
**Ankeny Community Theatre
Presents**



August 27-29, 2021

The Perfect Rendezvous

Written by John Claes

Music by John Claes and Kevin Lind

Lyrics by John Claes

Cast in Order of Appearance

Zoey	Lauren Mills
Thomas	Kent Whitmore
Joanne	Anne Claes
Ada Lynn	Cheryl Clark
Edmund	Brad Church
Esther	Fran Paterik
TJ	Jake Schneider
Claire	Stacie Bendixen

Time: Present Day

Place: A Fine Midwestern City Like This One

This is a one-act play. There will not be an intermission.

- Scene 1 Out and around town on a Monday evening
- Scene 2 The next day at *The Overlook Restaurant*
- Scene 3 Later that evening in Zoey's Apartment
- Scene 4 The next day at *Suit Yourself* clothing store
- Scene 5 Friday evening at *The Overlook Restaurant*

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Production Team

Director	John Claes
Producer	Cheryl Clark
Stage Manager	Nemo Bardurian
Piano Accompaniment	Kevin Lind
Stage Crew	Abby Martin, Cast
Set Design	John Claes
Set Construction	John Claes, Kevin Lind
Set Painting	Cheryl Clark, John Claes, Paul Ruby, Kathy Polson
Light Design	Matt Tuttle
Light Technician	Scott Hamilton
Sound Technician	Matt Tuttle
Costumes	Cheryl Clark, Cast
Playbill	Lynn Arterburn
Photographers	John Claes, Cheryl Clark
Marketing	Doug Arterburn, Lynn Arterburn, Stacie Bendixen, Lauren Mills, Cassie Twichell, Robert Uy
Show Logo	Blair Gauntt

Special Acknowledgements

ACT appreciates the generosity of businesses and individuals who help support our productions. Thank you to the following for their support of this show:

Katherine Claes
Aaron Hudson
FedEx Ground
Fleming's Steakhouse, West Des Moines
Lutheran Services in Iowa
Rumors Vtg.

Biographies



Stacie Bendixen (Claire) is excited to return to the theater in another John Claes world premiere after appearing in his last play, *Otherwise Engaged: A Dinner Proposal Comedy*, in pre-pandemic 2020. Her on-stage credits at ACT include *Kiss Me, Kate* and *Honk!* She has been an assistant director, served as board president, and continues to volunteer on committees. Stacie has also appeared at the Des Moines Playhouse, Urbandale Community Theatre, and CAP in Altoona. She works in communications at Wells Fargo. During the past year and a half, Stacie has become a person who goes camping!



Brad Church (Edmund) is happy to be returning to the ACT stage for the first time since 2019 when he was seen in *Kiss Me, Kate* (Fred Graham/Petruchio). Brad made his ACT debut in 2018 playing Father Flynn in *Doubt*. He has performed at the Des Moines Playhouse in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *The Music Man*, *Mamma Mia*, *Willy Wonka*, and *Spamalot*. He also appeared at the Ingersoll Dinner Theater in several shows, including *My Fair Lady*. Brad's hobbies include traveling, biking, hiking, collecting vinyl, and drinking craft beers. Brad is a Program Integrity Examiner (Quality Assurance) at Iowa Disability Determination Services.



Anne Claes (Joanne) was last seen in the role of Glory opposite her husband, John, in the 2018 ACT production of *Almost, Maine*. In addition to being on stage, Anne also serves as a volunteer on ACT's Education Committee. She loves to bake - her chocolate chip cookies are always a hit with our casts, crew, and audiences! Anne is a paraeducator for Johnston Community Schools.



Cheryl Clark (Ada Lynn/Producer) works as a Family Life Specialist for ISU Extension & Outreach. She is currently serving as ACT President and State Events Chair on the Iowa Community Theatre Association Board, is a metro-area Cloris Committee member, and a nationally-certified AACT adjudicator. Her theater experiences include acting, directing, costume design, and a bit of set & light design at ACT, Iowa Stage Theatre, Des Moines Playhouse, Tallgrass Theatre, CAP, and Iowa Falls/ECC before moving to Des Moines. She and her husband, Max, have three daughters and four grandchildren.



