

Directed by Kevin Trudeau

April 16-18
April 22-25

Philip Lynch Theatre Box Office:

Wednesday – Friday, 1 – 4:30 pm

Phone: (815) 836-5500
Email: boxoffice@lewisu.edu
Website: www.lewisu.edu/plt
Twitter & Facebook:
[@pltlewisu](https://twitter.com/pltlewisu)

**Best way to contact us is email or
through our social media sites.
We are not checking voicemails on
Mondays and Tuesdays.
Thank you for your patronage.**

WHAT THE CRITICS SAY

Most critics have concluded that *The Romancers* is a comedic satire on love. American literary and theatre critic Alba della Fazia Amoia asserted that it “contains a moral: we must have faith in what we are doing and we must remain faithful to love.”

Novelist Henry James commented that in *The Romancers*, the “action takes place in that happy land of nowhere—the land of poetry, comedy, drollery, delicacy, profuse literary association ... and if the whole thing is the frankest of fantasies ... it is the work of a man already conscious of all the values involved.”

Similarly, in the *Fortnightly Review*, G. Jean-Aubry saw *The Romancers* as “the germ of all that is best and least good in Rostand; a very great technical cleverness, a facility for making his personages live and move, a tendency to complicate the simplest situations by play of words, and a real charm ... in making his rhymes ‘sing.’ ... Already he writes verses that are supple, natural, unforced, and others that are tortured and wrung out with difficulty.”

Sources: Amoia, Alba della Fazia. Edmond Rostand. Boston: Twayne, 1978.
Haugmard, Louis. Edmond Rostand. Paris: E. Sansot, 1910.
Lautier, Andre and Keller, Fernand. Edmond Rostand: son oeuvre. Paris: La Nouvelle revue critique, 1924.

APRIL 2021 PLT PRODUCTION PLAN

Rehearsals for ***The Romancers*** began virtually on Zoom in March to minimize the time together. On April 5 face-to-face rehearsals begin with five student actors, one student stage manager and the director attending in the PLT which has a physical distance capacity of forty-three. The production plan is to stream live performances. There is one scheduled live post-show talkback on Thursday, April 22.

Face-to-face protocols continue to cover all of the following:

- Use of the Lewis App for health screening.
- QR code scanning for contact tracing in production spaces.
- Reduced contact between students and staff via physical distancing.
- Hand washing protocols.
- Sanitization of high touch surfaces including props and stage furniture.
- Sanitization of shared equipment such as in makeup room, costume shop and the tech booth.
- Reduced physical contact in close shared spaces, such as dressing rooms, and tech booth.
- Everyone in the performance space is masked, and physically distant both on and off the stage.
- Performers will use body microphones for the filming of the production and technical rehearsals.
- At no time will a performer physically touch another performer unless they are wearing gloves.
- Production staff are masked and physically distancing at all times when attending rehearsals, dress rehearsals and filming.
- Taking temperatures twice during the face-to-face time spent together.
- Rehearsal notes are given electronically through a private Facebook group for the cast and crew to reduce time spent together.
- Actors will have staggered call times for use of the makeup room. The space has been measured, and current social distancing allows for six performers in Makeup 1 and three performers in Makeup 2.
- The tech booth and crew will follow the same physical distancing, and sanitization protocols as the performers.

PLT FACULTY

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PLT STAFF/ADJUNCT FACULTY

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Celeste Mackey, Resident Costumer
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Harold McCay,
Professor of Design & Technical Theatre
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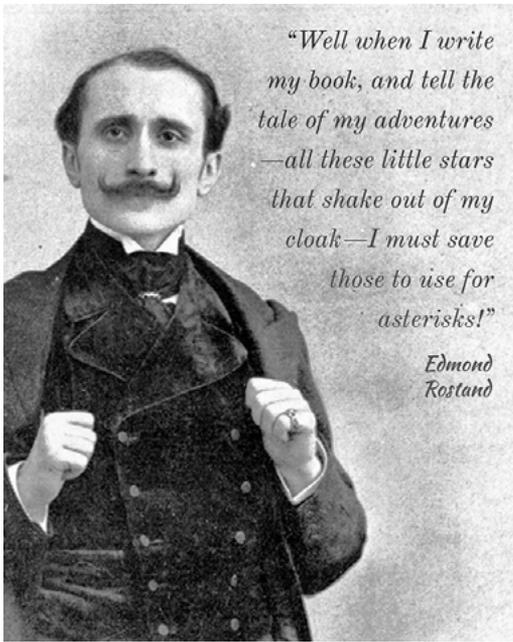
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/philiplynththeatre



