

Milford Second Street Players

proudly present

I LOVE YOU,

YOU'RE PERFECT,

NOW CHANGE

BOOK AND LYRICS BY JOE DI PIETRO

MUSIC BY JIMMY ROBERTS

DIRECTED BY BEN LONSKI

Sept. 30, Oct. 1, 2, 7, 8 & 9, 2011

Riverfront Theatre

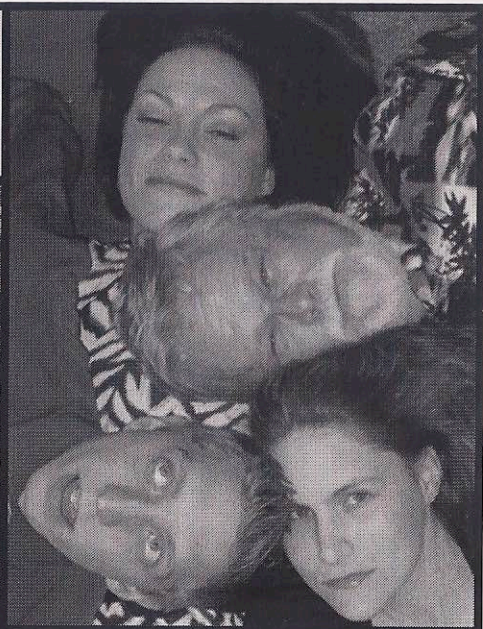
2 S. Walnut Street, Milford, DE 19963

This program is made possible, in part, by a grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency dedicated to nurturing and supporting the arts in Delaware, in partnership with the National Endowment of the Arts



Produced by Special Arrangement with Rodgers & Hammerstein

I LOVE YOU,
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CAST

JIM CALLAWAY

STEVEN DOW

AMY STONE

KIM SWANSTROM



Special appearance by DEBBIE LONSKI as "The Card Girl"

MUSICAL NUMBERS



ACT 1

ACT 2

"Prologue"

"Cantata Reprise #2"

"Cantata for a First Date"

"Always a Bridesmaid"

"We Had It All"

"The Baby Song"

"A Stud and a Babe"

"Marriage Tango"

"Single Man Drought"

"On the Highway of Love"

"Why? 'Cause I'm a Guy"

"Waiting Trio"

"Tear Jerk"

"Shouldn't I Be Less In
Love With You?"

"I Will Be Loved Tonight"

"I Can Live With That"

"Hey There, Single Gal/Guy"

"Epilogue"

"He Called Me"

"I Love You, You're Perfect,
Now Change"

"Cantata Reprise #1"

"Wedding Vows"

CREW

DIRECTOR Ben Lonski

MUSICAL DIRECTOR Carly Jo Hosbach

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR Debbie Passwaters

PRODUCER Mark Dissinger

CHOREOGRAPHER Maria Fry

STAGE MANAGER Melissa Jansen

STAGE CREW Robbie Butler, Adam Lonski

LIGHTING DESIGN Mark Dissinger, Ben Lonski

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT Mark Dissinger

SOUND James Dow

SET DESIGN Ben Lonski

MASTER CARPENTER Chris Annand

SET CONSTRUCTION & PAINTING Jim Callaway, Mark Dissinger
Steve Dow, Melissa Jansen, Ben Lonski, Debbie Passwaters

COSTUMES Sharon Buchanan, Cast & Crew

PUBLICITY Susan Newark, Mark Dissinger

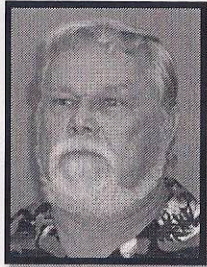
TICKETS Tracy Dissinger, Valerie Andrews

HOSPITALITY Ben Lonski

PLAYBILL Steve Twilley

PLAYBILL ADVERTISING Joan Lofland, Dan Marabello

MEET THE CAST AND CREW OF I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE



Jim Callaway, SSP Board member, makes his Riverfront Theatre stage debut...and his first time onstage in more than 30 years when he appeared in such shows as *Bye, Bye Birdie* and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. He also sang in a rock band from the late 70s to early 90s. On his return to the stage Jim advises audiences to "just watch as we all embarrass ourselves for your enjoyment!" A resident of Harrington, Jim owns Wire Notz Electric and is facilities manager with the Holy Cross Parish. "Doing this show has been great," he says, "and we were all always willing to do whatever it took to make it that way."



Steven "Janky" Dow is another newcomer to SSP. "I started doing theater about two years ago almost by accident," Steven says. "A friend of mine was in a show and asked me if I would fill a role that they needed. I've been hooked ever since!" In that span he has appeared in *Footloose*, *Les Miserables*, *Sweeney Todd*, and more. He works at the Greentree Branch of PNC in Dover, recently moved back to live with his father and two brothers, Steven has time for little else but theatre. "I can't say enough about this cast and crew," he says, "and how everyone has just come together to make this show what it is. I love you all!"



Mark Dissinger (PRODUCER), SSP Board member and treasurer, is back behind the scenes after just directing SSP's summer comedy, *Barefoot in the Park*. He is a frequent SSP director for such shows as *Cinderella*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Annie*, *The Sound of Music* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. "I've had so many laughs just watching this cast rehearse," he says, "I can't wait for our audiences to share in the fun." Watch for Mark later this fall in Milford's annual community (Halloween) parade and his unexpected theatre appearances as a flamboyant pirate. Mark and his wife, Tracy, share a home in Milford with daughter, Libby, and various four-legged creatures.



