#csp90andNew

November 1-9

December 6-14

February 14-22

April 4-12

Audition: Feb 28
Performance: Mar 1

RENEÉ G. O'LEARY FUNDRAISER
June 13-28

chapel street players

TIMES SQUARE ANGEL

A Hard-Boiled Christmas Fantasy

WRITTEN BY CHARLES BUSCH
DIRECTED BY BILL FELLNER
ASST. DIRECTED BY CONNIE REGAN

December 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 2024 @ 8:00 p.m.
December 8 Matinee @ 2:00 p.m.

Delaware Division of the Arts

This is supported, in part, by a grant from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts. The Division promotes Delaware arts events on www.DelawareScene.com.

Proud Member of aact AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY THEATRE

Presented by special arrangement with Concord Theatricals

President's Note

Dear Friends of Chapel Street Players:

Happy Holiday season to everyone and welcome to the second show of our 90th season! If you joined us for *Footlight Frenzy,* we hope you will notice the latest additions to our new home: the logo in the lobby; new chandelier lights, our Art Gallery Wall where we will continue to feature and support local artists; the benches on the patio for your convenience; and our new video projector which arrived just in time for this show in which it used frequently. As promised, more additions will be forthcoming as we continue to complete our new space. Enjoy the show, and all of us at CSP wish you a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you in 2025!

— Scott F. Mason, President

Director's Note

"It's a very ancient saying,
But a true and honest thought,
That if you become a teacher,
By your pupils you'll be taught."

— **Oscar Hammerstein II** (*The King and I*)

This is the third mainstage production that I have directed for CSP, and each time I learned much from the people that I worked with, and I am eternally grateful to all for the experience. This production has been especially challenging. It is the second offering of the first season in our amazing new theater, after the season's opening had to be postponed by a couple of months. Our current production is a Christmas play, and one does not postpone Christmas plays! We have 13 actors playing 18 characters, with some actors also doubling as our song and dance troupe. I have occasionally thought that we should rename the play "Footlight Frenzy II", but we'll stick with *Times Square Angel*. Fortunately, our production is in the hands of a wonderfully talented and dedicated cast, crew, and production staff. I especially want to acknowledge our dedicated Assistant Director Connie Regan and Set Designer/ Master Carpenter Craig Stump, both of whom has done yeoman's work while also performing in the cast. A shoutout as well to Ann Matthews for costuming this crowd. Kudos to all!

For those who don't know the playwright, Charles Busch is the author of such plays as *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom* and *Psycho Beach Party*. *Times Square Angel* is among his tamest offerings. Enjoy the show!

— Bill Fellner, Director

TAKE A [SEAT]

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For more information or making donation, visit
https://chapelstreetplayers.org/take-a-seat/

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Chapel Street Players

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Production Staff/Crew

Director ..... Bill Fellner
Assistant Director ..... Connie Regan
Choreographers ..... Grace Newman, Rebecca Stutzman
Stage Manager ..... Michelle Cullen
Assistant Stage Manager ..... Sophia Marianiello
Set Design ..... Craig Stump
Master Carpenter ..... Craig Stump
Set Construction ..... Cast/Crew
Light Design ..... Brian M. Touchette
Sound/Projection Design ..... Bill Fellner
Light Operator ..... Judy David
Sound/Projection Operator ..... Holly Baggett
Costumes ..... Ann Matthews, Cast
Props ..... Connie Regan, Bill Fellner, Cast
Photography ..... Peter Kuo
Program ..... Cindy Starcher
Program Printing ..... RCI Printing & Graphics
Box Office ..... Gary Kirchhof & Friends of CSP
Ushers/Concessions ..... Cindy Starcher & Friends of CSP

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Special Thanks

The Stairwell Carollers, Walt Osborne, Brian M. Touchette,
Cab Calloway School of the Arts, Formal Affairs

STRIKE BUILD

Our next strike build is **Sunday, December 15, 1:00 pm.** Bring your power screwdrivers, painter's clothes, or whatever skills you have! Strike builds are for everyone, and if you have an interest in learning, this is an excellent opportunity. Coffee and some light snacks will be provided. This is a terrific opportunity to help the arts in your community and meet some new people!

