

Santa Clara Players

present

A Bull in a China Shop



By C.B Gilford

Production Staff

Producer Jim Narveson
Director. Estelle Piper
Stage Manager Michael Antonucci
Assistant Stage Manager Sandi Wolfe
Set Design. Jim Narveson
Lighting Design. George Doeltz
Costumes. Amy Conners
Props. Cast
Photography George Doeltz
Set Construction and Decoration George Doeltz, Jim Narveson
Diane Sutherland, Marian Narveson, Craig Leventon
Production Flyer and Program George Doeltz
Technical Operator Michael Antonucci
Box Office. George Doeltz
Opening Night Reception. Maxine Lukins, Irma McCrory
Debbie Doeltz, SCP Board
Opening Night Flowers Daisy Palmer

Special Thanks to
City of Santa Clara
Santa Clara Cultural Advisory Commission
Triton Museum of Art
Santa Clara Arts and Historical Consortium
City of Santa Clara Building Maintenance Department
Craig Leventon

Produced by special arrangement with Baker's Plays

Cast of Characters

Dennis O’Finn. John Baldwin
Miss Hildegarde Ada McDaniel
Miss Birdie Donna Bick
Miss Amantha. Marian Narveson
Miss Lucy. Gladie Tuscher
Miss Nettie Peggy Rose
Miss Elizabeth. Marie Ballentine
Kramer Steven Lewis
1nd Stretcher Bearer. Kris Gingrich
2st Stretcher Bearer Jim Coryelle, Kevin Kennedy
Jane Rogers Amy Conners
Johnson. Tony Le

Place:

The old-fashioned parlor of 909 Sycamore Street, a boarding house for ancient females.

Time:

1957

There will be one fifteen minute intermission after Act I. During the intermission you are invited to the lobby for refreshments as the guest of the Santa Clara Players. If you must smoke, please do so off the wooden deck.

We would like to take this opportunity to give very special thanks to the Building Maintenance Department of the City of Santa Clara for all the work they have done in the past year to these pavilions. New roof, new paint and now refinishing the deck and a new ADA bathroom. We truly appreciate the many months of effort they put into this project!

The Cast

John Baldwin (Dennis O’Finn) - John is pleased to be returning to Santa Clara Players where he previously appeared as Wargrave in *And Then There Were None*. Other recent roles in area theatres include: Freud and St. Thomas in *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* (City Lights), Porterhouse in *Run For Your Wife* (Palo Alto Players), Ben Hubbard in *The Little Foxes* and Danforth in *The Crucible* (Hillbarn), Mr. Rice in *Molly Sweeney*, Kulyigin in *Three Sisters*, Michael James in *The Playboy of the Western World*, Dr. Rank in *A Doll’s House*, Lord Porteous in *The Circle*, and David Bliss in *Hay Fever* (Pear Avenue Theater). In real life John is Director of Development at the Woodside Priory School in Portola Valley.

Ada McDaniel (Miss Hildegarde) -Ada has enjoyed doing community theatre for loads of years. She has acted with Los Gatos/Saratoga Drama Group, The Palo Alto Players, Mostly Irish Theatre Company, The Irish Theare Project, Stanford Summer Theatre and Theatre Works. For the Santa Clara Players she has done *Harvey*, *Whales of August*, *The Gin Game*, *On Golden Pond* and *Suddenly Last Summer*. She has a BA and MA in Theatre Arts. She has performed for various civic and educational groups. She is a retired Cupertino educator and, while teaching, directed numerous plays and musicals. Ada loves travel and is an avid San Francisco Giants’ baseball fan. She is enjoying much the company of old and new friends in this wacky comedy, and, she says, it certainly demands the brain cells keep clicking on all cylinders.

Donna Bick (Miss Birdie) -This marks Donna’s eighth appearance with the Santa Clara Players’ main stage productions. Past shows include *The Foreigner*, *Suddenly Last Summer*, and *Radio TBS*. For the past twenty years, Donna has been a member of the SCP outreach program which provides entertainment to organizations throughout the county. Donna has two daughters and six grandchildren. She is a retired County Probation Officer. Since retirement Donna has pursued her interest in acting which she finds very rewarding. She would like to express her appreciation to the director, Estelle Piper, for casting her in the role of Birdie and for her generous and gentle directing technique. Donna wants to dedicate her performance to her long time good friend and acting partner, Walt Duzmal, who passed away in early February.

Marian Narveson (Miss Amantha) - Marian was most recently seen in the SCP production of *The Constant Wife*. She is very happy to be back on the stage. Many thanks to everyone for all their help and support.

