



**Seventh Season
1995 - 1996**

**President:
Sandra Dickson**

Theatre Guild

VALDOSTA

PRESENTS THE
1995-96 SEASON

A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Forum

Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Book by Burt Shevelove & Larry Gelbart

Sept. 21, 22, 23, 24*
28, 29, 30

THE UNINVITED

Suspense by Dorothy McCardle

Nov. 9, 10, 11, 12*
16, 17, 18

THE ODD COUPLE

Comedy by Neil Simon

Jan. 25, 26, 27, 28*
Feb. 1, 2, 3

Finishing Touches

Comedy by Jean Kerr

May 9, 10, 11, 12*
16, 17, 18

ON STAGE NOW
MUSIC-COMEDY

THEATRE GUILD

ON STAGE NOW
DRAMA-SUSPENSE

...and
TWO BIG SHOWS
for CHILDREN!
Nov. 26 & Apr. 23

EVENING PERFORMANCES 8:00PM

*SUNDAY MATINEE 2:30PM

CALL 24-STAGE FOR SEASON TICKET INFORMATION

Theatre Guild Valdosta • 122 N. Ashley St. • P.O. Box 2831 • Valdosta, GA

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Senex.....	Jerry Dickson
Domina.....	Mary Ann Green
Hero.....	Tim Fausett
Hysterium.....	Murray Weed
Pseudolus.....	Ricardo Ipina
Erronius.....	Jack Pruden
Miles Gloriosus.....	Melton Bennett
Lycus.....	Jerry Ellis
Lintanabula.....	Nichole Paulson
Panacea.....	Kelda Lane
The Geminae.....	Daphne Griffis, Jennifer Britt
Vibrata.....	Debra Doster
Gymnasia.....	Debi Parkhill
Philia.....	Jennifer Mann
The Proteans.....	Jim Britt, Doug Britt, Brett Lane
	Brandon Bateman, Christopher Thomas, Ken Kinard
Piano.....	Greg Millette

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director.....	Sandra Dickson
Assistant Director.....	Martha Griffis
Musical Director.....	Ricardo Ipina
Producer.....	Brenda Carter
Choreographers.....	Dianne Lewis, Sandra Dickson
Stage Manager.....	Brenda Carter
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Brendan Griffis
Dance Captain.....	Tim Fausett
Lighting.....	Phil Jones, David Ince
Make-up.....	Debbie Parrish, Angie Sosa
Set Designer.....	Sandra Dickson
Set Construction Supervisor.....	Jerry Ellis
Set Construction.....	Joanne Griner, Murray Weed, LeAnn Weed, Daphne Griffis, Mary Ann Green, Brendan Griffis, Beau Griffis, Martha Griffis, Kelda Lane, Phil Jones, Mary Helen Watson, Brett Lane, "Spanky" Whitfield, Jack Pruden, Ricardo Ipina, Jerry Dickson, Jan Hobson
Costumer.....	Marge Pruden
Assistant Costumers.....	Eleanor Bollman, Mary Helen Watson
Special Set Art.....	Susan Wood, Ferrell Harris
Publicity.....	Joanne Griner
House Manager.....	Jerry Ellis
Box Office.....	Charles Green
Concessions.....	Joyce Britt
Program.....	Jan Hobson
Bust.....	Rhonda Jones, Susan Wood, Ferrell Harris, Mary Ann Green

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM

SEPTEMBER 1995

Theatre Guild opens its new season tonight

By JOE DUNLOP

The curtains open tonight on the stage at the Dosta Playhouse for the opening performance of the Theatre Guild Valdosta's 1995-96 season.

Sandra Dickson, guild president and director for "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" said the cast was holding up well as show time approached.

"It's going well," she said Tuesday, after Monday's dress rehearsal. Tuesday night the cast would be under the lights again for a full dress rehearsal including make-up. "It gets a little hectic, but I think every play gets that way."

The cast for the performance is: Jerry Dickson, Mary Ann Green, Tim Fausett, Murray Weed, Ricardo Ipina, Jack Pruden, Melton Bennett, Jerry Ellis, Nichole Paulson, Kelda Lane, Jennifer Britt, Daphne Griffis, Debra Doster, Debbie Parkhill, Jennifer Mann, Brett Lane, Jim Britt, Ken Kinard, Doug Britt and Chris Thomas.

