

Fun & Fancy Theatre Group Presents



Blithe Spirit

Written by Noël Coward

Directed by Carol Hillmann

Produced by Rita Penn & Aileen Feldman

May 13th, 14th, 15th, 20th and 21st, 2011

Leisure World of Maryland

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc., New York City

The Cast

Charles Condomine Michael Schwartz
Ruth Condomine, his second wife Lorrie McCleary
Elvira Condomine, his first wife's ghostDebbie Shankman
Madame Arcati, a medium..... Betty Boulin
Dr. George Bradman, a friend.....Allan Okin
Mrs. Bradman, his wife..... Sylvia Proger
Edith, a maid Poppy Traunfeld

Synopsis of Scenes

ACT I

Scene 1. Before dinner on a summer evening
Scene 2. After dinner

ACT II

Scene 1. The next morning
Scene 2. Late the following afternoon
Scene 3. Early evening. A few days later

ACT III

Scene 1. After dinner. A few days later
Scene 2. Several hours later.

There will be two 10-minute intermissions between acts.



Behind the Scenes

Director	Carol Hillmann
Producers.....	Rita Penn, Aileen Feldman
Asst. Director	Faye A. Freedman
Asst. to the Director.....	Vivian Demperio
Stage Manager.....	Joan Okin
Stage/Sets.....	J. J. Boulin, Skip Ey, Kevin Wright
Costumes.....	Joan Bowar
Makeup	Ruth Arens
Sound	Susan Curow
	Ken Tash, Donna Copeland
Lights	Jack Bienstock, Judy Casey, Aileen Feldman
Stage Crew	Alice Rosen, Mickie Donahue
	Frank Nacht, Eve Nachtsheim, Anne Hahn
Ticket Sales	Dorothy Hughes, Joan Okin
Usher Manager	Marion Stempel
Audition Flyer	Skip Ey
Publicity	Kathy Whitted
Photographer	Rita Bienstock
Playbill & Website.....	Donna Copeland

USHERS

Elaine Apter
Rita Bienstock
Don Copeland
Dottie Donnelly
Evie Ey
Carol Fogel
Bernie Hurwitz
Beth Leanza
Pat Leanza
Ted Michos
Evelyn Perlmutter
Jack Rich
Yvette Rich
Kathy Whitted
Chris Wright

TICKET SELLERS

Rita Bienstock	Eleanor Prissman
Jo Bianchi	Hella Reitman
Shirley Carty	Yvette Rich
Mickie Donahue	Alice Rosen
Carole Jason	Judy Schwartz
Gerry Kaufman	Helen Shockley
Elaine Klein	Dolly Solomon
Marge Mathieu	Sally Tash
Jean McGoldrick	Anita Van Grack
Rita Molyneaux	Helen Van Lowe
Sharon Moores	

Fun and Fancy would like to extend a special thanks to the following:

E&R Department – Stacy Sigler and Dee Martynuska
Olney Theatre Center

Notes from the Director

Blithe Spirit, written by Noel Coward, was first produced on the West End in London in 1941. This production was also directed by Coward. Noel Coward said that he wrote *Blithe Spirit* in one week. It opened approximately six weeks later. In his diary Coward wrote, “Very gay, superficial comedy about a ghost. Feel it may be good.” The play set a new long-run record for non-musical British plays. It ran for 1,997 performances. It opened in New York on Broadway in November of 1941 and ran for 657 performances. *Blithe Spirit* is still being revived seven decades after its opening.

Our own production is a *tour du force* for our actors. Written in the era of three hour plays, trying to adapt for our audience has been a challenge. Our memories are not always what we would have them be. Please enjoy the efforts and use a little imagination. Your neighbors have worked extremely hard both backstage and onstage to create a ghostly love story for you.

Special thanks go to J. J., Kevin, and Skip for the design and execution of our great set, Joan and her crew for handling our backstage, Jack for lights, and Susan for sound. Vivian Demperio (who played Edith the last time Fun and Fancy produced this play) returned to help with lines and, as always, Faye A. was my right arm. I couldn't do it without her. Our producers, Rita and Aileen, took care of all the details. The cast may be small, but the ensemble is huge. Thanks to everyone. Hope you enjoy the show!

FUN & FANCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice-President.....*Aileen Feldman*
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