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The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc.

P.O. Box 528, Brookfield, CT 06804

(203) 775-0023

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If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please provide us with a phone number and best time to reach you. Also tell us what you would be interested in doing.

The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc. (TBTA)

presents

Written by:
Dale Wasserman

Music by:
Mitch Leigh

Lyrics by:
Joe Darion



Directed by **Wendell MacNeal**
Musical Direction by **Oksana Protenic**
Choreography by **Christa Jensen**
Produced by **Cote & Geissinger**

Featuring:
Shawn Brown
Jessica Buzzeo
Kathie Cote
Erin J. Drew
Denise Fitzsimmons
Patricia Glatzel
Eric Greenfeld
Matt Heller
Steve Hoose
Sarah Hutchins
Amelia Kelly
Ryan Kelly
Barbara Kessler
Katherine Matero
Gary Millar
Jack Moreno
Jennifer Osborn
Thomas Sheehan
Gary Spring
David Tuttle
Frank von Oy
Alexis M. Vournazos
Lonnie Young
Steve Yudelson

STARRING

Miles Wallace • Bart Geissinger
Katherine Dickson

PERFORMANCE DATES:

Feb. 25, 26, March 4, 5, 6, 11, 12

Curtain Time 8:00 pm Fri. & Sat.

Sunday Matinee March 6th at 2:00 pm

All performances at the Playhouse, Rt. 25 behind the Brookfield Library

ALL SEATS GENERAL ADMISSION \$15.00

RESERVATIONS: **203-775-0023**

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Produced by special arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library, New York, NY

Please visit our website: **www.brookfieldplayhouse.org**

The Brookfield Theatre For The Arts, Inc.

February 2005

Dear Friend of the Theatre,

It seems like we just started our last season and here it is the first show of the 2005 season! We are thrilled to begin this year with a great big musical. We have thoughtfully chosen a season of Theatre and Arts, which we think will excite and entertain you. Children's Theatre, Drama, Adult Comedy and Musicals; add to that the return of The Yale Alley Cats on Saturday, April 16th and we have something for everyone.

If this is your first visit to TBTA, I hope you will take some time to look around and admire the beautiful space you are in. The amount of volunteer hours needed to maintain our building and our programming is astounding. TBTA survives without any help from the town of Brookfield. We rely solely on our members, advertisers and patrons. This beautifully refurbished building, new gallery space and all of our programs exist thanks to a very small group of people who believe that the arts make a difference in the life of a community and its children.

It is a joy for me as President and Artistic Director to report to you that community theatre is still very much alive right here in Brookfield, CT. *Man of La Mancha* is a wonderful example of many talented, giving people working together to present exceptional theatre at an affordable price. The artistic team, production, cast and crew have been a joy to watch and work with. Look in your program at all the names of those involved, now think of the hours of volunteer time...utterly amazing! Finally, remember that these people do it for love, we all work "real" jobs outside of here. I am always humbled when I do the simple math of producing a production of this magnitude. I applaud and send love and gratitude to all who have worked so hard. Hats off to all whom dared to Dream the Impossible Dream!

TBTA exists as an artistic venue for our community and its children. It is a place where all artists can be nurtured and encouraged to grow. We welcome you to become involved onstage or behind the scenes. We need you. We need you to become an active voice for the arts in this community, write letters to the editor of local papers, tell your friends, and join us by becoming a member, subscriber and financial contributor. We need you. Make 2005 the year you GET INVOLVED.

