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Index

(click a heading to visit that section)

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Program

Setting

Run Time

Song List

Cast Biographies

Production Biographies

Production Staff

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presents

THE BARONESS

A new comedy by Jacques Lamarre

Scenic Designer **Kim Zhou**+

Costume Designer

Jimmy Johansmeyer

Lighting Designer

Johann Fitzpatrick

Sound Designer Rachel Landy

Props Master **Judi Manfre**

Production Stage Manager **Rebecca Donaghy**

Director

Michael Schiralli

Ca	et
60	9 L

The Baroness	Sá	arah S	Street*
Rolf	.Nick	Apos	tolina*

Run Time:

Approximately 100 minutes including one intermission.

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

*The Actor appears through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

+Supported by Burry Fredrik Foundation Design Fellow Program.

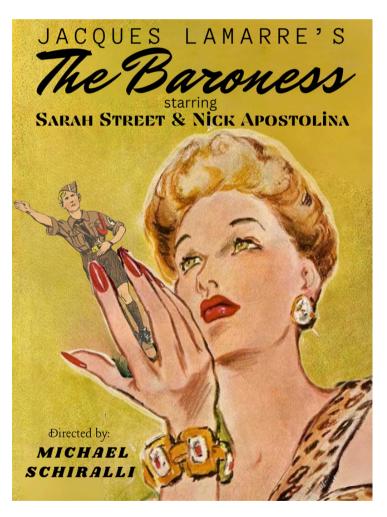
Cash Bar courtesy of Westside Square

Back to index

Director's Note

Deceit, revenge and unparalleled couture - no, it's not an episode of The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills, rather it's the story of a certain jilted, wannabe "mansion wife" of Austrian high society. In this premiere of Jacques Lamarre's "The Baroness", we are whirled into one of that mansion's guest bedrooms as Elsa desperately plots to somehow become the lady of the house, despite being unceremoniously passed over by Captain Von Trapp for that flibbertigibbet singing nun in training, Maria. And, as we all know, Maria is quite the problem to solve. Perhaps Rolf, the 17-going-on-18 messenger boy/Nazi Youth can help the baroness stake her claim. There's highjinks, lascivious reciprocity, and much to be revealed about these lesser known characters. Turns out we've been following the wrong storyline all these years. Who knew?

-Michael Schiralli



Design by Michael Schiralli

<u>Click here</u> to read the dramaturgical casebook for THE BARONESS



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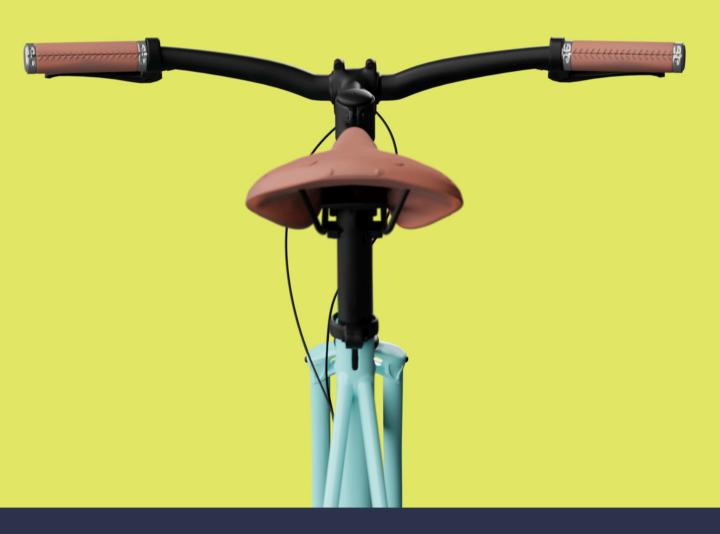
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CAST BIOGRAPHIES



SARAH STREET* (The Baroness)

is SO excited to be playing The Baroness in this world premiere production! Sarah is an actor, writer, and hails from Cork city Ireland. Recent theatre credits include; BECKETT BRIEFS, alongside Oscar Winner F. Murray Abraham, directed by Ciarán O' Reilly, MOLLY SWEENEY and ARISTOCRATS at The Irish Repertory Theatre NY, directed by Charlotte Moore, GOOD VIBRATIONS U/S, Irish Arts Center,

