

Santa Clara Players

The Absence of a Cello



By Ira Wallach

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Performance Dates:

May 13, 14, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, June 2, 3, 4, 2005

Produced by special arrangement with

Production Staff

Producer Jim Narveson
Director. Dean Burgi
Assistant Director Elizabeth Lowe
Set Design.
Lighting Design. George Doeltz
Sound Design and Recording. Dean Burgi
Props. Cast
Costumes. Sharon Collier
Set Construction . . Dean Burgi, Jim Narveson, Marian Narveson
Set Decoration. . . Marian Narveson, Maxine Lukins, Elsie Riddle
Production Flyer and Program. George Doeltz
Technical Operator Kamilla Khaydarov
Box Office. George Doeltz
Opening Night Reception. SCP Board

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

Cast of Characters

Celia Pilgrim. Kiki Arnaudo
Andrew Pilgrim David Ammon
Marian Jellicoe Helena G. Clarkson
Joanna Pilgrim Bic Vu
Emma Littlewood. Peggy Rose
Perry Littlewood Jack Starr
Otis Clifton. Paul Vezinaw

The living room of Andrew Pilgrim's apartment in New York
City

ACT I
Late Sunday

ACT II
The next morning

ACT III
The next morning

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.

The Cast

Kiki Arnaudo (Celia Pilgrim) -

David Ammon (Andrew Pilgrim) - David is pleased and privileged
to make his first appearance on this stage. He has been performing
for over thirty years, most recently in *Our Town* at Broadway West
Theatre in Fremont. Some of his favorite roles are Mel Edison in
Prisoner of Second Avenue, Polonius in *Hamlet*, Victor Velasco in
Barefoot in the Park, Harry in the musical, *Company*, David Kahn
in *Social Security* and Jimmy Powers in *City of Angels*. Other
credits include roles in *The Odd Couple*, *The Boys Next Door*,
Rebecca, *The Elepahnt Man*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Prelude to a
Kiss*, *My Fair Lady*, *The Secret Garden*. Directing credits include
To Gillian On Her 37th Birthday, *Born Yesterday*, and *Of Mice and
Men*.

Helena G. Clarkson (Marian) - Helena is delighted to be on the
boards again at Santa Clara Players. Seen most recently as Mrs.
Dorgan in *Laura*, she also appeared last season as Maria in *Lend
Me A Tenor*, and as the Irish housekeeper in *The Insanity Case Of
Mrs. A. Lincoln*. Helena returns to this stage delighted to be
working with Dean Burgi, and this wonderful cast, crew and
company! She recently filmed a small part in the short movie *The
Phone Book* produced by Capstone Films. Having been bit by the
theatre bug at an early age, Helena has performed all over the Bay
Area including TheatreWorks, Festival Theatre Ensemble, City
Lights, The Pear Avenue Theatre, Shady Shakespeare, Busbarn,
Palo Alto Players, Sunnyvale Community Players, Pacifica
Spindrift Players, and Menlo Players Guild - just to name a few.
She wants to thank her wonderful son, Cyrus, for teaching her so

much about the human spirit. She would also like to give a hearty "thank-you" to everyone in attendance for supporting live theater!!!

Bic Vu (Joanna Pilgrim -

Peggy Rose (Emma Littlewood) - Peggy is delighted to be working with Santa Clara Players for the third time. She has worked with various theatre companies locally. Favorite roles are Miss Ronberry in *The Corn Is Green* for Los Gatos Theatre Project, Mrs. Dubose in *To Kill A Mockingbird* for Northside Theatre Company, Squeaky in *Fat Rose and Squeaky* for The Mostly Irish Theatre Company, and Mrs. Davis in last season's *Little Old Ladies in Tennis Shoes* for SCP. She sings as well, mostly in church. (In remembrance: Thank you, John)

Jack Starr (Perry Littlewood) -

Paul Vezinaw (Otis Clifton): This is Paul's debut performing with the Santa Clara Players. He has worked in bay area theater for the past three decades. His roles have included Simon Stinson in *Our Town*, Mr. Jordan in *Heaven Can Wait*, Oscar in *The Odd Couple* and others. Paul likes to always thank his parents, Dick and Leah, for their encouragement and support over the years. He would also like to mention Julia and the "kitties", who have endured all the pre-show jitter episodes. Paul plans to continue his thespian pursuits and invites you to come along, but in the words of his current character, "If I'm there you'll see me, if I'm not, you won't."

Dean Burgi - (Director) Dean has been involved in theater from sea to shining sea. He started out in Washington D.C. as a guest in *Sound of Music*. After doing several years of musical and children theater there, he went on the road chasing a Ph. D. in Chemistry. He minored in theater and dance at the University of Wyoming and spent time in Edmonton, Canada on their theatrical boards. A postdoc at Stanford brought him here to the Bay Area and has been involved with Menlo Players Guild for several years. He was seen

at SCP as Pastor Manders in *Ghosts*.

Elizabeth Lowe - (Assistant Director)

Director Notes

It is such a delight to be offered the chance to direct a well-written play. I hope you find a bit of yourself in each one of these characters for the playwright speaks the language of normal people trying to stay afloat while maintaining their dignity. I was gifted with the highest quality of actors to choose from in the Bay Area, which makes my job easy. Sit back and enjoy.

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.

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Secretary	Marilyn Gold
Treasurer	George Doeltz

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Maxine Lukins

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