

Santa Clara Players

Present

The Odd Couple - Female Version

By Neil Simon



Oct. 25 - Nov. 16, 2019

Production Staff

Producer George Doeltz
Director. Robert Casillas
Assistant Director/Stage Manager Sara Doeltz
Set Design. George Doeltz
Lighting Design. George Doeltz
Costumes. Lisa Claybaugh
Set Construction and Decoration George Doeltz,
Chris & C.C. Doeltz
Production Flyer and Program George Doeltz
Technical Operator Sara Doeltz
Photography Steve Stubbs
Box Office. George Doeltz
Publicity Nina Klepac
Opening Night Reception. Debbie Doeltz, SCP Board
Opening Night Flowers Daisy Palmer

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

Cast of Characters

Olive..... Hilary A. Stevens
Florence..... Sandy Sodos
Mickey..... Diane Thorne
Vera..... Estelle Piper
Renee..... Lisa Kalmanash
Sylvie..... Joanna Eliza Stevens
Manolo..... Jim Woodbury
Jesus..... Greg Small

The action all takes place in Olive's apartment in New York City

There will be one fifteen minute intermission. During the intermission you are invited to the lobby for refreshments as the guest of the Santa Clara Players. The City of Santa Clara no longer allows smoking on the property.

Director's Note

The original 1965 Broadway play of *The Odd Couple*, about Oscar Madison and Felix Unger who are friends that become mis-matched roommates, became so popular that it was made into a movie in 1968. The movie starred Walter Matthau who had played Oscar on Broadway and Jack Lemmon as Felix. The movie's popularity led to the story of these two men being made into a TV series in 1970. The TV series starred Jack Klugman, who played Oscar on Broadway, and Tony Randall as Felix. The show was so popular that it is a big part of TV history. The story's popularity led writer Neil Simon to create the *Female Version of The Odd Couple* in 1985 which we bring to you with this production. For those of you familiar with the original story whether that is the play, movie or TV series will know Neil Simon's skill at comedy. The humor from the situation of the neurotic, obsessive-compulsive character living with a slovenly easy-going character is all here. If this story is new to you I believe you'll find our cast does a great job at bringing this play to life with its humorous dialogue, physical comedy and familiar characters. In these serious times a comedy like this is just the remedy. Enjoy!

The Cast

Hilary A. Stevens (Olive) - A graduate of Shenandoah Conservatory/University, she holds a B.F.A. in Theatre for Youth with a minor in Voice. Hilary has worked with various theatres in the Bay Area and all over the country as an actress and director. She is the Education Manager at StarStruck Theatre in Fremont, CA. Favorite performance credits include: *Around the World in 80 Days* (Aouda), *Damn Yankees* (Gloria), *Man of La Mancha* (Aldonza), *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* (Candy Starr) Favorite directing credits include: *Jane Eyre*, *Deathtrap*, and *The Mousetrap*.

Sandy Sodos (Florence) - Sandy is so happy to be performing again on the Santa Clara Players' stage! She is also very excited to be working with such a wonderful cast, crew and director. When she is not playing a neurotic lunatic on stage, she gets to be one in real life, training doctors and their staff on how to use the computer to electronically chart on their patients. In the past, she had her 15 minutes of fame 'playing' a nerd in *Revenge of the Nerds* as well as in *Saved by the Bell*. Some of her favorite roles on stage include Billy Dawn in *Born Yesterday* and Truvy in *Steel Magnolias*. She is truly grateful for all of her husband's, family's and friends' support!

Diane Thorne (Mickey) - Diane is pleased as punch to be returning to Santa Clara Players in *The Odd Couple*. After too many decades in the tech industry, she finally decided to return to her first love, acting, and figures being a starving artist is worth exploring, at least until the cupboards are completely bare. Her favorite role during her second childhood so far was Viola McGee in *The Lost Virginity Tour* with the wonderful folks at Santa Clara Players. Currently studying for a Theater Arts AA, Diane hopes to continue her theatre training for the rest of her life.