directed by Des Kennedy, INTELLIGENCE, Dutch Kills Theater Co. at Edinburgh Fringe directed by Jess Chayes, BELFAST GIRLS at Irish Rep directed by Nicola Murphy, AFTERWARDS, written and directed by Enda Walsh for Irish Arts Center. Other theatre credits include: SKYLIGHT, Palm Beach Dramaworks, directed by Vanessa Morosco, DUBLIN CAROL, Irish Rep directed by Ciarán O'Reilly, SING STREET V/O, The New York Theatre Workshop directed by Rebecca Taichman, JUNO and the PAYCOCK directed by Neil Pepe, and THE PLOUGH AND THE STARS directed by Charlotte Moore, Irish Rep. THE NATURALISTS, co-directed by Colleen Clinton and Lily Dorment, The Pond Theatre Co, REBEL IN THE SOUL, directed by Charlotte Moore, The Irish Rep, MUSWELL HILLI, directed by Shannon Patterson, The Barrow Group/The Pond Theatre Co. DYIN FOR IT, directed by John Keating, Origin Theatre Co. and ABIGAIL"S PARTY, directed by Lee Brock, The Barrow Group/The Pond theatre Co.



NICK APOSTOLINA* (Rolf)

Playhouse on Park Debut! Laguna Playhouse/North Coast Rep: Mordred CAMELOT; Syracuse Stage: Hally MASTER HAROLD...AND THE BOYS; Deaf West: Phil THE SOLID LIFE OF SUGAR WATER; Chalk Circle Collective: Roland CONSTELLATIONS (Craig Noel Nomination); Theatre Movement Bazaar: Joseph TINY LITTLE TOWN; South Pasadena Theatre: Yasha/Medvendenko THE CHERRY ORCHARD/THE SEAGULL. Training: Guildhall. Thanks to Mom, Dad, Taylor, and Big Tex.

^{*}The Actor appears through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

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PRODUCTION BIOGRAPHIES

Micahel Schiralli Director

directs coast to coast and internationally. Thrilled to be at Playhouse on Park with Jacques Lamarre. Some recent; Nico Underground, Why'd You Do It?, A Chanukah Charol, all NY Times Critic's Picks; England (Crowded Space); Godzilla's Prince (EAG); Secondo (Seven Angels) A Short Tutorial (multiple awards); Undaunted (GLADD Award) The Kvetching Continues (Time Out Award); Artistic Director of Half Moon Theatre, helming over 30 productions. He's directed Jackie Hoffman, Darlene Love, Kristin Chenoweth, Beth Leavel, Jason Robert Brown, Coco Peru, David Rashe, Adam Pascal, Seth Rudetsky, Tammy Faye Starlite, Daniel Franzese, Varla Jean Merman & Madame, among others. @michaelschiralli

Jacques Lamarre Playwright

is a Hartford-area playwright whose work has been on seen on various Connecticut stages and around the country. TheaterWorks Hartford has premiered his comedies I Loved, I Lost, I Made Spaghetti; Raging Skillet; and Secondo. He is one of the contributing playwrights for their annual holiday tradition Christmas on the Rocks, and he will be represented on their 40th anniversary season with the premiere of Circus Fire. Seven Angels Theatre in Waterbury has produced six of his plays, including the world premieres of Love & Spumoni; Italian Mom Loves You! (co-written by and starring Mean Girls' Daniel Franzese); and The Wedding Binder. Other Connecticut stage that have featured his work in readings and productions are Playhouse on Park, Emerson Theatre Collaborative, Hole in the Wall, Connecticut Valley Stage Company, Theatre 44, The Hartt School, Theatre4, Little Theatre of Manchester, and others. Jacques' plays have been performed in NH, MA, ME, SC, FL, TX, CO, NYC, GA, VA and NY State. He will have four comedy-cabaret and drag extravaganzas that he has written or co-written running this summer in Provincetown, including shows for Varla Jean Merman, Miss Conception, DIVA!, and Madame the Puppet. Jacques is the Chief Creative Officer of BuzzEngine, a marketing and events agency. He is a board member for The Hartt School at the University of Hartford and CT Humanities. In 2024, he received the Tom Killen Award for Lifetime Achievement in Connecticut Theatre from the CT Critics Circle. He is a proud member of the Dramatists Guild.

Kim Zhou+ Scenic Designer

is a scenic designer based in New York City. Her recent design credits include Sex and the Abbey (The Brick Theater), The Far Country (Yale Repertory Theatre), and To Kill a Mockingbird (American Gothic Performing Arts). As an associate designer, her work includes Henry IV at Theatre for a New Audience, Birthday Candles at Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, and Millions (assistant) at Alliance Theatre. She is honored to be part of the creative team for The Baroness. kimzhou.com. @kimx.zhou

Johann Fitzpatrick Lighting Designer

is a Lighting and Scenic Designer currently based in Philadelphia. He is delighted to be returning to Playhouse on Park, where he has designed more than 20 previous productions, including lighting and sets for TONI STONE, WEBSTER'S BITCH, and LADY DAY AT EMERSON'S BAR AND GRILL. He also just wrapped up work as the set designer for THE ANGRY GRAMMARIAN, a new musical presented by the Pier Players Theatre Company in Philadelphia. Johann holds an MFA in Stage Design and a Professional Diploma in Stage Management and Technical Theatre from Trinity College Dublin. Find more of his work at johanntheatre.com.

