



Wonderful Town

Director
Rob Gorican
Musical Director
Jennifer Peace
Choreographer
Julie Gallie

Book
Joseph Fields
& Jerome Chodorov
based on the play "My Sister Eileen"
by Joseph Fields & the stories of
Ruth McQueen

Music
Leonard
Bernstein
lyrics
Betty Comden
& Adolph Green

Producers
Rita Ferguson
Christine McMahon
Jan Sayer

**Meadowvale
Theatre**

2007



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President's Message



Welcome to Clarkson Music Theatre's production of "Wonderful town". Enter into the world of Ruth and Eileen and meet the colourful characters from Christopher Street in Geenenwich Village. Thank you to my co-producers Christine and Jan the "crazy lady team" for all their hard work and also to all the directors cast and crew.
To you our audience, we thank you for your patronage and strive to bring you the best possible entertainment. So sit back, relax and have a swinging good time!

Rita Ferguson, President of Clarkson Music Theatre



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Acknowledgements

- Oakville Players
- Mississauga Arts Council
- St. Paul Secondary School
- Mississauga Department of Recreation & Parks
- Ann Moore, Christ Church
- Kingsway Financial
- Meadowvale Theatre Staff
- Sunrise Senior Living of Erin Mills



Cast in order of appearance



Michael Marando - Mr. Appopolous
Michael first appeared on stage with CMT in its 1983 production of *L'il Abner* and was seen most recently in the 2006 production of *Blood Brothers*. He is also enjoying his second stint serving on CMT's Executive. Working with such a dedicated directing team and a talented cast has made *Wonderful Town* a most "wonderful" experience. As always, Michael is most appreciative of the love and support provided him by *Delta* and *Julian*.



Leslie Carnie - Helen Wade
Leslie has been a member of Clarkson Music Theatre since 1990 and is happy to be a part of "Wonderful Town". Past favourite roles include *Tessa* in *Gondoliers*, *Mrs. Potiphar* in *Joseph*, *Mrs. Molloy* in *Hello Dolly*, *Sarah* in *Guys and Dolls* (Best Actress Acto Nomination) and *Bianca* in *Kiss Me Kate* for which she won Best Supporting Actress. Happily, Leslie gets to share the stage once again with her daughter *Laura*, *Love to Denis* and *Drew*.



Don Montgomery - "Wreck" Loomis
Don is delighted to be back on the boards after taking a few years off to play the role of "Daddy". *Wreck* has been a challenging but enjoyable experience for him. Other colourful characters Don has enjoyed include *Angie the Ox* (*Guys and Dolls*), *C.J. Scuggs* (Best Little Whorehouse), and *Earthquake McGoon* (*L'il Abner*). Don thanks *Lesley*, *Sean* and *Carly* for their love and support while he pursues his passion. Thanks also to the cast and crew for their hard work and support during the run.



Fran Rotondo - Violet Shelton
Fran is absolutely thrilled to be performing in her first musical stage production with CMT. This is a wonderfully talented group of people and she is honoured to be a part of this fabulous show. Fran wants to dedicate this show to her family and friends for their love and support. She especially wants to thank her fiance *Dan* for putting up with "Violet" and her late night rumba lessons!

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Patty Sullivan - Eileen Sherwood
Patty is excited to return to the stage after a 1 1/2 year absence - she and her husband were busy with their new baby *Veronica*! Past roles include *Polly* - *Crazy for You*, *Kathy* - *Singin' in the Rain*, *Eliza* - *My Fair Lady*, *Louise* - *Gypsy*, and *Laurey* - *Oklahoma!* You may also recognize Patty from the "small screen" as the host of *Kids' CBC*. "All my love to husband *Mike* - for your unwavering support and devotion...and for putting in the extra "Daddy Duty" so I could do this show!" XO



Jennifer Laarhuis - Ruth Sherwood
Jennifer is thrilled to be portraying *Ruth* in CMT's production of *WONDERFUL TOWN*. Last Encore series she was found tapping her way to #2nd STREET as *Anytime Annie*. Jennifer performed 6 years on the *Holland America Cruise Line* where she met her husband *Charles*. After living in *The Netherlands* for 8 years with their children *Mitchell* and *Alicia* they returned to *Mississauga*. She THANKS everyone in and outside the show for all the love, support and... babysitting!!!! *Kusjes van Mama*.