See you at the theatre,



Bart Geissinger
President

"Over The Top" Campaign Supporters Phase II—"Into The Future"

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The Diebold Foundation • Howard & Catherine Lasser
The Albert & Helen Meserve Memorial Fund

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Bart Geissinger & David Tuttle

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Alan & Patricia Glatzel	June Wildberger
Jim High	Evelyn Williams
Carol & Steve Hoose	Susan & Calvin York
Diane Hyman	Steve & Holly Yudelson
Jerry & Margot Judge	

TBTA Members 2005

Darine Avedisian, Peter Avedisian, Phyllis Bartoli, Pam Brisson,

Shawn Brown, Jim & Penny Bryant, Nancy Camp,

Jay & Maryvonne Casteel, Connel Chambers, Kathie Cote,

Fran Cunningham, Guy Dedell, Katherine Dickson,

Denise Fitzsimmons, Liz Fitzsimmons, Susan Gabriele,

Bart Geissinger, Alan & Patricia Glatzel, Greta, Carol & Steve Hoose,

Craig Hurtibise, Sarah Hutchins, John & Christa Jensen,

Barbara Kessler, Larry & Suzanne Kinnear,

Catherine & Howard Lasser, Wendell & Bernadette MacNeal,

William L. Martin, Katherine & Richard Matero, Gary & Diane Millar,

Louisa & Andrew Okell Megz O'Lena, Charlotte Patch, Scott Patch,

Jeff and Paula Patch, Bill Possidento, Tom & Oksana Protenic,

Mimi Shea, Tom & Lynn Sheehan, Mikey Spinella, Ned Statchen,

Beth Swanson, John Thomas, David J. Tuttle, Frank von Oy,

Alexis M. Vournazos, Jen Wurst, Steve & Holly Yudelson

TBTA Lifetime Members

Gloria Laposka • Barbara Locke • Wendell MacNeal

Imelda O'Gara Roth • Bill Possidento • Larry Stewart

The Man of La Mancha

SETTING:

The action takes place in the common room of a stone prison vault in Seville, Spain at the end of the sixteenth century. The scenes are various places in the imagination of Miguel de Cervantes. The action is continuous without an intermission.

CAST:

Cervantes/Don Quixote Miles Wallace
Captain of the Inquisition Eric Greenfeld
Sancho Panza Bart Geissinger
Governor/Innkeeper Frank von Oy
Duke Matt Heller
Dr. Sanson Carrasco Gary Millar
Aldonza Katherine Dickson
Juan Shawn Brown
Paco Lonnie Young
Anselmo Alexis M. Vournazos
Pedro Steve Hoose
Jose David Tuttle
Fermina Jessica Buzzeo
Maria Kathie Cote
Antonia Sarah Hutchins
Padre Thomas Sheehan
Housekeeper Denise Fitzsimmons
Barber Steve Yudelson

Ensemble: Patricia Glatzel, Amelia Kelly,
Barbara Kessler, Katherine Matero, Jack Moreno,
Jennifer Osborn, Gary Spring, Erin J. Drew, Ryan Kelly

EMERGENCY FIRE NOTICE

Please observe the EXIT sign nearest to the seat which you occupy. It is the shortest route to the exterior of the building. Should an emergency arise, theatre personnel will be available to assist your orderly departure.

The Man of La Mancha

MUSICAL NUMBERS:

1. *Opening (Esta Fuego)* Prisoner
2. *Man of La Mancha (I, Don Quixote)* . . Don Quixote & Sancho Panza
3. *It's All The Same* Aldonza & The Muleteers
4. *Dulcinea* Don Quixote & The Muleteers
5. *I'm Only Thinking of Him* Antonia, Padre & Housekeeper
6. *We're Only Thinking of Him* Dr. Carrasco, Padre,
Antonia & Housekeeper
7. *The Missive* Sancho Panza
8. *I Really Like Him* Sancho Panza
9. *What Does He Want of Me* Aldonza
10. *Little Bird, Little Bird* Cervantes & Muleteers
11. *Barber's Song* Barber
12. *Golden Helmet of Mambrino* Company
13. *To Each His Dulcinea* Padre
14. *The Impossible Dream* Don Quixote
15. *Knight of The Woeful Countenance* Company
16. *Aldonza* Aldonza
17. *A Little Gossip* Sancho Panza
18. *Dulcinea Reprise* Aldonza
19. *Impossible Dream Reprise* Don Quixote & Aldonza
20. *Man of La Mancha Reprise* Don Quixote, Sancho & Aldonza
21. *The Psalm* Padre
22. *Finale* Company

THE BAND:

Conductor and Pianist – Oksana Protenic
Bass – Mark Campbell
Percussion – John Pokorny

Production Staff

Director Wendell MacNeal
Musical Director Oksana Protenic
Co-Producers Cote & Geissinger
Choreographer Christa Jensen
Stage Manager Nancy Camp
Technical Directors Brian Casella & Matt Cote
Lighting Design Brian Casella
Lighting Execution Brian Casella & Kat Stevens
Sound Execution Jay Austin, Matt Cote, Don Olsen
Costume Design Aletta Vett
Costume Coordinator Tina Mahoney
Assts. to the Costume Coordinator Susan Gabrielle, Dottie Carlson
Asst. to the Director Jennifer Wurst
Asst. to the Stage Manager Jim Ryan
Asst. to the Lighting Designer Billy Shields
Set Design Wendell MacNeal
Set Execution Peter Celona, Fred Weisman, Steve Wurst
Scenic Design & Painting Christine Lombardi,
Zach Osborn, Dionne Pia
Property Master Peter Celona
Horse Head Design and Execution Julia Probey
Poster Design Arquette
Opening Night Party Bernadette MacNeal & Bill Possidento
House Manager Briene Spada
Box Office Manager Carol Hoose
Box Office Staff John and Sue Fisher, Kristin Hoose,
Loretta Langtry, Bernadette MacNeal,
Betty MacNeal, Diane Millar, June Wildberger

Special Thanks:

Ben Fisher, John Fisher, Larry Stewart

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Bart Geissinger, *President*
Christa Jensen, *Vice-President*
Tom Protenic, *Treasurer*
Denise Fitzsimmons, *Secretary*

DIRECTORS:

Kathie Cote, Patricia Glatzel, Catherine Lasser, Diane Millar, Gary Millar,
Megan O'Lena, Wendell MacNeal, Bill Possidento, David Tuttle

Biographies

SHAWN BROWN (MULETEER) had his first experience on stage in 2002 in *Jesus Christ Superstar* right here at TBTA where he played an Apostle, a leper, and an angry mob member. Shawn is thrilled to get the opportunity to return to TBTA in another performance with a large cast. "It's great to be back!"

JESSICA BUZZEO (ENSEMBLE) was born in Wilton in 1985 and has since moved to Brookfield. Her love for theatre began in elementary school when she performed in *Hey World, Here I Am!* Since then she has tried other forms of drama including on-camera work and improv. Under a two-year contract with Action Talent Management from age 13 to 15, she has come to realize that her favorite place to perform is the stage. Jessica joined the WestConn Theater Group at age sixteen, performing in productions such as *The Peaches Case* and *Macbeth*. She has also been a member of the Brookfield High School Special Chorus and Small Group as one of very few female tenors.

NANCY CAMP (STAGE MANAGER) is very happy to be working with Wendell and Bart again. Nancy loves community theatre and the wonderful, creative people it attracts. She has been involved in community theater for many years working in every capacity behind the scenes and, "when the dress fits," on stage.

BRIAN CASELLA (LIGHTING TECHNICAL DIRECTOR) This is Brian Casella's third production at TBTA. He became TBTA Lighting Technical Director at the start of 2005 and is Technical Director at Brookfield High School where he is a student. This is Brian's 12th production overall and he is glad to be here with TBTA. He is considering a job as a professional lighting designer. Brian thanks everyone in this great performance.

KATHIE COTE (MARIA, THE INNKEEPER'S WIFE) Kathie is thrilled to be back on the boards here at TBTA after an extended absence this past season. You may remember her from some of her previous roles in *Century of Song*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* (Peppermint Patty). Kathie wishes to thank her husband and her family for their continued support.

MATT COTE (SOUND TECHNICAL DIRECTOR) Matt is pleased to put his degree in audio engineering to good use here at TBTA. Some of his past projects include *Century of Song*, *Jacques Brel...*, and *Putting It Together*. When he is not volunteering at TBTA, Matt can be found working in his recording studio. Matt would like to thank his wife "Super Mom," Kathie and his son Logan for their support.

