THE Mountaineer Players Present

Our 68th Annual Spring Production



At The Beautiful Outdoor Forest Theatre

May 29th, 30th

June 4th, 5th, 11th, 12th, 18th & 19th

1994

Gail Wamba	Director
Jacqueline Rosin	Music Director
Audrey Fan	Choreographer
Håkan Svensson	Stage Manager
Karen Hannah	Pianist

LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE

Book, Lyrics and Music by
Rick Besoyan

Produced By Special Arrangement with Samuel French Inc.

Produced by
The Mountaineer Players

Gail Foster	*Chair*
Laura Leon Davis	*Vice Chair*
Walt Foster	*Treasurer*
Colleen McManus	*Secretary*
Katha Miller-Winder	*Historian*
Bev Loeffler	*Ex Officio*

Players Committee

Rosalyn Bellows, Martha Eby, Marcia Harper, Gala Lindvall, Barbara McCoy, Cheryl Phillips, Ray Puddicombe, Beth Tesh
Lloyd Mason-*Emeritus*, Georgia Graham-*Emeritus*

Production Staff

Tanya Zambrowsky	*Assistant Stage Manager*
Mary Duckering Heidi Svensson Jacqueline Rosin	*Costume Designers*
Colleen McManus	*Set Designer/Master Carpenter*
Greg Brown	*Sound*
Laura Leon Davis Alisan Giesy	*Properties*
Jamie Gordon	*Publicity/Graphic Design*
Evie MacDonald	*Trailhead Coordinator*
Irma Rodenhouse	*Information Booth*
Jo Berkley	*Parking*

Director's Note

We would like to take you to a place where life is much simpler than our life is today. Where troubles blow away like clouds as we look for a sky of blue. Such a carefree, happy place is easy to find in musical theatre, where Little Mary Sunshine tends her fair garden whilst Captain Jim marches his men tirelessly from border to border, and young ladies swing to their hearts delight!

Little Mary Sunshine was first produced in 1959 as a spoof of chipper, 1920's-style musical reviews. Mr. Besoyan, our playwright, created utterly sincere characters who are good and bad to the extreme, and combined them with familiar melodramatic images into this saga of Colorado.

We hope you enjoy our simple story, and find pleasure in all life's simple treasures.

Welcome to the Colorado Inn!

–Gail Wamba, Director

Setting

Little Mary Sunshine takes place early in this century, near the Colorado Inn, high in the Rocky Mountains.

Act One..... A Summer afternoon

Intermission (15 Minutes)

Act Two..... That evening

Musical Interludes

Act I

The Forest Ranger..... Captain Jim and The Forest Rangers

Little Mary Sunshine..... The Forest Rangers & Little Mary

Look For A Sky Of Blue..... Little Mary & The Forest Rangers

You're The Fairest Flower..... Captain Jim

In Izzenschnooken On The Lovely Essenzook Zee..... Madame Ernestine

Playing Croquet..... The Young Ladies

Swinging..... The Young Ladies

How Do You Do?..... The Forest Rangers

Tell A Handsome Stranger..... Pete, Mabel, Slim, Henrietta, Tex, and Edith

Once In A Blue Moon..... Billy and Nancy

Colorado Love Call..... Captain Jim and Little Mary

Every Little Nothing..... Madame Ernestine and Little Mary

Finale Act I..... Nancy, The Young Ladies, The Forest Rangers, Madame Ernestine and Little Mary

Act II

Such A Merry Party..... The Forest Rangers, The Young Ladies and Nancy

The Forest Ranger, Reprise..... Captain Jim and The Forest Rangers

Kadota..... Billy

Naughty, Naughty Nancy..... Little Mary and The Young Ladies

Mata Hari..... Nancy and The Young Ladies

Do You Ever Dream Of Vienna?..... Madame Ernestine and General Oscar

A Shell Game, Dance Pantomime..... Yellow Feather, Billy, and Nancy

Coo Coo..... Little Mary

Colorado Love Call, Reprise..... Captain Jim and Little Mary

Finale Act II..... Ensemble

Dramatis Personae (in order of appearance)

Chief Brown Bear, Chief of the Kadota Indians ..... *Ray Puddicombe*

Captain Big Jim Warington, of the United States Forest Rangers .. *Ray Woodall*

Corporal Billy Jester, of the United States Forest Rangers ..... *Craig Schieber*

The Young Gentlemen of the United States Forest Rangers:

Pete ..... *David Jensen*

Tex ..... *Doug Cottrill*

Slim ..... *Erik C. Swanson*

Hank ..... *Craig Yahne*

Buster ..... *Justin Tinsley*

Chuck ..... *Chris Bankston*

Miss Mary Potts, Proprietress of the Colorado Inn ..... *LeeAnn Hittenberger*

Madame Ernestine Von Liebedich, An Opera Singer ..... *Christy Gordon*

Das Echo ..... *Tanya Zambrowsky*

The Young Ladies of Eastchester Finishing School:

Edith ..... *Nancy Cook*

Blanche ..... *Meredith Armstrong*

Mabel ..... *Andrea Gleaves*

Henrietta ..... *Kat Wamba*

Maud ..... *Carolyn Hastings*

Cora ..... *Leigh Lindell*

Nancy Twinkle, Little Mary's Maid ..... *Dawn Brazel*

Fleet Foot, An Indian Guide ..... *David Kenagy*

Yellow Feather, Chief Brown Bear's Son ..... *Scott Crist*

General Oscar Fairfax, Ret., A Washington Diplomat ..... *Douglas Thomson*

Theatre Promotion • Head Shots • Fine Art / Nature

TANYA R. ZAMBROWSKY

Photographer



Daytime: 224-0527 Evenings / Weekends 882-7757

Support Staff

Set Construction

Doug Cottrill, Scott Crist, Laura Leon Davis, Mary Duckering, Adrian Giesy, Alisan Giesy, Christopher Giesy, Philip Giesy, Christy Gordon, Jamie Gordon, Marcia Harper, Karen Hughey, David Kenagy, Brian King, Leigh Lindell, Håkan Svensson, Erik Swanson, Doug Thomson, Gail Wamba, Övid Yensohn,Tanya Zambrowsky