Maria Fry (CHOREOGRAPHER) has been on stage as a dancer since the age of four and has been doing plays since she was 12. Some of her more recent onstage appearances with SSP include *Barefoot in the Park*, *Gypsy*, *Annie*, and *Crimes of the Heart*. She choreographed SSP's *Meshuggah-Nuns!*, *The Sound of Music*, and *Annie* as well as shows for the Kent County Theater Guild and Calvary Assembly of God Church. Maria is also a dance instructor for the First State Academy of Dance. Away from the theatre or dance studio (whenever that is!) Maria enjoys physical activities and home improvements. She lives in Milford, with her son, Sean.



Carly Jo Hosbach (MUSICAL DIRECTOR) has been very busy theatrically since moving from Pittsburgh to Milford just a couple of years ago. She has recently appeared onstage in *Meshuggah-Nuns!*, *Move Over, Mrs. Markum* and *As You Like It*, and behind the scenes with SSP's *Barefoot in the Park* and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. "I think everyone can relate to at least one scene in this show. We've all secretly thought the same things!" Carly Jo graduated from Ohio University and earned a Masters Degree from Misericordia University. When not at the theatre, she works as a speech-language pathologist in inpatient rehabilitation and enjoys cooking and exploring Delaware.



Melissa Janson (STAGE MANAGER) Melissa Janson has been on the Riverfront stage many times, including *Greater Tuna*, *Dearly Departed*, *Dinner with Friends*, and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. Although she says she prefers to be on-stage and has worked crew for many other musicals, this is her first time stage managing a musical and she says she's "had a blast doing it!" Melissa thinks that everyone can find something to relate to in this production. "This show makes it easy to find humor in our day-to-day relationships." Melissa works from her Milford home as a call center coordinator for Aetna and enjoys time with her daughter, Megan, and son, Tyler.



Ben Lonski (DIRECTOR) returns to the director's chair after helming SSP's *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* last year, and will be back to direct *The Diary of Anne Frank* in 2012. An SSP Board member, Ben has appeared in such shows as *Our Town*, *Oscar & Felix*, *Dinner With Friends*, and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. "This has been such an amazingly talented and hard working cast and crew," Ben says. "I love them, they're perfect, and I wouldn't change a single one of them!" He is a physical therapy assistant at the Milford Center. Ben lives in Magnolia with his wife, Debbie, and enjoys time with their children, Troy, Rebecca, Sarah, and Patrick



Debbie Lonski assures us that neither the casting couch nor pillow talk had anything to do with her role as the Card Girl in husband Ben's show! Although Debbie has no theatre experience, when she realized that her husband's production team was made up mostly by young women she decided she better come down to Riverfront and keep an eye on him! Debbie owns Exquisite Nutrition in Dover. When she's not at work or keeping an eye on Ben, she's at home enjoying time with the kids...and keeping an eye on Ben!



Debbie Passwaters (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR) has appeared in such SSP shows as *Meshuggah-Nuns!* and *Greater Tuna*, directed *The Three Bully Goats Griff*, and assistant-directed *Toy School*. "When Ben asked me to assistant direct I thought, 'Wow, they're gonna let Ben direct this show? They have no idea what's gonna hit 'em! Yeah, I wanna be a part of that!'" Debbie most relates to the gals singing "Single Man Drought" because "the dating scene these days is an interesting mix of crazies!" Debbie lives in Milford and is an RN for Delaware Hospice. She loves to go out dancing (*with the crazies?!*) and has a new love. . . for running and cycling.



Amy Stone will be remembered by SSP audiences for her powerful and seductive performance as Maggie in last fall's *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. She has appeared at other theatres in such shows as *Steel Magnolias*, *Suddenly Last Summer*, and *Nunsense*. Amy says, "It's been such a joy being back on the Riverfront stage, especially with this crazy and talented bunch of people. cast and crew!" She lives in Salisbury with husband, Nathan, and sons, Cade, Dane, and Beckett. Amy is an ABA therapist and educational consultant for children with autism.



Kim Swanstrom returns to the Riverfront stage after her 2009 appearance in SSP's *Babes in Toyland*. "That just got my feet wet. So here I am and loving every minute!" Kim says that the show is so successful because it is so relatable. "There will be at least one scene where you'll nudge the person next to you and laugh because 'you've been there and done that!'" Kim lives in Milford and works at Artisans' Bank by day and Georgia House Restaurant by night. "I want to thank my husband, Nate, for keeping up with the laundry and keeping my four 'children' – Roxy, Nena, Kiki and Little Miss – fed and alive while I rehearsed for this show."



SUPPORTING CAST & CREW

Director Ben Lonski depends upon the talents — and strong support — of his cast and crew. From left: Jim Callaway, Amy Stone, Debbie Passwaters, Carly Jo Hosbach, Kim Swanstrom, and Steve Dow.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES...



As soon as I read *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* I knew I had to be involved in this production. The problem is, I have no musical talent at all. The only solution was to direct it. I managed to surround myself with the perfect production crew which enabled me to bring this show to life on our stage. None of this would have been possible without them. Debbie, Carly Jo, Melissa ... thank you so much. Then we found the four perfect people to portray the struggles of dating and love. They are a wonderfully talented group of people, as you will see.

You will find that everyone who sees this show will identify with some or all of it. The amount will only be determined by life experience and age. This is not a continuous story line; each scene stands on its own to show a different aspect of the hell we call love. We will travel along the time line of relationships starting with getting ready for a first date to come on lines uttered by an elderly gentleman at a funeral. Be prepared to laugh until you cry as we explore dating, parents, marriage, children, sex, frustrations, and old age.



Last, but certainly not least, I need to thank my wife, Debbie. Without her support this would not have been possible. She puts up with a lot just being married to me. Add in my obsession with the stage and she could probably write her own comedy about marriage.

Thank you and enjoy!

Ben

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

SSP Board of Directors

Members of Second Street Players

The Georgia House