



GOLDEN GATE  
RESTAURANT

# THE MOST HAPPY FELLA

Book, Music and Lyrics by.....Frank Loesser

Based on the play  
They Knew What They Wanted by .....Sidney Howard

Directed by.....John Rubinstein

With Special Support from  
The H.N. & Frances C.  
Berger Foundation  
and  
Michael & Debbie Felix

April 4 - 14, 2013.....Bing Theatre

*Tony Caputo*

USC School  
of Dramatic Arts

# SPRING 2013 SCHEDULE

## M.F.A. ACTING SPRING REPERTORY\*

**Feb. 9 – Mar. 10 / Scene Dock Theatre**

### SUMMERTIME

by Charles L. Mee

Directed by Andrei Belgrader

### ARE YOU FALLING?

by David Bridel and

the M.F.A. Acting Class of 2013

Directed by David Bridel

### 'TIS PITY SHE'S A WHORE

by John Ford

Directed by Andrew J. Robinson

## THE ARABIAN NIGHTS

By Mary Zimmerman

Directed by Stephanie Shroyer

**Feb. 28 - Mar. 3 / McClintock Theatre**

## THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

By William Shakespeare

Directed by Lisa Wolpe

**Mar. 7 – 10 / Bing Theatre**

## BROKEN EGGS

By Eduardo Machado

Directed by Laurie Woolery

**Apr. 4 – 7 / Scene Dock Theatre**

## SPRING MUSICAL

### THE MOST HAPPY FELLA

Book, Music, and Lyrics by Frank Loesser

Based on the play *They Knew What They*

*Wanted* by Sidney Howard

Directed by John Rubinstein

**Apr. 4 – 14 / Bing Theatre**

## MRS. PACKARD

By Emily Mann

Directed by Casey Stangl

**Apr. 11 – 14 / McClintock Theatre**

## NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR TWO

THE M.F.A. IN DRAMATIC WRITING

PLAYWRIGHTS WORKSHOP\*

**Apr. 12 – 28 / Massman Theatre**

### MORNING VIEW

By Jesse Mu-En Shao

Directed by Sabina Ptasznik

### TALES FROM TENT CITY

By Brian James Polak

Directed by Larissa Kokernot

### MY DEAR HUSSEIN

By Nahal Navidar

Directed by Shishir Kurup

## MUSEUM

By Tina Howe

Directed by Jack Rowe

**Apr. 25 – 28 / McClintock Theatre**

## GETTING MARRIED

By George Bernard Shaw

Directed by Robert Shampain

**Apr. 25 – 28 / Scene Dock Theatre**

## DANCE CONCERT

### THE UNITED KINGDOM OF DANCE

**May 2 & 3 / Bing Theatre**

## NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR THREE

THE MASTER OF FINE ARTS PLAY PROJECT\*

**May 28 – June 1 / McClintock Theatre**

### AND ALL THE TREES SHALL CLAP

#### THEIR HANDS

By Megan Kelly

Directed by Mark Seldis

### ¡WHAT A PIECE OF WORK IS MAN!

By Zury Ruiz

Directed by Jon Lawrence Rivera

### A NICE INDIAN BOY

By Madhuri Shekar

Directed by Robert Egan



## Ticket Information

**SHOWTIMES** (except where noted otherwise)

Thu. & Fri. at 7pm • Sat. at 2:30 & 8pm • Sun. at 2:30pm

\*Please see website below for performance schedule

### TICKET PRICES

**PLAYS:** General Admission \$10 • Seniors or USC Faculty/Staff with ID \$8 • USC Students with ID \$5

**MUSICALS:** General Admission \$15 • Seniors or USC Faculty/Staff with ID \$10 • USC Students with ID \$6

**NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR TWO:** All tickets \$5

**NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR THREE:** Admission is free and will be available at the door on a first-come, first-served basis.

For tickets and information: [www.usc.edu/spectrum](http://www.usc.edu/spectrum) • [arts@usc.edu](mailto:arts@usc.edu) • 213-740-2167

THE USC SCHOOL OF DRAMATIC ARTS

presents

# THE MOST HAPPY FELLA

Book, Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser

Based on *They Knew What They Wanted* by Sidney Howard

with

Allison Aoun • Taylor Barry • D.J. Blickenstaff • Henry Boyd • Matt Brown  
Cole Cuomo • Sarah Fanella • Arielle Fishman • Haley Fletcher  
Turner Frankosky • Jacqueline Garell • Kevin Herald • Kimberly Hessler  
Erik Hu • Natalie Johnson • Jennifer Kranz • Tyler Miclean • Madison Mills  
Peter Mitchell • Megan Mountford • Andie Mueller • David Nicholson  
Maggie Nolting • Sanford Reed • Chelsea Rifkin • Zachary Rifkin  
Andrew Schmidt • Ian Shain • Charlotte Spangler • Caroline Spinola  
Adrienne Visnic • Elizabeth Weir