*“Well when I write
my book, and tell the
tale of my adventures
—all these little stars
that shake out of my
cloak—I must save
those to use for
asterisks!”*

*Edmond
Rostand*

THE ROMANCERS PLOT

- Follows two neighboring parents whose estates are separated by a wall.
- The parents pretend to feud with each other to make their children fall in love and marry.
- The parents hire a fake swashbuckler to stage a kidnapping of the daughter.
- The scheme is to have the son rescue her, causing the daughter to fall in love with the son.
- Filled with sword fights and puppet shows, all goes as planned, or does it?
- The play was written in 1894 by Edmond Rostand considered by many scholars as the father of Romantic and creative writing.
- The play was later adapted in 1960 by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt into the long-running and successful American musical ***The Fantasticks***.

SETTING

- France, 1890s.
- The stage is divided by an old wall covered with vines and flowers.
- On each side of the wall is a rustic bench.
- According to the script: “The action takes place anywhere, provided the costumes are pretty.”

THE CHARACTERS

- SYLVETTE, in love with Percinet
- PERCINET, in love with Sylvette
- MADAM BERGAMIN, Percinet’s mother
- PASQUINOT, Sylvette’s father
- STRAFOREL, a hired fake swashbuckler



PLAYWRIGHT: EDMUND ROSTAND

- Born: 1868, Marseilles, France. Died during the Spanish Influenza pandemic in 1918, Paris, France at age 50.
- His greatest achievement ***Cyrano de Bergerac***, 1897.
- An iconic French dramatist, and the father of romantic and creative writing.
- Married the love of his life, Rosemonde Gérard; both admirers of poetry. They had two children.
- His home in Amaga, Cambo-Les-Bains is now a public museum. The beautiful home has untouched paintings, and authentic interiors from the 1800s.

SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Julia Egizio, a junior theatre major and an aspiring stage manager, was awarded the 2021 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF) Stage Management Fellowship and received a Certificate of Merit in Stage Management for Feb. 2020 PLT production, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. As part of her fellowship in early March, she attended the 2021 United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) virtual conference.

While attending USITT, the KCACTF leadership communicated via Discord with all of the national awarded students to meet and attend workshops together. It provided a networking opportunity for Julia with students from across the country. Her favorite workshops were the Stage Managing for Opera and the workshop on spreadsheets. "It was amazing to hear

about all the similarities and differences between theatre and opera management," Julia stated, "opera has definitely been added to my list of jobs to apply. Julia shared: "the spreadsheet workshop just really spoke to my inner stage manager because I love organization and was completely fascinated by all the tips and tricks they showed us."

As a stage manager, she has refined her craft on both plays and musicals. Her theatrical goal is to create a meaningful performance for every audience member. Julia enjoys creating personal relationships with her technical teams to promote a fun and effective working environment. In addition to stage management, Julia has also performed in several shows having featured roles such as Rizzo in *Grease* and #11 in *The Wolves*, for which she received a KCACTF Irene Ryan acting nomination.

Ninth Annual Celebration of Scholarship: Confronting Challenges through Scholarship, Faith, and Love will be held in a completely virtual format and will take place on April 15, 2021.

Junior theatre major, Katie Horn is presenting her sound design from *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* and has been named one of three finalists for Dr. Stephany Schlachter Excellence in Undergraduate Scholarship Award. Katie will also be performing an original monologue and an audition package in the Creative Works presentations.

Junior education major, Katie Szymkiewicz is presenting her sound design from *These Shining Lives*. Her work was a KCACTF Region Three Sound Design Finalist.

Kelsey Papineau, third year criminal justice and psychology major is presenting her prop fabrication project in the President's 13th Annual Art Exhibit of the dog Wellington from the 2020 PLT production, *A Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*.