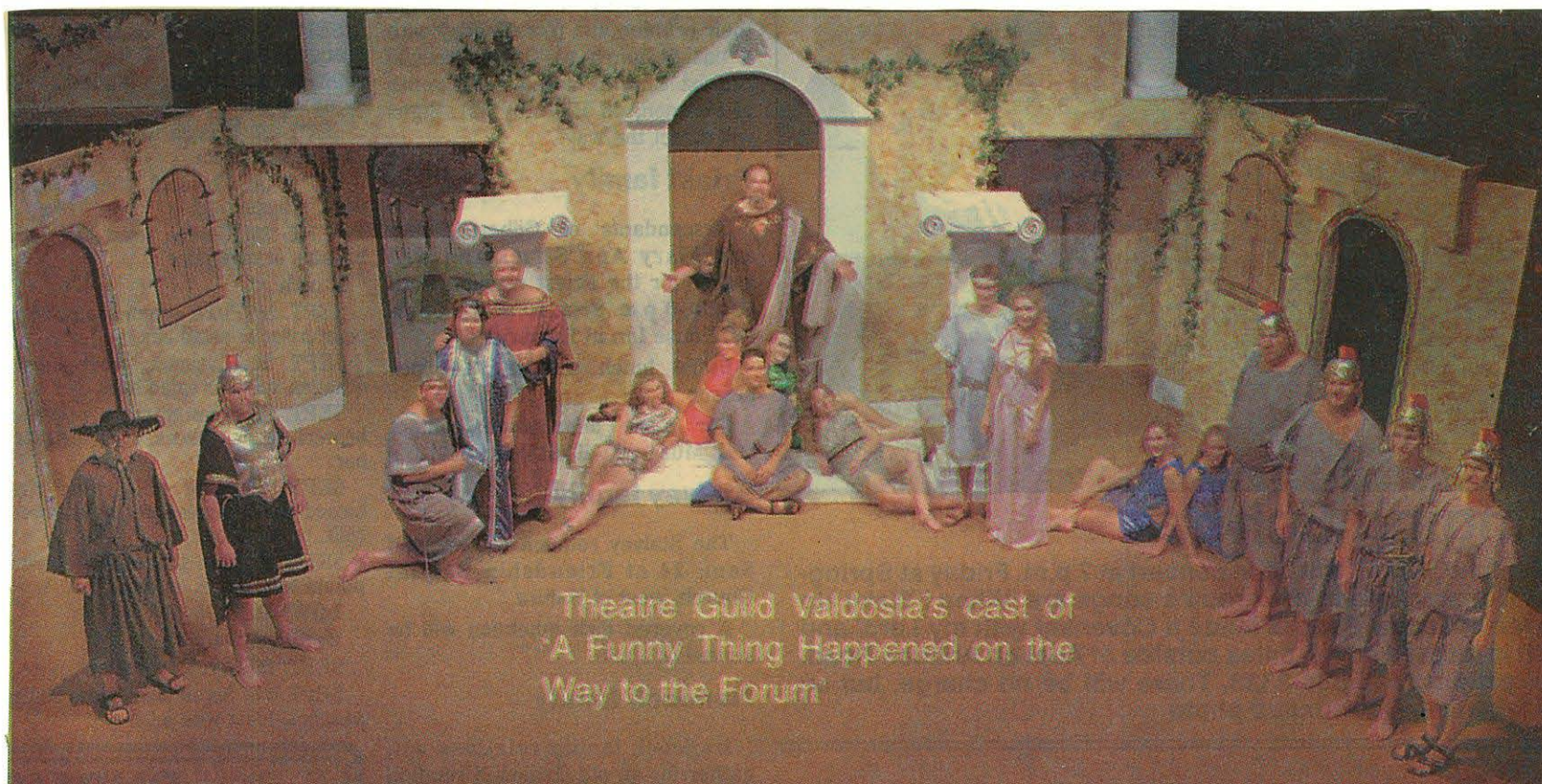
A favorite for local theater groups, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum" was written by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart, with music by Stephen Sondheim.

"I think every director brings to a play a vision," said Ms. Dickson. "What I want to see is a Roman comedy, vaudeville and slapstick, and that's what we've got. Not a serious moment in the show."

She said the play has two acts, each a little more than an hour long, with a 15-minute intermission between acts. Soft drinks and coffee will be available.

According to a press release from the guild, the play's protagonist is Pseudolus, a roguish slave with plans for freedom. Hero, Pseudolus' young master, is willing to cut him a deal. All Pseudolus has to do is capture Philia, a beautiful girl whom Hero has seen from his bedroom window. Mixed in with recognizable songs is a group of unsavory characters, a befuddled father with a shrewish wife, neighbors, strangers and the Roman army. The mounting confusion makes for mounting comedy.