Jimmy Johansmeyer Costume Designer

is an award-winning actor, costume designer and educator. A graduate of Marist College, Jimmy has performed on hundreds of stages including New York Stage & Film/Powerhouse Theatre, NY, Wallkill River Repertory, NY, The Theatre Barn, NY, Millbrook Playhouse, PA, The Legacy Theatre in Branford and on the Main Stage of the Downtown Cabaret Theatre. His costume designs and creations have been seen throughout the country and internationally and include Cold As Ice starring Oxsana Baiul at Gateway Playhouse on Long Island, My Kinda 60's starring Charles Busch at Below 54, Off-Broadway premiere of Matthew Passion, and most recently The Great American Mousical directed by Dame Julie Andrews. Jimmy was inducted to the Marist College Hall of Fame for his contribution to theatre, and he is the recipient of three Syracuse Area Live Theatre "Outstanding Costume Design" Awards for his work on Cortland Repertory Theatre's Always A Bridesmaid, The Thirty-Nine Steps and La Cage Aux Folles. Jimmy is also recipient of the Cultural Contribution Award of Distinction presented by the Milford Regional Chamber of Commerce.

Rachel Landy Sound Designer

Rachel Landy is thrilled to join the design team of Playhouse on Park as the Sound Designer. She works full time as the Audio Engineer for the University of Hartford's Hartt School. Her previous credits include Sound Designer of Cyrano Debergerac, many Sound Design credits at Playhouse, Sound Designer and Engineer at Derby Dinner Playhouse and Sound Engineer at Cortland Repertory Theater and Indiana Repertory Theater. She received a Bachelor of Science degree from Elon University in Audio Engineering.

Judi Manfre Props Artisan/Set Dressing

Playhouse on Park: TONI STONE; DANDELION; A CHARLES DICKENS CHRISTMAS; PIPPIN; THE AMAZING ADVENTURES OF DR. WONDERFUL AND HER DOG; INTO THE WOODS; MERRILEE MANNERLY, a magnificent new musical; THE MUSICAL ADVENTURES OF FLAT STANLEY; MURDER FOR TWO; CURIOUS GEORGE AND THE GOLDEN MEATBALL; PETER AND THE STARCATCHER; SAY THINGS FUNNY, A LOVING TRIBUTE TO CAROL BURNETT; POLKADOTS, THE COOL KID'S MUSICAL; ELEPHANT AND PIGGIE: WE ARE IN A PLAY; THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK; THE CAT IN THE HAT. I love this opportunity to work with so many creative people, and each production offers a new challenge!

Rebecca Donaghy Stage Manager

Playhouse on Park: THE COMPLETE WORKS OF JANE AUSTEN ABRIDGED, PINUP GIRLS, MS. HOLMES AND MS. WATSON- APT. 2B, ALEXANDER, TONI STONE, THE PROM and MAMA D'S OUTRAGEOUS ROMP, STOP/TIME DANCE THEATER; Woodstock Playhouse: Production Stage Manager 2023 SUMMER SEASON; Summer Theatre of New Canaan: Assistant Stage Manager ONCE ON THIS ISLAND; Western Connecticut State University: Stage Manager DANCING WITH MYSELF!, Assistant Stage Manager NOISES OFF, HEDDA FREEMAN. Rebecca is excited to return as Production Stage Manager for Playhouse on Park's 2024/2025 season! Looking forward to bringing stories to life, one performance at a time. Website: Rebeccadonaghy.com

Vintage Kovel Assistant Stage Manager

Playhouse on Park: LADY DAY AT EMERSON'S BAR AND GRILL, FENCES, INDECENT, STOP/TIME DANCE MACHINE, DANDELION, WEBSTER'S BITCH, BANDSTAND, THE COMPLETE WORKS OF JANE AUSTEN (ABRIDGED), THE PIN-UP GIRLS, MS. HOLMES AND MS. WATSON- APT. 2B, UNPACKING, ALEXANDER AND THE TERRIBLE, HORRIBLE, NO GOOD, VERY BAD DAY, TONI STONE, THE PROM, THE SHARK IS BROKEN. Thank you for supporting live theatre by coming to the show!