The Celebration of Scholarship mentors are Andrew Nelsen and Jo Slowik.



CLASS OF
2021
Congratulations!



HANNAH KRAUSE

PLT Debut: *The Boys Next Door '17*

PLT Curtain Call: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time '20*

Favorite Moment or Inspiration: The PLT gave me something I never knew I needed or even knew I wanted. It gave me a family. It helped me to become the person I am today. The people, the friendships, that is what I miss the most. It's hard to pick out just one moment when all the little moments led to something so much greater. I cannot thank the people I came to know more for the experiences they gave me, for the friendships we shared, for the greatest of times and even for the worst of times. They all helped me to grow.



HALEY MARCHEWKA

PLT Debut: *The Boys Next Door '17*

PLT Curtain Call: *The Romancers '20*

Favorite Moment or Inspiration: "I have found a stronger footing for my love and appreciation of theatre thanks to the Philip Lynch Theatre. It's hard to think of just one moment or experience that outshines so many but working in the costume shop or backstage brought many laughs and incredible experiences that I am so grateful for and will miss once I graduate. The people I have met here and the shows that I have been a part of were an integral part of my Lewis University career. Hopefully the future holds work in different theatres as the pandemic lessens and theatres reopen. I'm hitting the ground running with auditions and work!"



**PHILIP
LYNCH
Theatre**

Silent Sky

WRITTEN BY LAUREN GUNDERSON

Congratulations to Lewis University students: **Katie Horn** and **Estefania Flores** on their KCACTF Region 3 Irene Ryan acting nominations for their performances in the streaming production of *Silent Sky* by Lauren Gunderson.



Bravo! And thank you to the DuPont Corporation and Lewis University Alumnus Robert 'Bob' Svidron for the donation of Styrofoam sheets for scenic and properties fabrication. Special shout out to Tegan Donahue, University Advancement and the Lewis University Facilities Department for their logistic assistance.

Do you know what a Cyranoid is? Check out **Todd Lewis'74** as The Commissioner on NBC's *The Blacklist* on the March 5 episode: The Cyranoid. He will explain all!



Lewis University is excited to announce our inaugural virtual event for

TED^x Lewis University *Filmed on the intimate PLT stage!*

x = independently organized TED event

FRIDAY, APRIL 16 • 9AM -NOON

Five vibrant and passionate women take the stage this spring at Lewis University. Are you ready to hear their stories and learn about their thought leadership platforms? They are teachers, leaders, creators, activists, advisors, and so much more.



