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### Almost, Maine

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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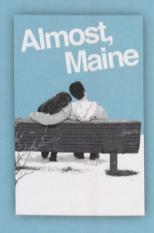
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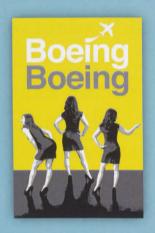
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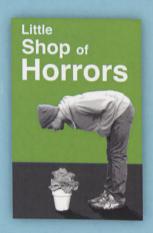
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# 2013 Otterbein SUMMER THEATRE

PROGRAM













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"32 Acres of Gardening Pleasure"

### **OTTERBEIN SUMMER THEATRE**

**PRESENTS** 

# Almost, Maine

<sub>By</sub> **John Cariani** 

ALMOST, MAINE was developed by The Cape Cod Theatre Project.

Professional Premiere Production: Portland Stage Company, Anita Stewart, Artistic Director, Tami Ramaker, Managing Director.

Originally produced in New York by Jack Thomas/Bulldog Theatrical and Bruce Payne.

Directed By Christina Kirk

Scenic Designer Rob Johnson

Lighting Designer Andy Baker

Stage Manager Erin McCoy Costume Designer Rebecca White

Sound Designer/Operator PJ Peters

May 30-June 2, June 6-8, 2013 ONSTAGE

in the Fritsche Theatre At Cowan Hall, 30 S. Grove St. Box Office: 614.823.1109

"Almost, Maine" is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.



The play takes place at nine o'clock on a cold, clear, moonless, slightly surreal Friday night in the middle of the deepest part of a northern Maine winter in the fictional town of Almost.

PROLOGUE Pete Sean Murphy Ginette Marina Pires	
HER HEART East Harry Sanderson Glory Emily Vanni	
SAD AND GLAD  Jimmy	
THIS HURTS Marvalyn	
GETTING IT BACK Gayle Emily Vanni Lendall Sean Murphy	
15-minute Intermission	
INTERLOGUE Pete Sean Murphy	
THEY FELL Randy Sean Murphy Chad Harry Sanderson	
WHERE IT WENT Phil Harry Sanderson Marci Marina Pires	
STORY OF HOPE Hope	
SEEING THE THING Rhonda	
EPILOGUE Pete	

# PRODUCTION STAFF

Department Chair/ Co-Producer	John Stefano
Co-Producer/Audience Services Director	Elizabeth Saltzgiver
Production Manager	Christina France
Technical Director	Frank Cirivello
Technical Director	Melissa Lusher
Movement Coach	Meima Murphy
Scene Shop Supervisor	Richard Uhrick
Costume Shop Supervisor	Julia Ferreri
Sound Consultant	Dave Mead
Assistant Director	Sam Ray
Assistant Stage Manager	Maggie Savoie
Carpenters	Brandon Lively & Blake Talbott
Charge Artist	Nicole Sattler
Properties Master	
Wardrobe Master	Zach Paugh
Master Electrician	
Projections Opertaor	Grace Murrin
Light Board Operator	
Technical ApprenticesKate Bindus, Kyle Hansen, Kaila H	ill Grace Murrin Rebecca Schafer
	OI I THE
Box Office Manager Manager Assistant to the ASD	
Front of House Manager/Assistant to the ASD	
Box Office Assistant	11 0 1
Office Assistant	Alexx Conrad

# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Almost, Maine gives us the opportunity to witness a series of small miracles. While some pretty fantastic stuff happens on a cold Friday night in this fictitious "unorganized territory", the truly miraculous thing is that people can find a way to connect in what can often feel like a vast, seemingly meaningless world.

-- Christina Kirk

# SPECIAL THANKS

Tim Veach Vince Cirivello, Sr. Courtright Memorial Library Otterbein University Service Department Pat Santanello, Dublin Scioto High School Willie Franklin & Otterbein IT Department

Christina Kirk (Director) is a full professor of theatre at Otterbein University where she has taught since 1992. She has performed at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, the Nebraska Repertory Theatre, the Illinois Repertory Theatre, CATCO, and in the Joseph Jefferson award winning Kabuki Medea. Favorite roles include "B" in Three Tall Women at CATCO, Violet in August: Osage County at Otterbein and, most recently, the title role in Cleopatra at Columbus Dance Theatre. Her one woman show, which premiered at Columbus Dance Theatre, was featured in the March 2006 Theatre Journal. Directing credits include The Living Theatre, New Dramatists, and assisting Liviu Ciulei at Arena Stage. Favorite directing projects at Otterbein include The Caucasion Chalk Circle and King Richard III. She has an M.F.A. in Directing from Columbia University and a B.F.A. in acting from the University of Illinois. She has also trained extensively with Shakespeare & Company. In addition, she is a certified yoga instructor.