Arianna Polacheck Wardrobe Supervisor

Playhouse on Park: PROM, ALEXANDER, MS. HOLMES AND MS. WATSON- APT. 2B, BANDSTAND, JANE AUSTEN, MAMA D'S HALLOWEEN ROMP, PIN UP GIRLS; Summer Theater of New Canaan: Costume/Wardrobe Intern ONCE ON THIS ISLAND, WIZARD OF OZ, WOZ JR.; Hinman Production Company: Costume Designer SOMETHING ROTTEN; Binghamton University: Wardrobe Crew SHE KILLS MONSTERS, Wardrobe Crew MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE; Binghamton University: Sally A SUPER HAPPY STORY ABOUT FEELING SUPER SAD; Understudy Joy TRIPTYCH; Feste TWELFTH NIGHT. Arianna has a BA in Theatre and English from Binghamton University.

Liv Fassanella Dramaturg

Playhouse on Park: MISS BENNETT, CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY, FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE, THE AGITATORS, LADY DAY AT EMERSON'S BAR AND GRILL, FENCES, INDECENT, WEBSTER'S BITCH, BANDSTAND, THE COMPLETE WORKS ON JANE AUSTEN (ABRIDGED), THE PIN-UP GIRLS, MS. HOLMES AND MS. WATSON- APT. 2B, TONI STONE, THE PROM, THE SHARK IS BROKEN, THE UGLY X-MAS SWEATER MUSICAL; Foul Contending Rebels Theatre Coop: EURYDICE. This fall she will be making her directorial debut with the world premiere of STOPPING HERE by Lynn Gannon at Magnolia Theatre Company. Her plays have been workshopped and performed by organizations such as Playwrights on Park AEA reading series, Foul Contending Rebels Theatre Co., and Little Theatre of Manchester. Liv has BA in playwriting from Bennington College. livfassanella.com

Dr. Kathryn M. Moncrief Intimacy Coordinator

is Paris Fletcher Distinguished Professor and Head of Humanities and Arts at WPI. Dramaturgy: Prague Shakespeare Company, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Chesapeake Shakespeare Company, Nebraska Rep, The Hanover Rep. Intimacy Choreography: Prague Shakespeare (Twelfth Night, The Winter's Tale, Troilus and Cressida), The Hanover Theatre Rep (Julius Caesar, Macbeth, The Crucible, Twelfth Night, Much Ado), The Hanover Conservatory Theatre (The Winter's Tale), WPI (Nothing is the End of the World, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Dogfight), Clark University (Small Mouth Sounds, Sense and Sensibility, Songs for a New World, The Moors, The Taming of the Shrew).

Andres Montiel Scenic Charge

Andres Montiel has worked as a scenic charge artist for several shows now at the Playhouse, as well as many movie sets and theaters while living in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He loves being part of creating the magic of theatre. He's also an accomplished painter and has exhibited and sold his work around the world. When he's not with a brush in his hand, he's usually outdoors-enjoying Nature, playing soccer or playing chess. Andrés lives in West Hartford with his wife and two daughters.

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Scenic Charge Andres Montiel

Master Electrician Stef Carr

Wardrobe Manager Arianna Polachec

Carpenters Nick Boles, David Turkington

Electricians Nick Boles, Kylie Tinker-Palaia

Painter Kailey Linden

Lobby Design Darlene Zoller

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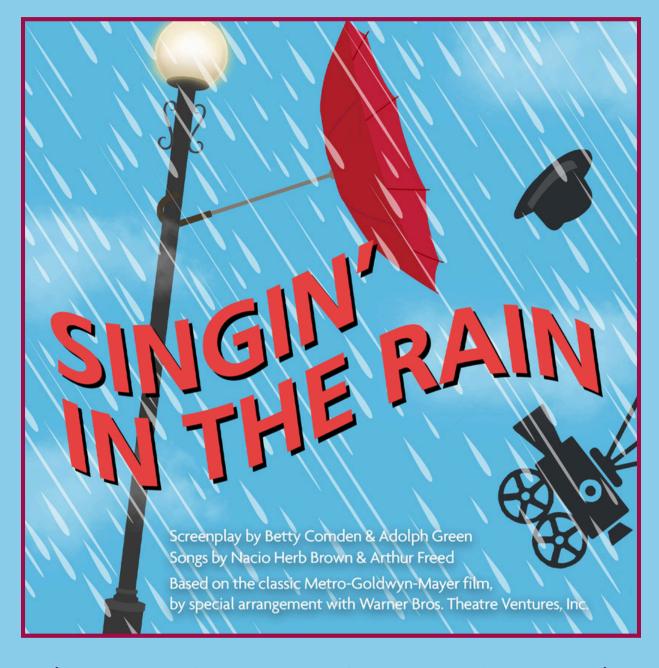
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- Embrace and provide opportunity for professional, emerging and community artists
- Offer educational and outreach opportunities through visiting and/or resident artists and educators
- Create and/or explore opportunities to collaborate with other existing arts organizations
- Be fiscally responsible and accountable at all times
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CO-FOUNDERS