For ticket information, call 24-STAGE. Opening night seats are \$5.



Theatre Guild Valdosta's cast of "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum"

Characters (In Order of Appearance)

Stella Meredith.....	Kelda Lane
Pamela Fitzgerald.....	Tess Hill
Roddy Fitzgerald.....	Robert Hatton
Commander Brooke.....	Jeff Fulp
Lizzie Flynn.....	Sandra Dickson
Mrs. Jessup.....	Joanne Griner
Wendy.....	Martha Reynolds
Max Hillard.....	Ken Kinard
Dr. Scott.....	Phil Jones
Miss Holloway.....	Debbie Parrish

and

THE UNINVITED



The action of the play takes place in the sitting room of Cliff End, an isolated house overlooking the Bristol Channel in the west of England. The time is the present.

Act I

Scene 1: A late summer morning

Scene 2: Some weeks later. Afternoon.

Act II

Scene 1: Two weeks later. Evening

Scene 2: The following morning.

Act III

That evening.



Production Staff

Director.....	Jerry Dickson
Producer.....	Brenda Carter
Stage Manager/Props.....	Brenda Carter
Assistant Stage Manager/Props.....	Carlisle Womack
Lighting.....	Jan Hobson, David Ince, Carlton Wilson
Sound.....	Melton Bennet
Set Designer.....	Jerry Dickson
Set Construction Supervisor.....	Jerry Ellis
Set Construction.....	Joanne Griner, Jerry Fulp, Michael Wetherington, Mary Ann Green, Susan Mann, Sandra Dickson, Phil Jones, Mary Helen Watson, "Spanky" Whitfield, Susan Wood, Robert Hatton, Jerry Dickson, Jan Hobson
Costumer.....	E.D. Head
Special Set Art.....	Susan Wood
Publicity.....	Melton Bennett
House Manager/Box Office.....	Jerry Ellis
Concessions.....	Joyce Britt
Program.....	Jan Hobson



Special thanks to the following merchants, organizations and individuals for their support

Miller Hardware	Lowndes County School System	WAAC Radio
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Valdosta Daily Times	Valdosta High School Drama	WQPW Radio
WALB-TV	Valdosta State University Theatre Department	



1995/96 Theatre Guild Valdosta Board of Directors

President.....	Sandra Dickson
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Treasurer.....	Jack Pruden
Publicity/PR Chair.....	Jim Britt
Membership.....	Joanne Griner
House Manager/Box Office.....	Jerry Ellis
Play Selection Chair.....	Jerry Dickson
Member-at-Large.....	Brenda Carter
LVAC Liaison.....	John Youmans



Sandra Dickson, left, as 'Lizzie Flynn,' and Joanne Griner as 'Mrs. Jessup' practice their lines from 'The Uninvited.' — Times photo by Mike Tanner



From left, Debbie Parrish as Nurse Holloway, Kelda Lane as Stella Meredith, Jeff Fulp as Commander Brooke, Tess Hill as Pam, and Robert Hatton as Roddy rehearse a scene from 'The Uninvited.' — Times photo by Mike Tanner

Theatre Guild Valdosta will present its second production of the season, "The Uninvited," tonight through Sunday and Nov. 16-18 at the newly renovated Dosta Theatre, 122 N. Ashley St.

"This British play promises to hold you captive with its charming cast, special effects and unexpected visitors" in this ghost story, according to Melton Bennett, editor of Script Scraps. The play is being directed by Theatre

Guild Valdosta veteran actor and director, Jerry Dickson.

Cast members for "The Uninvited" include Martha Reynolds, Tess Hill, Robert Hatton, Jeff Fulp, Sandra Dickson, Debbie Parrish, Kelda Lane, Ken Kinard, Phil Jones and Joanne Griner.

All shows begin at 8 p.m. except for the Sunday matinee at 2:30 p.m. Reservations may be made by calling the Theatre Guild Valdosta box office at 24STAGE.

Cast in order of appearance

Holly's Voice.....Jack Pruden
Horace.....Jack Pruden
Martha.....Carlise Womack
Robert.....Mike Fretti
George.....Rick Patrick
Alice.....Kristine Rieger
Julia.....Elisha Parkhill
Molly.....Taylor Jarvis
Billy.....Brendan Griffis
Margaret.....Mary Ann Green

The action takes place on December 24, 1992 in the home of Horace Lattimer, in Valdosta, Georgia.

Act I
Christmas Eve

Act II
Later Christmas Eve

There will be a brief blackout between acts. There will be no intermission.

The cast thanks you for your cooperation.

The taking of flash photography is strictly forbidden.

