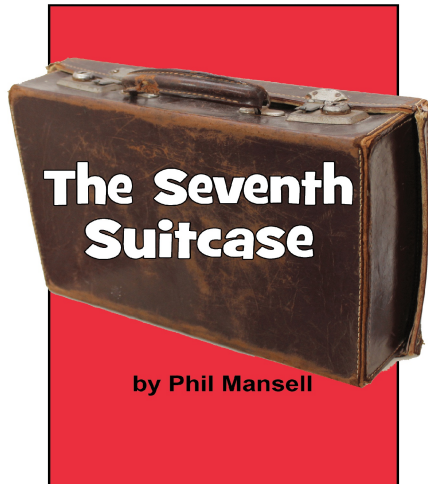


Santa Clara Players

present



Heaven's Paradise

by Derek Webb

May, 2025

Produced by special arrangement with Stagescripts

Production Staff

Producer.....George Doeltz
Directors.....Sara Hough, George Doeltz
Stage Manager/Tech.....Casey Keys
Costumes.....The Cast
Video.....Brian Callanta
Set Construction/ Painting.....Casey Keys, George Doeltz

Cast of Characters

Seventh Suitcase

Tim.....Diane Thorne
Jo.....Helena G. Clarkson
Mary..... Rebecca Brownson
Old Woman.....Julie Masterson
Woman.....Jenny Ortez

Heaven's Paradise

Dr. Howard.....Pat Cross
Michael.....Patrick Idelman
Ann.....Shloka Kini
Mrs. Winter.....Amy Wright

There will be one intermission after *The Seventh Suitcase*. During the intermission you are invited to greet the *Suitcase* cast and go to the lobby for refreshments as the guest of the Santa Clara Players.

The Cast

Diane Thorne (Tim) - Diane is dancing a jig over returning to Santa Clara Players to play Tim. Once cast, she immediately flew to Tralee and worked several weeks to perfect the local dialect. When she returned, no one could understand a word she said. So Tim's accent has been adjusted on words where they might cause confusion.

Helena G. Clarkson (Jo) - Helena is happy to be back onstage at Santa Clara Players. Since 2003, Helena has performed in more than a dozen productions here at SCP. She recently appeared here as Perkins in *Hound of the Baskervilles* and as Cora Gump in *A Bad Year for Tomatoes*. She has also portrayed Agatha Crusty, in the Agatha Crusty series of plays done at SCP, and Miss Casewell in *Mousetrap*. She recently performed the role of Tatiana Racon in *Comedy of Tenors*, in Morgan Hill for Limelight, and at The Pear, she portrayed Queen Elizabeth the First in *W.Shakespeare and the Land of the Dead*. Helena has performed for theater companies all over the Bay Area (sadly some of which are now no longer around). Helena received her BA and graduated magna cum laude from Santa Clara University in 2007 (double major in Theater and English), after she completed two AAs at Foothill College (Theater Arts and Human Performance). She is grateful and thrilled that Sara cast her in this show, as it has been a fantastic experience getting to work with her again! Helena would like to thank her son (Cyrus) for supporting her every endeavor and everyone here for supporting live theater!!

Rebecca Brownson (Mary) -. This is Becky's fourth appearance on our stage. Last year she played the colorful Willa Mae Wilcox in *It's a Bad Year for Tomatoes*. She also appeared in *Agatha Crusty and the Medieval Murders*, and *Four Old Broads*. She very much enjoys playing a wide variety of characters and found this one to be an interesting challenge. She has a long resume of acting and directing in local theater productions. When not on stage, Becky enjoys the companionship of her husband Don and her dog Tolstoy.

Julie Masterson (Old Woman) - Julie is excited to be in her fifth production at Santa Clara Players. Her favorite roles were Mrs. Modesto in *Mrs. California* at City Lights, Mama in *I Remember Mama* at Los Gatos Theatre Project and Carmen in *Curtains* at South Valley Civic

Theatre. She also uses her acting talent in short films and has been in two award winning films. Julie loves camping and seeing God's world in travel.

Jenny Ortez (Woman) - Jenny has been an enthusiastic theater audience member since she was eight, and now she is in her first play as an actress. When Jenny is not teaching Ethnic Studies to 9th graders, you can find her dancing in her kitchen and the SF Carnaval!

Pat Cross (Dr. Howard) - Pat was most recently seen in *Agatha Crusty and the Medieval Murders* and has performed in over 10 plays with Santa Clara Players, beginning with her all time favorite comedy, *Radio TBS*. She's also performed with other theater companies including Broadway West, City Lights, Stage 1, and Northside Theater. Loves performing in both comedy and dramas! Favorite roles include Violet Venable (*Suddenly Last Summer*), Kitty (*The Lost Virginity Tour*), Clairee (*Steel Magnolias*) Ethel Banks (*Barefoot in the Park*) and Reba (*Last Night at Ballyhoo*). So happy to join this talented cast in this original production.