Ross Hanna - Robert Baker
Ross is pleased to return to CMT for this production of *Wonderful Town*. Previous roles with this and other groups include: *Billy Flynn* in *Chicago*; *Lancelot* in *Camelot*; *Henry Higgins* in *My Fair Lady*; *Oscar* in *On the Twentieth Century*; and *Fred/Petruchio* in *Kiss Me Kate*. It's been a pleasure working with such a great cast and crew, and hats off to our two leading ladies! Love and thanks to *Adriana* and *Cameron*.



Mike Arsenault - Frank Lippencott
Mike is downright hornswaggled to be back with CMT. In 2005, Mike appeared on this stage in the award-winning role of *Nathan Detroit* in "Guys and Dolls". Favourite musical roles: "The Baker" (*Into The Woods*), "Motel" (*Fiddler On The Roof*), "Rooster" (*Annie*), "Dickon" (*The Secret Garden*), "Etches" (*Titanic - The Musical*), "Hysterium" (*Funny Thing Happened ...Forum*), "Trent" (*The Last Resort*), "Minstrel" (*Once Upon A Mattress*), "Bobby" (*A Chorus Line*), "Charlie" (*Brigadoon*), "Gerald" (*Me and My Girl*) and "Peter" (*Company*). Mike will return to *Meadowdale* in *March* in the role of *John* in "Miss Saigon". This performance is dedicated to my family. With love. Enjoy.



Chick Clark - Steve Bruines
This is Steve's third show with CMT. He is very excited to be cast as *Chick Clark*. He would like to say "Hi" to his Mom. "Hi Mom!" Enjoy the Show.

Production Crew



Rob Gorican - Officer John Lanigan, Director
Rob is happy to be back with his friends at CMT both onstage and as director for "WT". Above all he would like to send a big thanks to Jenny, Julie, Rita, Christine, and Jan for all their hard work; and to the cast for their dedication in bringing the show to life. Love too to his parents - and to Bob with whom he gets to share not only the stage this time, but every day. Enjoy the show!



Jennifer Peaco - Musical Director
Recently retired, Jenny is happy to kick off her first year of leisure Music Directing this Wonderful Town for CMT. She is the winner of the ACTCO award for Music Directing Clarkson's 2006 show "42nd St." It has been a pleasure to work with Rob, Julie and this dedicated and talented cast and crew. Special thanks to the pit band who have risen to new heights this production.



Julie Gabbie - Choreographer
Previous Clarkson credits: "Pirates of Penzance" and "The Mikado" for Clarkson's 60th anniversary. After training in her hometown (Victoria B.C.) Julie taught dance to children of all ages, performed and choreographed for professional and community theatre. Performance credits: West Side Story, Evita, Music Man, My Fair Lady and The Mikado. Other choreography credits: Once Upon a Mattress, My Fair Lady, and The Secret Garden. Thanks Rita and Christine for the opportunity, Rob and Jennifer for your help and patience, Big, special thanks to Timm and Dawson!



Rita Ferguson - Mrs. Ella Wade, Producer
How "wonderful" to be working with the crazy lady team, Christine and Jan. Rita would like to welcome all the newcomers and wish all the cast and crew "break a leg". Thanks to Rob, Jenny and Julie for all their hard work. Her past favourite character roles include- Lady Battersby and Prascovia with CMT, Maggie, Miss Wainright and Violet with the Oakville Players, and Aunt Kate, Grandmother, Rita and Lizzie with Toronto Irish Players. Love and thanks to her family.



Christine McMahon - Speedy Valenti, Producer
Christine loves to teach, sbp, sing, act and produce, especially with CL1. She is thrilled once again to "play" on stage and behind the scenes. Past credits include "Mikado", "Forty Second Street", "Cabaret" and "Blood Brothers" for which she won a Producer's Thea. Her favorite roles? "Letitia" (20th Century) and "Ruth" (Pirates). Here's to Bob Hope, Muffins and Snitsky! Thanks to a great cast, crew and team, especially Rita and Jan. LOL to her best production: Jaime and David.