Production Staff

Director.....Charles Green
Assistant Director.....Jim Britt
Stage Manager/Props.....Marge Pruden
Lighting Design.....Liz Miller
Lighting Technician.....Spanky Whitfield
Set Design.....Charles Green
Set Construction Supervisor.....Jerry Ellis
Set Construction.....Company
Sound.....Liz Miller
Costumes.....Company
Publicity.....Jim Britt, Joann Griner, Melton Bennett
House Manager.....Sandra Dickson
Program.....Meredith Carter
Artwork/Posters.....Kay Jennett
Marquee Photographs.....Brenda Carter

Angel Sponsors

Langdale Ford and Valdosta Bar Association

Furniture provided by Laws Furniture Gallery

Thanks also to: The Book Worm, Kay Jennett, Mary Watson, Paul McNeal, Robin Hubbell, Valdosta Daily Times, WAAC radio, WVLB radio, WQPW radio, Valdosta State University and Central Valdosta Development Authority.

Autographs:

A LITTLE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

DECEMBER 1995



Characters

Jeff Cooper, Professor of English	Jerry Dickson
Katy Cooper, his wife	Mary Ann Green
Kevin Cooper, their middle son	Brett Lane
Hughie Cooper, their youngest son	Brendan Griffis
Fred Whitten, a friend and neighbor	Jack Pruden
Steve Cooper, their eldest son	Matt Bair
Felicia Andrayson, Steve's girlfriend	Tess Hill
Elsie Ketchum, a graduate student	Melissa Spells

Setting: The Cooper family home in New England.	Act I: Early morning, around 7:00
Time: The present, Memorial Day weekend.	Act II: Late afternoon, same day
	Act III: Evening of same day, around 7:30

Director's Notes

Tonight marks my debut with Theatre Guild Valdosta, so I feel an introduction is in order considering that many of you in the audience today may be unfamiliar with who I am and what I've done. I am a recent graduate of the Theatre Program at Valdosta State University. While in attendance at VSU, I performed on stage but found my true calling to be directing. I became very involved in the technical aspects of theatre and my send-off at VSU was directing the final two playlettes of Neil Simon's *California Suite*. Previously I completed an internship at Valwood School and directed the One-Act Play for Region Competition, *Genesis*. I am now in the midst of applying to graduate schools to continue my education. I plan to work towards a Master of Fine Arts Degree with an emphasis in Directing with the hopes of teaching and directing in a University system. Keep your fingers crossed!

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to the home and the life of Jeff and Katy Cooper. Their well-lived-in and comfortable home, with the clutter, the potpourri of furniture and the various and sundry collectibles, is indeed indicative of the very life the whole family leads. I have had a wonderful experience working with Theatre Guild Valdosta, especially my excellent cast and crew! You have all done a superb job and should be very proud of yourselves and each other. I would like to dedicate this show to everyone out there who is searching for the answers to life, love, and happiness. I hope we find the answers and that we learn, as Jeff and Katy learn, a little about ourselves and about one another. Thank you all for being here and fasten your seatbelts for this emotional rollercoaster of a ride.

Brenda Kay Brunston

Production Crew

Assistant Director	Elizabeth Miller
Technical Director	Jerry Ellis
Production Supervisor	Sandra Dickson
Properties Mistress	Linda Boyett
Properties Crew	Warren H. Brown
Wardrobe Mistress	Phyllis Childree
Light Board Operator	Jan Hobson, Carlton Wilson
Scenic Artists	Mary Helen Watson, Kay Jennette
Set Construction/Paint Crew	Jerry Ellis, Jan Hobson, Liz Miller, Linda Boyett, Mary Ann Green, Jack Pruden, Brenda Kay Brunston, "Spanky" Whitfield, Warren Brown, Rick Patrick, Brett Lane, Marge Pruden
Publicity Crew	Jim Britt, Joanne Griner, Tess Hill, Rick Patrick, Kay Jennette
Concessions Manager	Joyce Britt
House Manager	Jerry Ellis
Program	Jan Hobson
Photographer	Brenda Carter

FINISHING TOUCHES

MAY 1996

Review: Play will provide 'Finishing Touches' to a good day

By KATHY BLANTON
For The Valdosta Daily Times

To quote Brett Lane, a sardonic teen-ager in Theatre Guild's latest production, "Finishing Touches," "I'm laughing on the inside!"

The contemporary comedy is full of one-liners that make one giggle right along, keeping a smile upon the face. "Finishing Touches" picks up a family in midstream: kids in middle school, high school and college; father in career power struggle; mother fighting off child-bearing urges for grandchild wishes; seasoned home with family-like neighbors; and a myriad of pets, friends and relationships to spice up any 24-hour period.

