is an artist and retired graphic designer living in Nova Scotia. She has been working in the visual arts for over forty years, including drawing, painting, pottery, other clay work and whatever medium she can get a hold of. She has been into photography since she received her first camera at the age of fourteen. Through taking courses, she learned to use Adobe Photoshop to

improve and/or manipulate photos.

Robin has added author to her credits with her first book, published two years ago, called *Famlaer - The Real Faery World*. All of the illustrations are hand drawn and shaded with pencil, then scanned and coloured in Adobe Photoshop, adding even more artistic style to each illustration. *Famlaer* is available on Amazon in print or e-book. She has a second edition coming this month, along with her second book, *Famlaer – A New Beginning in an Old Land*, by the end of the year.



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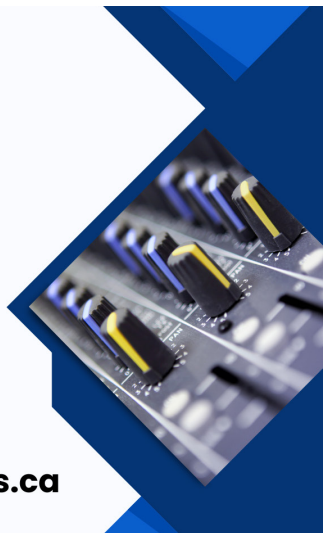
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*Thank you to all participants and
volunteers.*

Enjoy the show!

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DIRECTED BY DAVID MYLES AND LILLY ASHDOWN

"I ought to be thy Adam,
but I am rather the fallen angel..."

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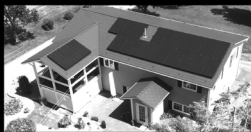
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