DR. SHEILA BOYSEN
Associate Professor
CoB



CAMILLE BYRD O'QUIN
Assistant Professor
CoNHS



DR. CLARE ROTHSCHILD
Professor
CoHEAC

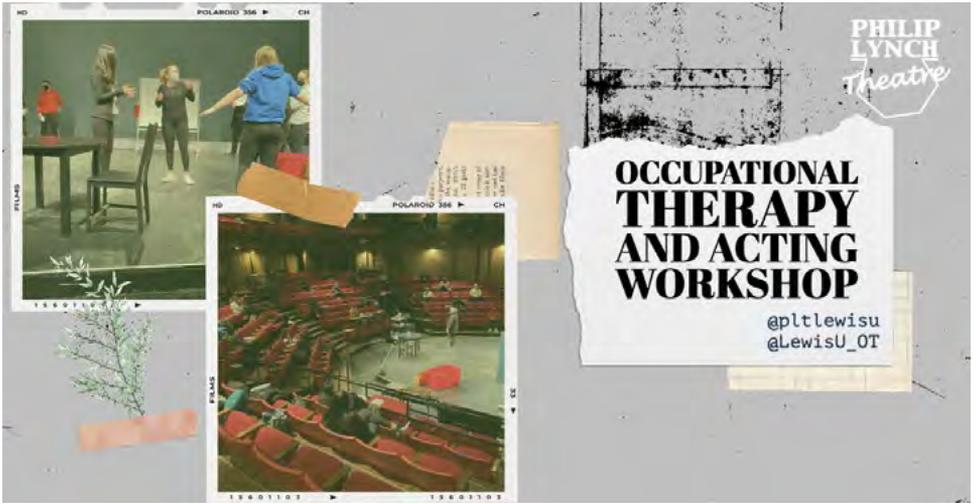


DR. GINA MARTINEZ
Assistant Professor
CoAST



DR. VESNA MARKOVIC
Associate Professor
CoESS

Making News



The graduate students in the Occupational Therapy program participated in a face-to-face, physically distanced acting workshop lead by **Jo Slowik '88** on February 23. The focus of the workshop was to deepen communication, listening and observational skills through the lens of acting methods and techniques. The mission of the OT program at Lewis is to help individuals participate in meaningful life roles. The interdisciplinary goal of the workshop supported and fostered the OT mission.



The Jewel of Joliet Arts community, Lynne Lichtenauer passed away surrounded by her loved ones on Tuesday morning, February 23 after a brave battle with cancer. She was a faithful Heritage Theatre Company member for over 20 years. She served for a time as the Director, and then a leading member of the Cultural Advisory Board at Lewis University for 12 years. She was an original member of the Lewis University President's Advisory Board.

She served at Joliet's local WJOL radio station for over 26 years as one of the hosts of the *Lynne, Mary and Natalie Program*. Lynne also served as the Executive Director of the Rialto Square Theatre and remained an outspoken advocate for the theatre long after leaving that position. In her early career she was a model and dancer in the Chicago and New York markets and wrote a society column for the defunct weekly newspaper, *The Spectator*. She had recently worked as the Director of Alumni Relation and Development for Joliet Township High School District 204. She was also passionately involved with the Joliet Area Historical Museum. She was the production director for the Joliet Drama Guild shows of *Lend Me A Tenor* and *Love, Sex & the IRS*, and a member of the Joliet Junior College Governor's Fine Arts Committee.

In 2005, Lynne was the first woman invited to act as the host of the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery Annual Memorial Day Tribute to Veterans and had the great privilege of introducing then United States Senator Barack Obama as the keynote speaker. Lynne was community minded and involved in the Joliet Park District, the great Joliet YMCA, Guardian Angel Community Services, Cornerstone Service, Easter Seals and Friends of Community Public Art Advisory Board. Lynne was self-described as homegrown and spent most of her life living in and advocating for the Joliet community. The PLT family extends our condolences to her loving fiancé, Lorin Lynch; son, Eric; granddaughter, Lillian; brother, Les Gomora (Mary Lou); and her numerous nieces and nephews.

HERITAGE

THEATRE COMPANY



Thank you to the patrons and students who joined us from the comfort of their homes on Friday, March 19 and Saturday, March 20, as Heritage Theatre Company streamed performances of Anne Nelson's *The Guys*. The drama told the story of a fire captain (played by alumnus Tyler Senjanin '17) who lost eight men in the collapse of the World Trade Center and the editor (played by theatre major Katie

Horn) who helps him prepare the eulogies he must deliver. The play was directed by Heritage Theatre Company board member and Lewis University alumnus Mike Frale '17. Theatre major Julia Egizo designed and operated the lights; education major Katie Szymkiewicz designed and operated the sound. Katy Papineau-Weiss '16 designed the set; Taylore Cephas '17 was the videographer. The theatre magic couldn't happen without Andrew Nelsen '04 and his technical technology expertise and guidance. HTC was proud to support and donate all the ticket proceeds to the Philip Lynch Theatre.



WADSWORTH
FAMILY GALLERY
LEWIS UNIVERSITY

On View April 1-23
Wadsworth Family Gallery

The President's 13th Annual Art Exhibition

The President's Annual Art Exhibition highlights top artwork from Lewis Students and Alumni. This important juried exhibition is hosted by the Department of Art and Design and sponsored by Dr. David Livingston, President of Lewis University.



A virtual Gallery Talk with the winners will take place during Celebration of Scholarship on April 15th at 2pm via Zoom. Stay tuned for more details on how to access the talk.

Prize winners will be announced right here on Facebook

"Chisel" by
Mohamad Ali Hamada won 1st place at The President's 13th
Annual Art Exhibition
Facebook Edition