Rob Johnson (Scenic Designer) is a resident faculty scenic and lighting designer who joined the faculty in 1987. A full professor in the department, Rob teaches theatrical scenic design, scenic rendering, and computer graphics. He holds two masters degrees, one from West Virginia University where he studied scenic design, and the other from the Ohio State University where he earned his M.F.A. in lighting design. Rob recently wrote, performed, and recorded the musical composition, "Pulse," for the recent Otterbein dance concert of the same name while on his sabbatical. He also designed the lighting for the *The Fairy Queen* at Ohio Wesleyan University and scenery for *Chicago*, produced by Shadowbox Live in German Village. This summer he will design scenery for all three summer productions: *Almost Maine, Boeing Boeing*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*, as well as the upcoming Westerville community theatre project, *The Wizard of Oz.* He gives thanks to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for all of His many opportunities and blessings.

Rebecca White (Costume Designer) joined the Otterbein Theatre & Dance faculty as the resident Costume Designer in 2007 and teaches courses in costume history, costume design, costume technology, and makeup. Some of Rebecca's previous designs at Otterbein include *The Last Night of Ballyhoo, Gypsy,* and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying.* Rebecca's work has been on stage at the Santa Fe Opera, The Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Park Square Theatre, St. Cloud State University, Theatre l'Homme Dieu and the Minnesota Centennial Showboat. Rebecca holds an MFA from The University of Minnesota and a BS from The University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse.

Andy Baker (Lighting Designer) graduated from Otterbein University in 2009 and is excited to be back. Previous Otterbein Summer Theatre credits include Altar Boyz, The Last Night of Ballyhoo, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, and My Way. He also served as lighting designer for Otterbein's Spring Awakening, Dance 2010: Flip Side, and The Caucasian Chalk Circle. In 2009, Andy received the United States Institute of Theatre Technology Undergraduate Designer of the Year. He has also served as the resident lighting designer for Shadowbox Live. In the fall, Andy will be attending the Ohio State University where he will be pursuing a Master of

Fine Arts in Theatrical Design. Andy would like to thank his friends, family, and Jen for their support

**PJ Peters** (Sound Designer) is a junior BFA Design/Technology major, Marketing minor, from Plain City. Previous Otterbein credits include Assistant Stage Manager for *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, Projections Designer/Coordinator for Dance Concert: *Pulse*, Sound Designer for *Spring Awakening*, Audio Assistant for *Gypsy* and *King Richard III*, and Deck Chief for *Carnival!* Enjoy the show!

Erin McCoy (Stage Manager) is a BFA Design/Technology major from Cincinnati. Erin is very excited for her first OST summer and to start it out stage managing Almost, Maine. Previous Otterbein credits include Stage Manager for Dance Concert: Pulse, Assistant Stage Manager for Dance 2012: Spotlight, Prop Master for How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying, and Assistant Properties for Gypsy. Stage Managing Don't Cross The Streams for The Carnegie at The Cincy and Indy Fringe Festival, and Assistant Stage Managing Cleopatra for the Columbus Dance Theatre are additional off-campus highlights of her year. I would like to thank this wonderful cast and creative team for their silliness and truly making this experience one to remember. Thank you to my sisters and friends for their continuous hilarity and support and a special thanks to my parents for their unending love and support. Enjoy the show!

Frank Cirivello (Technical Director) graduated from Otterbein in 2003. Since then, he has worked with several production companies around Columbus, as well as CATCO and the local stagehand union. He has also assisted Otterbein as a carpenter on the productions of, most recently, *Noises Off, August: Osage County*, and *Born Yesterday*. He has just returned from Illinois Wesleyan University where he was the Interim Technical Director for 6 months.