Chapel Street Players Present

TIMES SQUARE *ANGEL*

written by: **Charles Busch**

directed by: **Bill Fellner**
assistant directed by: **Connie Regan**

CAST
(in order of appearance)

Narrator..... **Renee O'Leary**
Angel/Cookie/Agnes..... **Gina Olkowski**
Angel/Miss Ellerbee/Old Mag..... **Cynthia Wiles**
Albert..... **Patrick Cathcart**
The Lord/Valerie Waverly..... **Danielle Cathcart**
Milton Keisler..... **Dave Hastings**
Irish O'Flanagan..... **Heather Mekulski**
Georgie..... **Colin Antes**
Peona..... **Amanda Stinchcombe**
Jimmy..... **Talula Stinchcombe**
Helen Sternhan..... **Connie Regan**
Eddie..... **Alex Bock**
Chick LaFountain..... **Craig Stump**

Musical Troupe: Colin Antes, Alex Bock, Danielle Cathcart, Heather Mekulski, Connie Regan, Amanda Stinchcombe, Talula Stinchcombe

Setting: **New York City from 1938 to 1948, and in Heaven**

Please be advised that this performance utilizes sudden loud noises, simulated gunshots, and prop guns.

~ One fifteen-minute intermission ~

Who's Who

Colin Antes (*Georgie*) is delighted to be back at Chapel Street - after more than a decade - to help break in the new theatre! Colin's last starring role was in *The Rocky Horror Show* as Frankenfurter at Theatre N in Wilmington - about a year before the plague occurred. After surviving the plague, Colin is once again excited to be putting his singing and dancing skills to good use in this wonderful Christmas production. Colin thanks his friends and family for their continued support.

Alex Bock (*Eddie*) was diagnosed a few weeks ago with severe thespianitus, and was admitted to the theatrical ward for his wellbeing. After much consideration and deliberation, the finest doctors in the land considered him cured and released him. However, upon his release Alex immediately relapsed into two more productions. *Hamlet* at MST in January, and *The Foxy Mrs. Bumstead Leigh* at CSP in February. He would like to thank from the bottom of his heart; CSP, Bill, Connie, Ann, Grace, Rebecca, and the entire cast and crew for being enablers. He wouldn't be able to do this without all of you!

Danielle Cathcart (*The LORD/Valerie Waverly*) is a normal human in this show. She likes people, places, and things. In her spare time, she enjoys having a tasty little treat and convincing children she's a witch. One day, she hopes someone will call her "ma'am" without adding "you're making a scene". She'd like to thank this cast for being fabulous and giving her the will to live, and hopes you enjoy the show. The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear.

Patrick Cathcart (*Albert*) is a 28 year veteran of the theater having worked in 100+ shows since 1996. He can think of no better way to do this thing again than to celebrate the holidays with you in this new theater. Patrick met his beautiful wife performing with CSP, and is thankful for the honor to work in this first season in the new space. He thanks Bill for giving him such a wonderful role in a play where he also acts with his wife, and thanks the cast for being some of the most enjoyable people to work with in all his time in the theater. Love to mom, dad, and my wife Danielle.

Dave Hastings (*Milton Keisler*) is delighted to be making his first appearance on the NEW CSP stage. Among his favorites from the previous venue are *Amadeus* (Salieri), *Les Liasons Dangereuses* (Valmont), and *Enchanted April* (Frederick). He wishes to thank his lovely wife, Gina, for her support, and all of you for helping to usher in a new era in the CSP story!

Heather Mekulski (*Irish O'Flanagan*) was last seen on the CSP stage in *A Christmas Carol* (the Ghost of Christmas Past). Although Heather regularly does her acting in medical simulations with Healthcare Theatre, she has also been involved with plays such as *You Can't Take It with You* (Gay Wellington), *The Fantastics* (Hucklebee), *The Sound of Music* (Liesl), and *Guys and Dolls* (Adelaide). She thanks her husband, Michael, for his continuous love and support.