KATHERINE DICKSON (ALDONZA) was last seen at the Thomaston Opera House 2004 production of *Ragtime*. Other theater credits include *Stepping Out*, *Scrooge*, and *Children of Eden* at the Ivorytown Playhouse, *Godspell* at the WCT and the *Gondoliers* with the CT G&S Society. Katherine is pleased to be a part of the wonderful cast of *Man of La Mancha*. She would like to thank Wendell MacNeal and the production team for placing their trust in her, Christa Jensen for introducing her to the Brookfield Family and the cast for their support and incredible talent. Foremost in her thanks and appreciation; her husband and children whose patience make it possible for her to do what she loves and Paul Elkin, for his constant encouragement.

ERIN J. DREW (ENSEMBLE) is a feisty Scorpio with a deep rooted passion for the theater. By day she is a photo specialist and by night on a stage somewhere. She is pleased to

Biographies, cont'd.

be returning to the Brookfield stage after a long two years. She has been performing with various community theaters for the past four years in Connecticut and New York. Some of her favorite shows include *Sweeney Todd*, *Sunday in the Park with George* (Nurse & Naomi), *La Cage Aux Folles* (Collette), *Rocky Horror Live*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. I would like to dedicate this performance to my dad. You passed on the impossible dream to me and I will continue to reach for the unattainable star until I have it. I love you. Thank you for my dream and always encouraging me to live it.

DENISE FITZSIMMONS (HOUSEKEEPER) is proud to return to the TBTA stage after a short break from performing. She directed *The Food Chain* last year and will direct *Beyond Therapy* this July. Highlights in Denise's career include *Jacques Brel...*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Into The Woods*, *Grease*, *Pippin*, *An Inspector Calls*, *Nunsense II*, and *Jekyll and Hyde*. Denise has performed in theaters across CT but is proud to call TBTA her home. While not on stage, Denise is a Spanish teacher at Danbury High School. Denise thanks Wendell for being her mentor, friend, and fan. As always, she thanks her family and friends for their love and support...Aunt Deenie loves you, Bridget!

BART GEISSINGER (SANCHO) is pleased to tackle a role he never dreamed of playing! *La Mancha* will forever be special in his heart for many reasons but specifically it marks a reunion for him with fellow actor and friend Miles Wallace having not worked together onstage in more than 20 years. Bart's credits are long and boring, however it all began many years ago with Wendell MacNeal and the part of Donald in *The Me Nobody Knows*. Since then, we have taken many rides together and it is an honor to be a part of this *Impossible Dream*. Thanks to Oksana for her musical prowess, to Kathie for being co-producer extraordinaire and to DT for saying yes again and again...

PATRICIA McALLISTER GLATZEL (ENSEMBLE) is happy to be back on the stage at TBTA after debuting in *Jesus Christ Superstar* in the summer of 2002. After JCS, Patricia has helped out in many ways here at TBTA including lighting for many shows and joining the Board of Directors as the Public Relations Coordinator. She thanks everyone at TBTA for their friendship and thanks Alan for his endless love and support.

ERIC GREENFELD (ENSEMBLE) is honored to have been given this opportunity to perform for the first time at TBTA. He most recently appeared in the Musicals at Richter production of *Hello Dolly* (Rudolph Reisenweber). Other favorite credits include *Fiddler on the Roof* (Lazar Wolf), *South Pacific* (Lt. Joseph Cable) and the Warner Brothers production of *The Bugs Bunny Follies* (Bugs Bunny). He is excited for the chance to work with such a dedicated group of talented performers, production staff, and house members. Above all else, he would like to thank his wife Cindy and sons Justin and Scott for their support in making this adventure a reality.

MATT HELLER (THE DUKE) An acting student in NYC and studying business at WCSU, Matt is thrilled to make his musical theatre debut. Special thanks to my Lord God, family, and girlfriend Allison for love and support.