Melissa Lusher (Speech & Dialects Coach) is a tenured Associate Professor in the Department of Theatre and Dance at Otterbein University where she she teaches speech, dialects, acting, and also serves as the resident speech/dialects coach for all productions. In addition, she regularly serves as a guest dialect coach at area universities and theatre companies. Recent guest coaching posts include The Irish Curse at Short North Stage, The Scarlet Pimpernel at Actors' Theatre, Noises Off at Ohio Wesleyan University, Homebody/Kabul at Denison University, and Hay Fever at the Dublin Abbey Theatre. Melissa holds an M.F.A. in Acting from the combined program of Carnegie Mellon University and the Moscow Art Theatre in Russia, and a B.F.A. in Acting from Carnegie Mellon. She was a founding company member of the American Studio Theatre in New York City and also served as the company's resident voice and speech coach. Favorite roles include Barbara in August: Osage County (Otterbein University), Goneril in King Lear (Actors' Theatre), Marina in Volodya (LaMaMa E.T.C.), Margaret in Richard III and Emilia in Othello (AST), Clytemnestra in The Greeks (Moscow Art Theatre), and the title role in Miss Julie (CMU). Melissa is a member of the Voice and Speech Trainers Association (VASTA). She recently directed Spring Awakening at Otterbein which was named one of the Best 10 Shows of 2012 by the Columbus Dispatch.

David Mead (Sound Consultant) has been involved in all aspects of entertainment production for the past forty years. Sound system design has been specific area of concentration. Permanent sound system designs and installations like Midland Theatre, Otterbein College's Cowan Auditorium, the Reece Center at Ohio State University-Newark and the Southern Theatre are good examples of Mead's craft. As an audio designer for theatrical productions, Mead has worked on national touring productions of The Fantasticks, and The Great Radio City Music Hall Spectacular. Regionally, Mead has worked as a sound designer for the Contemporary American Theatre Company. Mead has served as a sound designer and sound consultant for the Otterbein University Theatre Department for the past twenty-two years and over 58 different productions. Notable Otterbein productions include Into The Woods, Evita, Cabaret, Wild Party, Jesus Christ Superstar and West Side Story. Mead has toured with numerous groups as an audio engineer; tours of note include George Jones, The Bill Gaither Trio, and White Heart. He served as the performance audio engineer for the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra's Super Pops Series for eleven years. Mead is currently mixing for Living Water. Mead has spent the past thirty-one years a stage manager for the Country Concert festival and is a regular lecturer at the Recording workshop. Mead is a member of I.A.T.S.E. Local 12 in Columbus, Ohio and a 1972 graduate of Miami University. In 2008 Mead stepped down as CEO of Live Technologies, Inc. after founding and leading the company for twenty-three years.

Melinda Murphy (Movement Coach) teaches Alexander Technique and Feldenkrais Method\* in the Otterbein Theatre and Dance Department, with application to movement, voice, characterization, singing, and dance. Melinda is one of the few teachers trained in both methods; she combines them in her private practice in Columbus, and in classes and seminars for performing artists at other Ohio colleges. Since coming to Otterbein, she also trained to teach Fitzmaurice Voice work for its specialized tools for improving the voice and breath. Melinda has coached Otterbein productions since the turn of the century. She has also coached equestrians, figure skaters, musicians, and competitive barbershop quartets and choruses including the two-time international gold medalist Southern Gateway Chorus.

Rich Uhrick (Scenic Studio Supervisor) Before his return to his alma mater, he worked in Regional Theatres across the Midwest and New England. He received his Master's in Theatre Technology from UMKC in 1997. He now lives in Columbus with his wife, Lisa, and his son Michael. They work with Ohio Pug Rescue, to provide abandoned or surrendered dogs foster homes. In addition, they are active foster parents. Rich is also a published poet and newsletter editor for the Columbus Bonsai Society.

**Connor Dunn** (Properties Master) is a sophomore BA Theatre major from Stow, OH. He last held the position of Properties Assistant for the spring production of *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. Connor's future plans include fighting a dragon. First, he has to find a dragon.

Rachael Bardnell (House Manager/Assistant to the Audience Services Director) is a junior BA Theatre major and Dance minor from Springfield, OH. Previous credits

include Assistant Director for *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, and Assistant Stage Manager for Dance Concert: *Pulse*. Rachael wants to thank Elizabeth for an experience that has really forced her to grow. She is excited to assistant direct *Les Miserables* with Dennis Romer and to be the BA Chair on the Festival Committee during the 13-14 school year. Psalm 46:5

**Kelly Ganley** (Master Electrician) is a junior BFA Design/Technology major. Previous credits include Master Electrician for Dance 2012: *Spotlight* and *After the Fall*, Assistant Technical Director for *Noises off*, and Assistant Lighting Designer for *Spring Awakening*.

**Sean Murphy** (Actor) is a senior BFA Acting major from Dallas, TX. Sean was most recently Jerry in the Classroom Project, *At Home At The Zoo*, and the Acting representative for the festival. Thank you for coming, I hope you enjoy the show!