Estelle Piper (Vera) - Estelle is having a blast playing Vera in *The Odd Couple*. She has played Elaine (*The Lost Virginity Tour*), Helen (*Helen on Wheels*), Sugarlee (*The Hallelujah Girls*) and Vera (*Nana's Naughty Knickers*) for Santa Clara Players - and directed *Bull in a China Shop*, *Run for Your Wife* and *Things My Mother Taught Me* here. She recently played WWII French Resistance hero Nancy Wake in *Madame Andree* for

Stage To Screen. Estelle also paints and teaches after school acting classes in the east bay. She's very grateful to this wonderful cast, director and crew - and hopes you enjoy the show as much as she does!

Lisa Kalmanash (Renee) - Lisa is thrilled to be returning to the Santa Clara Players stage in *The Odd Couple*. Past shows include *Exit the Body*, *Suddenly Last Summer*, *The Heidi Chronicles*, and *Seven-Ten Split*. Lisa works as a Literary Intervention Teacher in Santa Clara Unified School District and enjoys running, knitting, and reading in addition to performing.

Joanna Eliza Stevens (Sylvie) - Joanna is excited to be returning to the SCP stage, where two years ago she had the joy of playing Abigail in *Agatha Crusty and the Health Spa Murders*. Joanna was raised and trained in Florida, where some of her other favorite roles included playing Olive Oyl at Islands of Adventure, Sarah in *Children of a Lesser God* and Chorus Leader in *Antigone*. She currently uses her acting skills at Stanford University helping to mold future healthcare professionals. In her spare time Joanna loves playing guitar in her church and snuggling with her dog Jaxon.

Jim Woodbury (Manolo) - It has been 19 years since Jim was first (and last) seen on the SCP stage in *Scotland Road*. Jim has been performing in the Bay Area on stage, film, and radio since 1996. Most recently, he has been seen in *Dracula*, *Ah Wilderness!*, and *The Three Musketeers* at Douglas Morrisson Theatre in Hayward, *Witness for the Prosecution* at Orinda Starlight, and the vignette *Universal Language* (from *All in the Timing*) at Broadway West in Fremont, in the feature film *Shutout* by Wild Dogs Productions, and in the radio plays *Zombie - A Modern Tragedy (A Comedy)*, the werewolf story *Hairy Palms*, and *The Adventures of Super Speedy Man - The Complete First Season* where he voiced seven different villains. Jim would like to pay a special thanks to his family for allowing him all this time away from home.

Greg Small (Jesus) - Greg Small caught the Theatre bug in High School. He's been trodding the boards ever since. He hopes you enjoy watching this production as much as he enjoys performing it.

Robert Casillas (Director) - Robert has directed for Santa Clara Players previously with the productions of *Four Weddings and an Elvis* in 2014 and *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* as well as *Rumors* in 2016. Robert has been involved in theatre for pretty much his whole life, having begun with performing in a school play in elementary school. He took acting in high school and college and after performing in productions at various theatres around the Bay Area he decided to turn to playwriting. This endeavor led to his affiliation with the Playwright's Center of San Francisco (PCSF). There he became involved as a member of the Board of Directors and in addition to developing a full length play and a musical during his time there, he stepped in to direct staged readings of the works of his fellow PCSF members and the plays of participants submitting to the annual playwriting competition. Following his experience at PCSF, Robert has directed for several bay area theatre companies such as Broadway West in Fremont, Stage One in Newark, Bay Area One Acts in San Francisco, Hillbarn Theatre in Foster City, Palo Alto Players, and Actor's Ensemble of Berkeley. Plays Robert has written have been performed at PCSF, Hillbarn Theatre, Broadway West and Notre Dame De Namur College in Belmont. He admits that he occasionally misses performing in plays and musicals but that directing brings him the most satisfaction. He sends a special thanks to Joey Montes for his support that helps him to stay active in the theatre community.

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.

Help us grow and spread the fun!

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www.scplayers.org and click the link on the home page to sign up.
For snail mail there is a form in the lobby.

If you or someone you know is in emotional distress
or considering suicide, call the
The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:
1-800-273-TALK (8255).

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Mary Baker	Cloie Hawkins	James D. Pearson
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Dolores Benenato	Marie Headley	Jean Pond
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