STEVE HOOSE (MULETEER) is happy to be returning to TBTA. Steve's credits include *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *An Inspector Calls*, *A Century of Song*, and *Exit the Body*. Last year Steve had the good fortune to be able to play two of his favorite characters, first as Brick in

Director's Notes

The Impossible Dream! We take this trip with Don Quixote as he pursues his quest for the freedom to follow his passions. This theater, The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, continuously pursues its own quest to provide quality productions to our patrons. If we can bring a pleasant diversion however brief to our audiences, then we have successfully achieved our quest. Let us help you in fighting your imaginary windmills or any metaphor you may use for your obstacles to success. We would have you sit back and enjoy his trip and maybe yours as you find the solutions to your impossible dream.

Wendell MacNeal
Director

**For the safety of the performers and the courtesy of fellow patrons
the use of flash photography is strictly forbidden.**

Copyright laws prohibit the recording of sound and video.

**Please turn off all phones, pagers, computer games, and
other distractions. Please unwrap candies before the show begins
and respect each other. This is live theater.**

Biographies, cont'd.

with performing, Miles's college years saw him take a run at *Twelfth Night*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *The Price*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Miracle Worker*, *the Rimers of Eldritch*, *Six Characters...*, *Samuel Barbers' Vanessa* and *The Millionairess* (with Tammy Grimes). After a really long nap, he acted in *Much Ado*, *Taming of the Shrew* and (hold onto your hats) the musical version of *Fahrenheit 451*. Film credits include *Daniel* (a "Where's Waldo" experience) and *Restaurant* (squinting required). Loving thanks to Dionne, daughters Emily and Abigail, and the boys at Molasses Tavern. "Peace out" to cast and crew.

LONNIE B. YOUNG (ENSEMBLE) 2005 marks the return for me to grace the stage of the Brookfield Theatre for the Arts. I was last seen in this warm venue in *Driving Miss Daisy* in the role Hoke Coleburn. Other memorable productions include *A Few Good Men*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *A Soldier's Story*, *Cobb*, *Eleven Zulu*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Great White Hope*, *Sexual Perversity in Chicago*, and *The Trip to Bountiful* at the Hartford Stage.

STEVE YUDELSON (ENSEMBLE) is thrilled as always to return to his favorite stage, the Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, where he appeared last season in *The Fantasticks*, and *Putting It Together*. Last season, he was also seen in multiple roles in *Annie* at Musicals at Richter in Danbury, and the benefit revue *The Show*, at the Sherman Playhouse, performing scenes from *Chicago*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, and *Jekyll & Hyde*. Before that, he was a featured soloist in *It's a Musical World* at Richter and the Ridgefield Theater Barn, and *Weird Romance* in Sherman. Steve is the founder and owner of Bentley Cleaners in Norwalk. He lives in Newtown with his wife Holly, and family.

Biographies, cont'd.

Cat on a Hot Tin Roof at Pawling Theatre Co. and then Eddie Carbone in *A View From The Bridge* at Sherman Playhouse - very close to an impossible dream come true. Thanks to Carol, Kristin, and Jeff for your inspiration and support.

SARAH HUTCHINS (ANTONIA) is extremely excited to be joining TBTA for *Man of La Mancha*. She recently moved to Norwalk, CT from Albany, NY after finishing her MBA and this marks her debut performance in CT. Previous credits include Agnes Gooch in *Mame*, Cynthia the understudy in *A Dicken's Christmas Carol...A Traveling Travesty in Two Tumultuous Acts*, and Ensemble in *Little Me*. She would like to thank her parents and sister for their continued love and support in all of her adventures.

CHRISTA JENSEN (CHOREOGRAPHER) most recently choreographed TBTA's production of *Putting it Together* and directed and choreographed TBTA's summer children's production of *Little Red and the Hoods*. She has also danced in such shows as *Bye, Bye Birdie*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. She has performed in and choreographed *Godspell*, *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, and *Nunsense II*. While in LA, her hometown, she danced and assisted in choreographing the *LA Wings Cycling Team Cheerleaders* at Universal Studios, *Cal State University Northridge Dance Team*, *Superbowl XXVII Pre-Game Show* and *Disneyland Paris Grand Opening Parade*. Christa sends a special thanks to John and the entire TBTA family; for always encouraging her to learn, grow, and dream!