With a special appearance by Pat Haden, USC Director of Athletics

SCENIC DESIGN

Jamie Lew

COSTUME DESIGN

Joseph Kennedy

LIGHTING DESIGN

Omar Dana

SOUND DESIGN

Phil Allen  
Emma Bramble

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Alby Potts

CHOREOGRAPHY

Lili Fuller

STAGE MANAGER

Rebecca A. Esquivel

DIRECTED BY

John Rubinstein

April 4-14, 2013

Bing Theatre

Produced by special arrangement with Musical Theatre International.

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

*(In Order of Appearance)*

THE CASHIER.....	Matt Brown
CLEO.....	Adrienne Visnic
ROSABELLA.....	Kimberly Hessler
THE WAITRESSES.....	Allison Aoun, Taylor Barry, Sarah Fanella
THE BUS BOY.....	Sanford Reed
POSTMAN #1.....	David Nicholson
POSTMAN #2.....	Pat Haden
VAN PELT.....	Maggie Nolting
SULIVAN.....	Elizabeth Weir
TONY.....	Cole Cuomo
MARIE.....	Haley Fletcher
GLADYS.....	Madison Mills
MAXINE.....	Natalie Johnson
HERMAN.....	Andrew Schmidt
CLEM.....	Tyler Miclean
JAKE.....	David Nicholson
AL.....	Turner Frankosky
JOE.....	D.J. Blickenstaff
GIUSEPPE.....	Henry Boyd
PASQUALE.....	Peter Mitchell
CICCIO.....	Ian Shain
THE COUNTRY GIRL.....	Arielle Fishman
THE CITY BOY.....	Sanford Reed
THE DOCTOR.....	Erik Hu
THE PRIEST.....	Kevin Herald
THE WOMAN.....	Megan Mountford
TESSIE.....	Chelsea Rifkin
GUSSIE.....	Zachary Rifkin
THE MAN.....	Matt Brown
NEIGHBOR WOMAN.....	Andie Mueller
AGNES JONES.....	Jennifer Kranz
AUNT HARRIET.....	Jacqueline Garell
THE TRUCK DRIVERS.....	Turner Frankosky, Sanford Reed
THE MANDOLIN PLAYER.....	Caroline Spinola
THE BRAKEWOMAN.....	Charlotte Spangler
THE BUS DRIVER.....	Kevin Herald
ENSEMBLE.....	Allison Aoun, Taylor Barry, Matt Brown, Sarah Fanella, Arielle Fishman, Jacqueline Garell, Kevin Herald, Natalie Johnson, Jennifer Kranz, Madison Mills, Megan Mountford, Andie Mueller, Maggie Nolting, Sanford Reed, Charlotte Spangler, Caroline Spinola, Elizabeth Weir

## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### ACT 1

Ooh! My Feet!	Cleo
Somebody, Somewhere	Rosabella
The Most Happy Fella	Postman #1, Tony, Ensemble
A Long Time Ago	Marie, Tony
Standing on the Corner	Herman, Al, Clem, Jake
Joey, Joey, Joey	Joe
Rosabella	Tony
Abbondanza	Pasquale, Ciccio, Giuseppe
Plenty Bambini	Tony
Spotalizio	Ensemble
I Seen Her At The Station	Postman #2
Benvenuta	Pasquale, Ciccio, Giuseppe
Such Friendly Faces	Rosabella
Don't Cry	Joe

### ACT 2

Fresno Beauties	Ensemble Men
Love and Kindness	The Doctor
Happy To Make Your Acquaintance	Rosabella, Tony
I Don't Like This Dame	Marie, Cleo
Big D	Cleo, Herman, Ensemble
How Beautiful The Days	Tony, Rosabella, Marie, Joe
Young People	Marie, Tony
Warm All Over	Rosabella
I Like Ev'rybody	Cleo, Herman
I Love Him/I Know How It Is	Rosabella, Cleo
My Heart Is So Full Of You	Tony, Rosabella
Mamma, Mamma	Tony
I Like Ev'rybody (Duet)	Cleo, Herman
Song Of A Summer Night	Doc, Ensemble
Please Let Me Tell You	Rosabella
Tell Them Good-bye For Me	Joe
She Gonna Come Home Wit' Me	Tony
Nobody's Ever Gonna Love You	Marie, Cleo, Tony
I Made A First!	Herman, Cleo
Finale	Tony, Rosabella, Ensemble

## TIME

1927

## PLACE

San Francisco and Napa Valley, California

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

## WARNING

Please be advised that this production contains smoking, theatrical fog, gunshots and mature language.