Costumes

Alisan Giesy, Bev Loeffler, Beth Tesh

Properties

Valerie Day, Bev Loeffler, Erwin Rosin

Publicity

Michael Dingerson, Christy Gordon, Mark Jensen, Colleen McManus, Katha Miller-Winder, Heidi Svensson

Ushers

B.J. Allen, Jan Allison, Marion Allred, Hazel Anderson, Don Anderson, Rosalyn Bellows, Eileen Cross, Max Dimoff, Amber Dimoff, Arden Gordon, Carol Guthrie, Marcia Harper, Clair Harper, Karen Hughey, Betty Jensen, Jean Kahler, Dick Kahler, Barbara Laviolette, Duane Laviolette, Gala Lindvall, Bev Loeffler, Emily Loeffler, Mary Lou Lutz, Rhea Natoli, Evelyn Nickerson, Cheryl Phillips, Dorothy Ritter, Kathy Smith, Beth Tesh, Maribeth Wege, Marie Wells

Parking

Tom Allen, Greg Bellows, Jo Berkley, Chuck Clark, Rod Dimoff, Phil Giesy, Diane Howerton, Bill Loeffler, Adam Loeffler, Jere Lord, Mimi Lord, Steve Puddicombe

Food Preparation—Kitsap Lodge

Ann Bowes, Michael Dingerson, Mary Duckering, Martha Eby, Scott Eby, Bill Loeffler, Heidi Svensson

Box Office/Information Booth

Walt Foster, Charles Gahegan, Alisan Giesy, Jeanne Goings, Evie MacDonald, Barbara McCoy, Katha Miller-Winder, Royce Natoli, Irma Rodenhouse

Forest Theatre Chairman

Gardner Hicks

Rhododendron Preserve Coordinator

Ted Bradshaw

Kitsap Cabin Committee

Greg Brown, Jamie Gordon, Scott Eby, Brad Griffith, Bill Loeffler

Special Thanks

Mike Andrew, Bremerton/Kitsap Visitor & Convention Bureau, Carson Drugs, Kitsap Mall, The Mountaineer Member Services Office Staff, Northern Life Insurance Company, Earl Kelly, Stephen McLeod, Bob Young, Director's Studio of Speech and Drama, Harriet Walker

About The Players and The Forest Theatre

A small group of Mountaineers were exploring an area around Wildcat Lake, just outside of Bremerton, in the spring of 1922. They came upon an area called Hidden Valley, a picturesque valley of quiet glades, wild rhododendrons, Douglas fir, cedar and dogwood trees. Skits were presented around the campfire that evening. The following year the group invited other Mountaineers to enjoy a production of *Robin Of Sherwood* under the blooming rhododendrons. They returned to the site every year to present a different show for the growing audiences. A theatre was constructed out of a natural cirque to accommodate the larger crowds that gathered. A repeat performance of *Robin Of Sherwood* in 1929, christened what we now know as The Forest Theatre. The unique productions continued every year until 1943, when World War II required every American to join in the war effort. Presentation of the annual play resumed in 1947 and continues to this day.

The production of each show is massive undertaking. Personal reward and the fellowship of friends and family compensate volunteers as they spend hundreds of hours preparing everything from costumes to clearing the stage of rocks. The uncertainty of weather conditions and our policy that the show goes on rain or shine, present a number of unusual challenges for actors and production staff. Our opening performance of *Hello, Dolly!* in 1989 was memorable due to the heavy rain and a brave crowd of 125 people, and the 1980 production of *The Music Man* presented the very real possibility of being "ashed on" by Mt. Saint Helens. One member, whose parents met in the group, appeared on stage at the ripe old age of three months as a "prop". He (much later) married another member whose parents also became acquainted through the Players and they have introduced yet a third generation to our ranks. The group now contains active members who have been involved since the 1950's. We consider each other to be an extended family and have developed relationships that will last a lifetime.

The Rhododendron Preserve and Mountaineer Foundation

The Forest Theatre is located in an area of old growth forest which The Mountaineers have named the Rhododendron Preserve because of the profusion of our state flower there. It is now in two complementary ownerships, with the Mountaineers retaining 20 acres, which include the theatre and the buildings, and The Mountaineer Foundation owning the remainder. The State Of Washington has granted conservancy status to the Foundation's portion as one of the few remaining lowland old growth forest areas in the state. It is included in the Washington Register of Natural areas.

Playgoers of long standing have been able to watch the natural processes as a tree which blew down near the trail several years ago has started to decay and is now a nurse log for many young trees. This common features of old growth forests is not found elsewhere. The Foundation is dedicated to preserving the marvelous heritage contained in its property.

However, as the population of the area continues to grow, civilization encroaches ever closer to the borders of the Preserve. The Foundation has embarked on a campaign to purchase buffer property around the perimeter. It is able to accept donations which are tax deductible to the giver. These purchases, while not of old growth timber land, act as a buffer to protect the Preserve, and will be old growth again. Several parcels have been purchased or donated so far to bring the total acreage of the Foundation's holdings to nearly 200 acres.

If you would like to join us in this effort, we would appreciate your help in the form of contributions. You may contact our representative at the top of the trail today, or send a check or money order to:

The Mountaineer Foundation c/o The Mountaineers
300 Third Avenue West—Seattle, WA 98119