Tracy Flater, Executive Director

After an extensive career in the for-profit restaurant business, Tracy merged her passion for the performing arts and knowledge of business management to become an arts administrator in the non-profit sector. Tracy co-founded Playhouse Theatre Group, Inc., a not-for-profit professional theatre company in May of 2009 along with Sean Harris and Darlene Zoller. She serves as co-founder and Executive Director for Playhouse Theatre Group, Inc. Just prior to this, she spent four years (2004 - 2009) serving as Director of Off Campus Programs and Facilities for The Hartt School Community Division of the University of Hartford. In addition to her work at Playhouse Theatre Group, Inc., Tracy currently serves as Chair of The Hartt School Board of Trustees, as Co-President of The Park Road Association and Chair of the West Hartford Arts & Culture Collaborative.



Sean Harris, Co-Founder/Artistic Director

Sean is the co-founder and co-artistic director of Playhouse on Park (POP), an award winning professional theatre located in West Hartford, CT. At Playhouse on Park he has directed the heralded productions of METAMORPHOSES, PASSING STRANGE, ANGEELS IN AMERICA, CABARET, HAIR, DANNY AND THE DEEP BLUE SEE, A CHORUS LINE and OF MICE AND MEN, among others. He has directed productions at several theatres in NYC and regionally including TBG, The Producers Club, Theatre 22, Theatre at Westbeth, and Fifth Letter Productions. Sean has performed on the Playhouse on Park stage in ART, THE MYSTERY OF IRMA VEP, THE DINING ROOM, THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES and THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRDIGED). Regional Theatres:

Florida Studio Theatre, Shakespeare on the Sound, The Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival. NYC Theatre: The Actors Studio, Circle in the Square Downtown, Bank Street Theatre, Theatre at Westbeth. Sean has his BA in Acting and Directing from DeSales University and an MFA from the New School for Drama/Actors Studio. He has been an acting teacher and director for over fourteen years and was the Director of Theatre at Hall High School, which was selected to represent the United States as part of the American High School Theatre Festival at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland in 2010, 2013 and 2015. He is currently a member of the theatre faculty at The Spence School in Manhattan.



Darlene Zoller, Co-Founder/Artistic Director

Darlene is the co-founder and co-artistic director of Playhouse on Park where she has directed PIPPIN, NUNSENSE, CHICAGO (Best Director of a Musical/Broadway World,) PINKALICIOUS, ELEPHANT AND PIGGIE, SWINGING ON A STAR and THAT HOLIDAY FEELING, SAY THINGS FUNNY, and choreographed; PIPPIN, INTO THE WOODS, THE SCOTTSBORO BOYS, IN THE HEIGHTS, A CHORUS LINE, HAIR, CABARET, PASSING STRANGE among others. She is the founder, director and choreographer of stop/time dance theater, the resident dance company of Playhouse on Park, now in its twentieth year. She was voted Best Director of a Musical/Broadway World for I'D RATHER BE DANCING. CT Critics Circle nominee for Best Choreographer for HAIR, ROCKIN' THE FOREST and IN THE

HEIGHTS. She IS Mama D of MAMA D's OUTRAGEOUS ROMP; a grown ups only music, dance and comedy event-exclusive to the Playhouse. Social media followers know her as "the driveway lady" for having taught 450 consecutive days of WE'RE BETTER WHEN WE'RE DANCING dance classes online during the pandemic where she gathered a loyal following. Darlene is a former adjunct professor at the University of Hartford's Hartt School where she directed and choreographed CHICAGO and did the choreography for ON THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE, SMILE, CURTAINS and NUNSENSE. She also teaches dance classes for adults at The 224 ECOSpace and is a dance/fitness instructor at Big Sky Fitness in Vernon.

DINING PARTNERS

Present your Playhouse on Park ticket before or after a performance and be eligible for the following offers. (Note: Dining Partner offers cannot be combined with other offers.) Restaurant Owners: Become a member of Playhouse on Park's Dining Partners program. Offer a pre- or post-show special when a customer shows their ticket stub for that day's performance. We'll promote your restaurant in ticket envelopes, in our lobby, in our programs, on our website and newsletter.

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