Debuting director Brenda Brunston pulls off a wonderful slapstick, tongue-in-cheek comedy that demands the utmost of an attention span to catch all the symbolism and tongue-lashing jibes. Seasoned board-stomper, Jerry Dickson, plays the husband/professor who is fractionally divided between a young sweet thing, Elsie Ketchum played by Melissa Spells, and the older dependable thing: his wife. Jeff's mid-life crisis threatens to cut jagged lines through a family's continuum as other members ignore, accept or revolt to the sudden upheaval.

Mary Ann Green says it all with reflective self-talks, facial expressions and innovative couch positions. This cup-smashing wife wields a

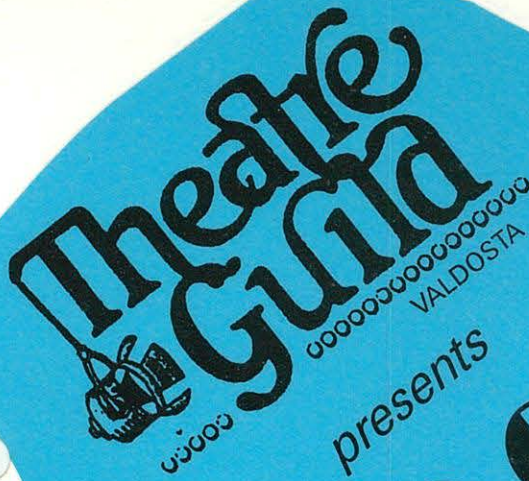
flexible attitude with contemporary values. Trying to understand and compromise for the sake of all, she finally cries for justification of her confusion with, "... His subconscious belongs to me." Catching the wife with her defenses down, neighbor Jack Pruden (Fred), pats her hand, then her arm, then her back, and on and on to help console an emotionally volatile woman. Fred can't get the moves on, however, for children interrupting. Eager-beaver Brendan Griffis and brother, earring-jeweled Matt Blair, with girlfriend Tess Hill keep the scenes jumping as they loop in and out of disaster and catastrophe.

There is a happy ending, but you'll have to catch it this week as the play finishes tonight, Friday

and Saturday in Downtown's Dosta Theatre. If the neon candle's rolling, you should be strolling, or 24-STAGE tolling to the cutest little live performance in town: "Finishing Touches." What a great way to top off your day. It's just the right, finishing touch.

For more information or reservations, call 24-STAGE. All performances are held in the newly renovated Dosta Theatre in Downtown Valdosta, sporting central heating and air. For information about productions and try-outs, call Sandra Dickson, president of Theatre Guild Valdosta.

Kathy Blanton is a teacher at Lowndes Middle School.



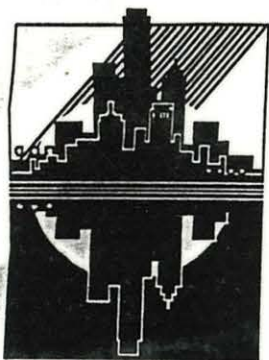
presents

THE ODD COUPLE

Comedy by Neil Simon

JANUARY 25, 26, 27, 28*
and
FEBRUARY 1, 2, 3 1996





THE ODD COUPLE

A comedy in three acts.

by Neil Simon

The Odd Couple
is produced by special arrangement with
Samuel French, Inc.

Characters

Oscar.....	Jeff Fulp
Felix	Tracy Harrington
Roy.....	Mike Fretti
Speed.....	Jerry Ellis
Murray.....	Rick Patrick
Vinnie.....	Charles Green
Gwendolyn.....	Kristine Rieger
Cecily.....	Tess Hill

An apartment on Riverside Drive. New York City.

Act I

A hot summer night.

Act II

Scene 1: Two weeks later. About 11 P.M.

Scene 2: A few days later. About 8 P.M.

Act III

The next evening. About 7:30 P.M.

Director's Notes

Directing the *Odd Couple* has truly been a growth experience for me. When I began this endeavor I was concerned with many things but I hadn't given much thought to expectations—during the course of the rehearsals I realized there are tremendous expectations connected to presenting a very well known play! It has been a challenge to meet my expectation, and those of the cast, as to what the *Odd Couple* should be, look and sound like. We have had many evenings of laughter in the preparation. I hope that the finished product, presented to you with love and laughter, will meet your expectations as well.

Mary Helen Watson

The taking of photographs during the production is strictly forbidden.