Renee O'Leary (*Narrator*) is excited to be making her first appearance in this brand new theater! She is thankful to be working with such a talented team of directors, cast, and crew. Her performance is dedicated to Jack O'Leary's memory and the special friends who help her carry on. God bless y'all.

Gina Olkowski (*Angel/Cookie/Agnes*) is honored to grace the new CSP stage in its inaugural season. She is tickled that her character is semi-referred to as a Dolly sister just as her grandmother and great-aunt had been nearly 100 years ago. Gina has been seen on several area stages. Favorite roles include *Twelve Angry Jurors* (Juror #3), *Edgar Allen Poe: A Masquerade* (Tell Tale Heart), and *The Curious Savage* (Mrs. Ethel Savage). When not on stage, she enjoys her business Saltwater and Sand, teaching, and endless hours at the shore with her husband and family.

Amanda Stinchcombe (*Peona*) is thrilled to be making her debut at CSP in *Times Square Angel*! Recently, she appeared in *Willy Wonka* (Phineas Trout) and performed in several cabarets. Amanda has loved every moment of bringing this delightful Christmas show to life alongside an incredible cast and crew. She hopes you enjoy this heartwarming and festive production as much as she's enjoyed being part of it. Happy holidays!

Talula Stinchcombe (*Jimmy*) is excited to make her CSP debut in *Times Square Angel*! An 8th grader at Cab Calloway School of the Arts, her favorite roles include *SpongeBob the Musical Jr.* (Squidward), *Mary Poppins Jr.* (Miss Andrews), and *Aladdin Jr.* (Jafar). She has loved performing with this wonderful cast and crew (even including her mom!) and hopes you enjoy this festive holiday show.

Craig Stump (*Chick LaFountain*) has no idea why he was cast in the role, as the character description for Chick LaFountain was "...A debonair, handsome gangster...". With that in mind, he is none of those things. Craig thanks all of the cast and crew for putting up with him, because that is not an easy thing to do. The biggest thank-you goes to the audience because without you, the show never happens.

Cynthia Wiles (*Mrs. Ellerbee/Angel/Old Mag*) is a recently retired psychologist who has "dabbled" in theater for a number of years. She has had roles in productions at Studio Players in Kentucky and secondary roles in some productions at Wilmington Drama League and The Delaware Arden Theater group. This is the first show that she has been in since 2016 and her first step back into acting since she retired in August 2024. With more available time, she is hoping to become more active in local theater.

Bill Fellner (*Director*) directed the plays *33 Variations* and *Proof* for CSP. He was also the music director for *The Fantasticks* (twice), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. He has appeared several times on the CSP stage, including as the unwelcome houseguest in the eponymous *Man Who Came to Dinner*. He has also been involved in productions at other community theater groups, his favorite acting/singing role being that of the dairyman Tevye in *A Fiddler on the Roof* for productions at Candlelight Dinner Theater and Brandywiners.

Connie Regan (*Assistant Director, Helen*) has appeared previously in *Footlight Frenzy* (Laura Becker/Addie Starr) at CSP, *Much Ado About Nothing* (Verges) at the Everett Theater, *Units of Love* (Bonita Goodman) at Reedy Point Players, *Women of Lockerbie* (Woman #1) at Milburn Stone Theater, and *Twelfth Night* (Maria) at CSP. Connie is an active member of CSP's playwriting group, CSP NEXT. Connie performs regularly as part of Forgetful Squirrels Improv at the Funny Farm Theater in Elkton, MD.

Grace Newman and Rebecca Stutzman (*Choreography Team*) first started working together in their college acapella group at the University of Delaware, Vocal Point, creating award-winning choreography for their group's International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella performances. Alongside theatre, Grace trained in several dance styles and followed the footsteps of her mother, a fellow choreographer. Rebecca has been performing for several years, both as an actress and a competitive dancer. Grace and Rebecca are wishing the most broken of legs to the cast, sending many thanks for this amazing opportunity, and hope you enjoy the show!