Shloka Kini (Ann) - Shloka is excited to be making her debut with Santa Clara Players with *Heaven's Paradise*! She's been performing on stage her whole life, whether that's music, improv, or standup. Originally from Indiana and having lived and performed on the East Coast, she's been part of community theater in the Bay since 2023 and performed with groups like Naatak, Kathamunch, and CALAA. No matter what medium, she loves the stage and working with groups to collaborate and create something beautiful and special as a team. She wants to thank the whole team on *Heaven's Paradise*, George, Casey, Patrick, Pat, and Amy for being so an open and supportive and looks forward to doing more with Santa Clara Players!

Amy L. Wright (Mrs.Winter) - Amy is enjoying her fifth production with Santa Clara Players. She was last seen as Annabelle Price in *Agatha Crusty and the Medieval Murders*. Previous productions with SCP were *Ladies Foursome* (Dory), *Agatha Crusty and the Health Spa Murders* (Jocelyn Powers) and *You Can't Get There From Here* (Queenie). Ms Wright has produced, acted, & directed at community theaters and local schools. She has been in 10 Sunnyvale Community Players musicals from *Bye Bye Birdie* in 2003 to *Grand Hotel* in 2012. She has also performed with Stage 1 (*Les Miserables*), WVLO (*Oliver, Honk, & JC Superstar*), and PCLG's

Shoestring Theater (*Cinderella*). Theater has always been a part of her life and feels fortunate to be able to continue performing in live theater. She thanks her husband for continuing to support her in this endeavor.

Patrick Idleman (Michael) - Patrick Idleman is thrilled to return to the stage for his eighth production with Santa Clara Players. A Bay Area local and alum of Santa Clara University, Patrick has been performing with SCP since 2020. Returning patrons might recall him from *Fully Committed*, a one man show where he voiced over twenty different characters and spoke roughly one thousand lines of dialogue. Or they might remember *The Hound of the Baskervilles* which he directed last October which was a fun and exciting change of pace he hopes to return to in the future sometime soon. He also performed in *Fiddler on the Roof* with Lyric Theater last year as well.

Sara Hough (Director - *Seventh Suitcase*) - Sara discovered her love of theatre at the age of eight with the Santa Clara Junior Theatre (now named after the incredible director, Roberta Jones). She went on to receive her BA in Theatre Arts from Santa Clara University, and worked for many years as stage manager for the Santa Clara Players. Eventually she decided to try her hand at directing, and has directed numerous shows for the Players, including *The Christmas Mouse*, and the three most recent plays in the Agatha Crusty series written by Derek Webb.

Our Next Season (2025-26)

Crazy Quilt Club by Pat Cook

Veronica Blather is a sweet little old lady who spends most of her time knitting and solving murders, most of which occur whenever she shows up. Understandably she has a problem finding a place to live. When her niece invites her to stay at a retirement home for old knitters, it seems ideal - until one of its members dies from drinking poisoned punch. Who did it? Was it Matilda, the president of the Crazy Quilt Club, or Lydia, who likes to die on Tuesdays? Could it be Clara, who's a compulsive liar, or the wisecracking Sarafina who doesn't trust anybody and carries a rifle just to be sure? Clues drop as fast as corpses and dialogue races along at breakneck speed to keep the audience in stitches till the last minute.

Oct. 24, 30, Nov. 6, 7 at 8:00 PM; Oct. 26, Nov. 1, 2, 8, 2025 at 2:30PM

Barefoot In The Park by Neil Simon

Paul and Corie Bratter are newlyweds in every sense of the word. He's a straight-as-an-arrow lawyer and she's a free spirit always looking for the latest kick. Their new apartment is her most recent find – too expensive with bad plumbing and in need of a paint job. After a six-day honeymoon, they get a surprise visit from Corie's loopy mother and decide to play matchmaker during a dinner with their neighbor-in-the-attic, Velasco, where everything that can go wrong does. Paul just doesn't understand Corie, as she sees it. He's too staid, too boring, and she just wants him to be a little more spontaneous. Running "barefoot in the park" would be a start...

Feb. 27, March 6, 12, 13 at 8:00PM; March 1, 7, 8, 14, 2026 at 2:30PM

Almost, Maine by John Cariani

Welcome to Almost, Maine, a place that's so far north, it's almost not in the United States. It's almost in Canada. And it's not quite a town, because its residents never got around to getting organized. So it almost doesn't exist. One cold, clear, winter night, as the northern lights hover in the star-filled sky above, the residents of Almost, Maine, find themselves falling in and out of love in unexpected and hilarious ways. Knees are bruised. Hearts are broken. But the bruises heal, and the hearts mend—almost—in this delightful midwinter night's dream.

May 22, 29 June 4, 5 at 8:00PM; May 24, 30, 31, June 6, 2026 at 2:30PM

408-248-7993

www.scplayers.org Email: Info@scplayers.org

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PERFORMANCE DATES

Your Choice of date:

Crazy Quilt Club _____

Barefoot in the Park _____

Almost, Maine _____

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City: _____ Zip: _____

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E-Mail: _____

Please mail this page to :

Santa Clara Players

P.O. Box 2692

Santa Clara, CA 95055

About the Players

The ***Santa Clara Players*** is a non-profit volunteer 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.

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