Gladie Tuscher (Miss Lucy) - Gladie wants to thank Estelle, the SCP Board and the supportive stage personnel for the opportunity to be part of this delightful, zany romp with a wonderfully funny and talented ensemble. Enjoy the performance.

Peggy Rose (Miss Nettie) - Bless the Santa Clara Players for providing drama/comedies in which we 'mature' ladies are given the opportunity to perform. "We are loving it". This is Peggy's fifth show with the SCP. She appeared most recently in *And Then There Were None* and *The Absence of a Cello*. She has acted in plays produced by The Mostly Irish Theatre Company, Northside Theatre, SDG, Los Gatos Theatre Project, etc. As well as those at SCP, favorite roles include those in *The Corn is Green*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Fat Rose and Squeaky*, *State Fair*, and *Riders to the Sea*. (Remembering you, John.)

Marie Ballentine (Miss Elizabeth) - Marie has worked with several of the local theatre companies throughout the Bay Area, acting/directing/or designing. She graduated from SF State with an acting emphasis, did post graduate work at San Jose State, toured with a Shakespeare company, and spent several years working with City Lights Theatre while also functioning as their Business Manager. Two of her early acting jobs, *Irene* and *I Remember Mama* were produced by Santa Clara Players, so *Bull in a China Shop* is a fun-filled return to frolic with an outstanding Company.

Steve Lewis (Kramer) - Steve is thrilled to be in his sixth production with the Players, having last been seen here in *The Kitchen Witches*. Big thanks to Estelle for both the great direction and for being a great acting teacher, along with her husband, Kevin. Thanks to both of you for my "alternate career".

Tony Le (Johnson) has acted around the South Bay for the past 12 years and makes his debut with Santa Clara Players. He earned his minor in Theatre Arts at MIT while studying for his old day job. He last appeared with Shady Shakespeare's 2008 summer ensemble as a Persianized Angelo in *The Comedy of Errors* and a Spaniardized Valentine in *Twelfth Night*. One of his favorite roles was opposite Estelle as Mr. Van Daan in

Northside Theatre Company's *The Diary of Anne Frank*. After 15 years in the high-tech industry, Tony decided in late 2009 to switch careers; he now helps people entertain friends by bringing wine tastings into their homes.

Kristopher Gingrich (1st Stretcher Bearer) - Kris is planning to break into the theatre world and acting. He is very interested in pursuing theatre and plans to receive a bachelor degree in Drama from San Francisco State University.

Kris loves sports and has received a scholarship to play basketball. He wants to pursue every opportunity that life gives him. He is currently enrolled at DeAnza College as a full-time student on his way to receiving his BS in Electrical or Aerospace Engineering. Mr. Gingrich lives by the quote: "There's no sin to attempt and fail - the only sin is not making the attempt." He would love to thank God for blessing him with wonderful opportunities and a great family. Last but not least, he can't wait to get on the stage and act!

Amy Conners (Jane Rogers, costumer) Amy has enjoyed working with SCP since her first show here, *The Heidi Chronicles*. Since then, she has been lucky enough to be involved either on stage or costuming various shows. Amy graduated from San Jose State with a BA in Theater Arts. She has been involved in the Bay Area theater and television scene as an actor, producer, costumer and director. Amy says a big thank you to all involved for making *A Bull in a China Shop* a fantastic experience, and a special thank you to the audience for supporting live theater.

Estelle Piper (Director) - This is Estelle's first production at Santa Clara Players and she's delighted with the group and her wonderful cast. Other shows she's directed include *Educating Rita*, *You Ought to Be in Pictures*, *The Odd Couple* and *The Women* plus a number of youth theatre productions. Estelle enjoys acting as well; roles have included M'Lynn in *Steel Magnolias*, Mrs. Van Daan in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Eleanor in *The Lion in Winter* and the lead in a recent independent film. She is a co-founder of City Lights Theatre Company and Tzaddi Theatre, and will direct one-acts this summer and a musical in 2010. Estelle is very grateful to her husband, Kevin Kennedy, for his love and support.

About the Players

The *Santa Clara Players* is a non-profit community theater group dedicated to wholesome entertainment. We provide an opportunity for anyone with dramatic or stagecraft aspirations to work with experienced directors and producers. We provide high quality, family theater for the enjoyment of the citizens of Santa Clara and the surrounding areas.

Santa Clara Players Board of Directors:

President	George Doeltz
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I am playing the role of Johnson in *Bull in a China Shop*. Please feel free to approach me after the show.

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