AMELIA KELLY (ENSEMBLE) is making her stage debut with TBTA. Off-Broadway credits include *Circle's Cabaret* (Soloist). Regional credits include *Damn Yankees* (Lola), *Sweet Charity* (Charity), *Annie* (Annie), *Vanities* (Kathy) as well as many others. She has trained at Circle in the Square Theatre, The American Academy of Dramatic Arts, and Weist Barron. She currently teaches dance at The Brookfield School of Performing Arts and wishes the cast and crew success throughout the show.

RYAN KELLY (ENSEMBLE) is a Junior at Immaculate High School in Danbury. He has been in numerous plays at IHS including *Inherit the Wind* (Dunbar), *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat* (Naphili, one of the brothers), *Footloose* (Reverend Shaw) and *Grease* (Vince Fontaine). A veteran of New Milford Theatre Works, he has sung as a soloist at hospice conventions, the All State Choir, and numerous school performances. He would like to thank God, his amazing parents, and the support of his sisters, friends, and teachers.

DR. BARBARA KESSLER (ENSEMBLE) is delighted to be performing for her first time at TBTA. Barbara also sings with Kol Rina - Westchester's Jewish Community Chorus, and studies voice with Jackie Gaudet, director of the Newtown Music Studio. She appeared last summer in the ensembles of *State Fair* and *Annie* at Richter Park. Dr. Kessler is a veterinarian with a part-time relief practice and teaches Biological Sciences at Brookfield High School.

WENDELL MACNEAL (DIRECTOR) Veteran director, Wendell, continues his journey in the various aspects of theater. He has been in theater for over forty years and has embraced the many creative challenges theater has presented. He conceived Richter Park as a performing venue, originally for Shakespeare productions. He co-founded

Biographies, cont'd.

the Creative Arts Center in New Milford, now known as TheatreWorks. He was a Commissioner of the Arts for the state of Connecticut for four years. Most recently, he developed the Playwrights Collective at TBTA, a venue for playwrights to have their original work read to the public. He presently serves on the Board of Directors for TBTA. While Wendell has directed all aspects of theater, his special love is musical theater. Hence, *Man of La Mancha*.

KATHEREINE MATERO (MOORISH DANCER/PRISONER/ENSEMBLE) a native New Yorker, now Brookfield resident for almost five years, making her debut with TBTA. Prior to becoming a mom of two lovely girls, she performed in theater, film and TV, modelled, and sang lyric soprano with New York Grand Opera with fully staged productions for nine years at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and Summer Stage in Central Park.

GARY MILLAR (ENSEMBLE) is thrilled to be back on the stage at TBTA. He was last seen here in *The Food Chain* last fall. He would like to thank Wendell for the opportunity to work with such a talented cast and crew. Gary wants to thank the loves of his life—his daughters Catherine, Lindsay, and Jennifer, and his wife Diane.

JACK MORENO JR. (ENSEMBLE) This is Jack's first time on stage. After years as a spectator of the theater, wondering what it would be like to actually be in a performance, he decided to give it a try. Jack is pleasantly surprised to be included in this production. He lives in Southbury with his wife Debbie. They have a daughter, Rachel, who lives in Maryland and a cat named Topanga. Jack thanks everyone at TBTA for giving him this opportunity. "It's an experience I will always remember."

JENNIFER LYNN OSBORN (ENSEMBLE) is performing for the first time. She is a graduate of WCSU and thanks her good friend, Christina, for her encouragement and her husband, Jason, for his support.