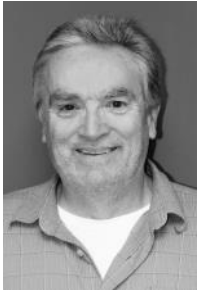
Lauren Mills (Zoey) first appeared on the ACT stage as Mrs. Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank* two years ago. She almost made it to the stage in *A Piece of My Heart* in March of 2020 and looks forward to reprising her role in October! Lauren works across central Iowa as a sign language interpreter. In her spare time, she likes to paint, bake new recipes, and listen to audiobooks. Lauren is a member of the ACT Board of Directors and serves as Marketing Chair.



Frances Paterik (Esther) has done forty shows in forty years on stages like the Ingersoll Dinner Theatre, Des Moines Community Playhouse, and Tallgrass Theatre. She appeared on the ACT stage in the show *Musical Chairs* for which she was nominated as Favorite Supporting Actress. Frances is a retired music teacher from the Des Moines Public Schools, but continues to work as a substitute.



Jake Schneider (T.J. West) has previously appeared on the ACT stage as Lt. Kendrick in *A Few Good Men*. His hobbies include hiking, canoeing, spending time with his bulldog, Bane, and drinking about a gallon of coffee while reading books at Smokey Row. Jake wants you to know that his performance is brought to you by copious amounts of coffee, Red Bull, and a severe lack of sleep!



Kent Whitmore (Thomas) has appeared numerous times on the ACT stage and was active in the Ingersoll Dinner Theatre, Shoestring Productions, and the First Church Potluck Theatre. Kent enjoys karaoke, traveling to all 99 counties to see the Freedom Rocks and to Mexico to visit his daughter & family, and collecting scrap metal to trade in for cash. He has been a Meals on Wheels delivery driver for three years. He is married to Vonnie and they have a married son and daughter, and five (soon to be six!) grandchildren.



John Claes (Playwright/Director) seems to have found his true calling as playwright after 18 appearances on the ACT stage (as well as serving on the crew of several shows) over the past 20+ years. ACT produced his first show, the one-act comedy *Otherwise Engaged* in February of 2020, which was done in conjunction with the Cellar Winery in Cambridge. John told us, “I admit that I’m a guy that likes to hear himself talk. But to hear actors speak words I’ve written and bring my characters to life – and hear the laughter and applause of an audience -- that’s the greatest thrill I’ve ever known in theater!” John credits his daughter, Katherine, and wife, Anne, (who appears in this show) as inspiration for his writing. “I’m not writing about them, but I couldn’t have dreamed up this script without Katherine and Anne!” By day, John is a Director of Philanthropy at Lutheran Services in Iowa. He is also a member of the ACT Board of Directors.

**ANKENY COMMUNITY
THEATRE PRESENTS**

**A PIECE
OF MY
HEART**

BY SHIRLEY LAURO

OCTOBER 1-10, 2021

2020 - 2021 Contributors

Ankeny Community Theatre would like to thank the following individuals, businesses, and foundations for their generous support of our organization.

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ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS 2021-2022 SEASON

A PIECE OF MY HEART



BY SHIRLEY LAURO

OCT 1-10, 2021

GEEZERS



BY TOMMY
LEE JOHNSTON

DEC 3-12, 2021

CRY IT OUT



BY MOLLY
SMITH METZLER

FEB 4-13, 2022



AURA

BY TOMMY
LEE JOHNSTON

APR 1-10, 2022

GUESS WHO'S



COMING TO DINNER

BY TODD KREIDLER

JUNE 3-12, 2022

GODSPELL



MUSIC BY STEPHEN SCHWARTZ
BOOK BY JOHN-MICHAEL TEBELAK

AUG 5-14, 2022

1932 SW 3RD STREET, ANKENY, IA 50023

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