**Grace Murrin** (Light Board Operator) is a junior BA Theatre & Mathematics major, History minor from Derwood, MD. Previous credits include Props Master for *Noises Off*, Assistant Master Electrician for *Spring Awakening*, Deck Chief for Dance Concert: Pulse, and Stage Manager for *After the Fall*. This is her first time working for OST. She hopes that you have as much fun watching the show as she did working on it. Break a leg to all!

**Zachary Paugh** (Wardrobe Master) is a junior BA Theatre major from Goodyear, AZ. Previous credits include Wardrobe Master for *Spring Awakening* and *After the Fall*. Zach would like to thank his mother, father, and the rest of the family for all their support from the west coast. Aloha from the east!

Marina Pires (Actor) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major from West Palm Beach, FL. Previous acting credits include Queen Elizabeth in *King Richard III*, Johnna in *August: Osage County*, Martha in *Spring Awakening*, Jan in *50 Words*, Ms. Jones in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, and Holga in *After the Fall*. To the OST casts and crews: Thank you for such an incredibly fulfilling summer experience and for making me feel right at home. Looking forward to playing Fantine in Les Mis and a great senior year! "Omnia Mea Mecum Porto"

Sam Ray (Assistant Director) is a senior BFA Acting major from Cincinnati. Previous acting credits include *After the Fall* (Quentin), *Spring Awakening* (Adult Men), and the student-directed workshop of *Red* (Mark Rothko). Sam will be playing Charlie Fox in *Speed the Plow* in the fall. Special thanks to Chris Kirk for the opportunity, support, hugs, and all you've taught me. For my sister, Ana. I love you! Go Reds!

Harry Percy Sanderson (Actor) is a 2013 graduate of the Otterbein University Theatre program with a BFA degree in Acting. He most recently appeared as Paul Bratter in *Barefoot in the Park*, Gary LeJuene in *Noises Off*, Adam in 50 Words, and Juror #7 in Twelve Angry Men. Harry would like to thank his parents for their constant love and support, his wonderful and beautiful girlfriend Hannah for, well, everything, and finally his brothers at Pi Beta Sigma. OFA

**Nicole Sattler** (Charge Artist) is a sophomore BFA Design/Technology major from Sheffield Village, OH. During the last year, Nicole served as Assistant Painter for *After the Fall* and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. She is excited to get the opportunity to work as Charge Artist for the summer and would like to thank her family and friends for their support.

**Maggie Savoie** (Assistant Stage Manager) is a junior BA Theatre major, Dance minor from Richwood, OH. She most recently performed and danced in the spring Festival production. Other credits include Dance Concert: *Pulse* (Dancer/Assistant Choreographer) and Dance 2012: *Spotlight* (Dancer).

**Emma Sicker** (Box Office Assistant) is a sophomore BFA Design/Technology major from Powell. She was last a Wardrobe Assistant for the production of *Spring Awakening*. Emma extends thanks to family, friends, and the Class of 2016 for all their support!

Clark Tieman (Box Office Manager) is a senior Music and Public Relations major, with Communication Studies and Religion minors from Portsmouth, OH. Clark has worked as a Box office assistant since winter of 2011 and was most recently seen onstage in the Ensemble of *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* this past spring. He sends thanks to the Department and all our audience members for a great summer so far!

Emily Vanni (Actor) is a junior BFA Acting major from Fairfax, VA. Previous acting credits include Maggie in *After the Fall*, Ann in the spring Classroom Project, *At Home at the Zoo*, and Theresa in last summer's production of *Circle Mirror Transformation*. Emily sends a special shout out to her fabulous Class of 2015, her inspiring director and talented scene partners, the entire crew, the Otterbein faculty, and her loving family.

# THE PLAYWRIGHT

John Cariani is an actor and a playwright. As an actor, he has appeared on and off Broadway, at regional theaters across the country, and in several films and television shows. As a playwright, he is best known for his first play, ALMOST, MAINE, which premiered at Portland (Maine) Stage Company in 2004, opened Off-Broadway in 2006, and has since become one of the most frequently produced plays in the United States. John has two new plays in development: LAST GAS, which premiered at Portland Stage Company in 2010, and will be opening Off-Broadway in the coming season; and LOVE/SICK, which will be premiering at Portland Stage Company in the spring of 2013. Originally from Presque Isle, Maine, John is a graduate of Amherst College. He lives in New York City.

### HONORARY CAST LIST

Otterbein Summer Theatre extends special gratitude to those who have donated so generously to the 2013 season.

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