OKSANA PROTENIC (MUSICAL DIRECTOR) is a native of New York City, now living in Connecticut, where she is serving on the faculties of The Gunnery and New Milford School of Performing Arts. She is Music Director of The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts and also maintains a large private voice and piano studio. She has studied at the Julliard School of Music and The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, where she graduated with high honors and was nominated to the music fraternity Mu Phi Epsilon. She then went on to doctoral studies at the University of Maryland. In Europe, she studied in Austria and Italy. She is possessed of extensive linguistic skills including Italian, French, German, Czech, Russian and Ukrainian. Because of her wide range of repertoire, Ms. Protenic is equally at home in the opera house as well as on the concert stage. She has worked with numerous opera companies including The Washington Opera, The Sacramento Opera, The Pittsburgh Opera, The Providence Opera, Des Moines Metro Opera, The National Grand Opera, The Metropolitan Opera Orchestra in concert at Avery Fisher Hall, The Brooklyn Philharmonic and has appeared in concert at The Kennedy Center, The National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, the United Nations and Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in New York City. She has also served on the faculties of Wagner College and SUNY Purchase College. Ms. Protenic served for six seasons as music

Biographies, cont'd.

director and accompanist for Artists International Tours of Southeast Asia where she has received critical acclaim.

THOMAS SHEEHAN (PADRE PEREZ) lives in Bethel and is the owner of The Sheehan Agency representing Nationwide Insurance. *Man of La Mancha* marks Tom's debut at TBTA. He previously appeared in the role of Edward Rutledge in 1776 at the Thomaston Opera House. Tom's vocal background has been both broad and varied. He is currently a member of Charis, a vocal chamber ensemble in Katonah, NY, and also serves as a cantor at St. Mary Church in Bethel, CT. He formally sang with The Connecticut Choral Society both as an ensemble member and featured soloist. His love of Celtic folk music led him to a long career appearing throughout the tri-state area as a member of his band, *The Bold Fenian Men*. I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone in this special cast and crew. My love and deepest gratitude to my children, parents, friends and most especially, my wife, Lynn - the love of my life.

GARY SPRING (ENSEMBLE) is the father of two teens and resides in New Fairfield. He is glad to be back on the Brookfield stage after a twenty year absence. In that time period, Gary has continued his artistic interests as House Photographer for TBTA and other area playhouses. He has performed in several small plays associated with church and community organizations including *The Sound of Music* (Captain Von Trapp) and *Fiddler on the Roof* (Fyedka). He has also played the trumpet with the Danbury Community Orchestra and sang bass with the Danbury Sharefest Choir. Gary is happy to be performing in the *La Mancha* ensemble with his theatre friends.

DAVID J. TUTTLE (ENSEMBLE) As always it is a thrill to share the stage at TBTA with such wonderfully talented people. I continue to be inspired by the process of community theatre, and the dedication and commitment of these great people. Thanks to TBTA friends, new and old, and the continued inspiration and encouragement from BG.

FRANK VON OY (GOVERNOR/INNKEEPER) is flattered to be part of this talented cast and crew in his first appearance at TBTA. Frank is recently retired and it has been forty years since he last set foot on stage when he played the king in *The King and I*. "I am very grateful both for this opportunity and for the exhortations of my vocal coach, Ann Carlson. But why does everyone want me to break my legs?"

ALEXIS M. VOURNAZOS (MULETEER) is very happy to be back home at TBTA where he served as a board member for two years and to be reprising one of his favorite roles. Most recently he was seen as Lt. Schrank in *West Side Story* and Paul Seymour in *Big*, both with the Sherman Players. He has appeared at TBTA in *Barnum*, *Hello Dolly*, *Whodunit*, *Dial M For Murder*, *Spider's Web*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Exit The Body*, and *House of Blue Leaves*. "It has been great to work with old friends as well as make new ones."

MILES WALLACE (ENSEMBLE) From the "Whatever happened to..." file, Miles returns to the Brookfield stage after a series of hibernations. At TBTA he spent puberty performing in *The Roar of the Greasepaint*, *Cabaret*, *Oliver*, *Gypsy*, *The Thirteen Clocks*, *Butterflies Are Free* (opposite his mother), and *Candide*. These shows might represent a busy youth yet he seemed to find the time to also perform locally in *The Happy Time*, *Charlie Brown*, *Godspell*, *1776*, *Iolanthe*, *The Time of the Comet*, *Finians Rainbow*, and *Princess Ida*. Unquenched