Jan Sayer - Producer
Jan is thrilled to have played a small part in the production of Wonderful Town. Although she has not performed in a large musical production with CMT for over 20 years, it has been a very rewarding experience working behind the scenes with Rita and Christine. Jan also enjoys her role as social coordinator for CMT and hopes more members will share in the fun at future events. Look for Jan in upcoming spring concerts, her true passion.



Janet Batchelor - Stage Manager
Janet is happy to be back at Meadowdale Theatre. Her last show here was MMT's "State Fair" for which she won Best Stage Manager. Meanwhile she has been working in Oakville, With W.E.S.T. and has stage managed "The Secret Garden", "Amadeus", "Cabaret", "Oliver" "The War Show - You'll Get Used To It" as well as "Steel Magnolias", "The Word" and "Any Wednesday". It has been great to work with a new group! Thanks again to the other Janet.



Greg Salisbury - Sound Designer
Greg has won numerous awards for his work in sound design. He has designed & built mobile television production units for major facilities in Ontario. He has designed & installed sound & communications for Meadowdale Theatre, Open Mike with Mike Bulard & more.

Jason Hand- Lighting Designer



Recent design credits include Gorey Story (Dora nomination: Best Production) (Thistle Theatre); The Life of Galileo (Theatre @York); Vacancy (McKinnory/Creative Ensemble); Macbeth (Tempest Theatre); West Side Story (YorkMinstrels); 42nd Street (Clarkson Music Theatre); Romeo and Juliet and Othello (Classical Theatre Projects); Nelly Boy

(Summerworks) and Like Omigawd (Toronto Fringe). As an assistant he has worked for Drayton Entertainment, the Stratford Festival and the Canadian Opera Company. Upcoming: The Scene (Berkeley Street). He studied Theatre Design from York University. Jason can be reached at jasonhand@hotmail.com.



Director's Message



Picture it... New York City, 1935. The Empire State Building is the world's tallest; Gas lamps are still in use on some streets; and two sisters arrive from Ohio to find fame and fortune - along the way they meet several colourful characters and enjoy many adventures. Sounds like good material for a Broadway musical doesn't it? It all began as the true story of Ruth McKenney and her sister who came from Columbus, Ohio with the hopes and dreams that many people have brought with them to New York City. In the 1940's these stories became the basis of a play and talk began of a musical version. The producers had a score written

up by Leroy Anderson (who wrote "Sleigh Ride") and Arnold Horwitt, but threw it out with only 4 weeks before rehearsals were to begin! Betty Comden, Adolph Green, and Leonard Bernstein were asked if they could produce an entire score in only 4 weeks - lucky for us they did!

"Wonderful Town" is considered a valentine to New York City - a place that has become synonymous with the theatre world. It has won many awards and enjoyed a successful North American tour just last year. The cast and team here at Clarkson Music Theatre have worked many hours to present you with this same valentine. We hope you enjoy your visit to 1935's New York City - a "Wonderful Town"!

Rob Gorican, Director



Wonderful Town

Act One

<i>Christopher Street</i>	(Guide, Tourists, Villagers)
<i>Ohio</i>	(Ruth, Eileen)
<i>Conquering New York</i>	(Ruth, Eileen, Chorus)
<i>One Hundred Easy Ways to Lose A Man</i>	(Ruth)
<i>What A Waste</i>	(Baker, Editors)
<i>Ruth's Stories</i>	(Ruth, Baker, Party Guests)
<i>A Little Bit in Love</i>	(Eileen)
<i>Pass the Football</i>	(Wreck)
<i>Conversation Piece</i>	(Frank, Eileen, Ruth, Chick, Baker)
<i>A Quiet Girl</i>	(Baker)
<i>Quiet Ruth</i>	(Ruth)
<i>Conga</i>	(Ruth and Brazilian Cadets)

Act Two

<i>My Darlin' Eileen</i>	(Policeman and Eileen)
<i>Swing</i>	(Ruth and Villagers)
<i>Ohio Reprise</i>	(Ruth, Eileen)
<i>It's Love</i>	(Eileen, Baker, Villagers)
<i>Ballet at the Village Vortex</i>	(instrumental)
<i>The Wrong Note Rag</i>	(Ruth, Eileen, Vortex patrons)
<i>It's Love Reprise</i>	(Eileen, Ruth, Baker, entire Company)