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Technical Director.....	Kate Harrow
Fight Choreography.....	Edgar Landa
Scenic Artist.....	Vika Teplinskaya
Assistant Musical Director.....	Matthew Oden
Assistant Stage Managers.....	G. Austin Allen, Alice Pollitt
Assistant Scenic Design.....	Selby Souza
Costume Assistant.....	Marly Hall
Assistant Lighting Design.....	Madigan Stehly
Assistant Sound Engineer.....	David Crawford
Dance Captain.....	Sarah Fanella
Fight Captain.....	Rebecca A. Esquivel
Crew.....	Tina Crnko, Jason David, Landy Eng, Katt Ortega, Erin O'Sullivan, Kevin Paley, Vicki Pearlman, Molly Quinian, Jake Rush, Amy Sizer, Jonathan Stoller-Schoff, Jose Maria Verduzco Parra

## MUSICIANS

Flute, Piccolo, Alto Flute.....	Julie Long
Oboe, English Horn.....	K. T. Gilad
Clarinet, Flute, Soprano Sax.....	David Hill
Clarinet, Bass Clarinet.....	Darryl Tanikawa
Bassoon.....	Eric Johnson-Tamai
Horn I.....	Jennifer Bliman
Horn II.....	Katelyn Faraudo
Horn III.....	Emily Schroeder
Trumpet I.....	Bob Allen
Trumpet II.....	Scott Wright
Trombone I.....	June Satton
Trombone II, Tuba.....	Robert Coomber
Violin I, Concertmaster.....	Richard Adkins
Violin I.....	Sharon Cooper
Violin II.....	Sally Berman
Violin II.....	Laura Jesson
Viola.....	Marissa Mcleod
Cello.....	John Krovoza
Double String Bass.....	John Smith
Set Drums, Percussion I.....	Jeremy Reinbolt
Percussion II.....	Kelly Weaver
Harp.....	Amy Wilkins
Keyboard Synthesizer.....	Matthew Oden

## SPECIAL THANKS

Pat Haden, USC Director of Athletics; Jody and Brady Rifkin; Alex Underwood; and Michael Prutton.



### DIRECTOR'S BIO

John Rubinstein directed *Phantasie*, *Nightingale*, *The Old Boy* and *Top Secret: The Pentagon Papers* off-Broadway; and in theaters nationally, *The Rover*, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, *Wait Until Dark*, *Company*, *Three Sisters*, *Macbeth*, *A Little Night Music*, *Into the Woods*, *The Music Man*, *The Rivals*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Mourning Becomes Electra*, *She Loves Me* and *Counsellor-At-Law* (Ovation Award). For TV: *A Matter Of Conscience* (Emmy Award: Best Children's Special), *Summer Stories*, *Nash Bridges* and *High Tide*; and at USC: *Brigadoon*, *Into The Woods*, *On The Town*, and last year's *City of Angels*. As an actor, he created the title role in the Broadway musical *Pippin*, directed by Bob Fosse, and won Tony and Drama Desk Awards for his performance in *Children of a Lesser God*. Other Broadway appearances include *Ragtime*, *Hurlyburly*, *M. Butterfly*, *Love Letters*, *Fools* and *The Caine Mutiny Court-Martial*. For nearly two years, he appeared as the Wizard in *Wicked* in Los Angeles. He has had roles in 24 feature films; in two TV series, *Family* (Emmy nomination) and *Crazy Like A Fox*; and guest-starred in close to 200 TV episodes and films. He composed the music for the films *Jeremiah Johnson*, *The Candidate* and over 75 TV programs, including *Family* and *China Beach*. Love to Bonnie, and his five children: Jessica, Michael, Peter, Jacob and Max.

### DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Sidney Howard was born in Oakland, Calif., in 1891. He attended UC Berkeley and went on to study playwriting at Harvard. His second Broadway play, *They Knew What They Wanted*, opened at the Garrick Theatre on November 24, 1924. The love story of Tony, the Napa Valley grape-grower, and his mail-order bride, set against a pre-Depression union-organizing political backdrop, won the Pulitzer Prize in 1925, and was later adapted into three different films: *The Secret Hour* (1928), starring Jean Hersholt; *A Lady to Love* (1930), starring Edward G. Robinson; and *They Knew What They Wanted* (1940), starring Charles Laughton and Carol Lombard. Howard won a posthumous Academy Award for his screenplay of *Gone with the Wind* in 1939.

Frank Loesser was born in New York City on June 29, 1910. His father was a pianist and music teacher, and his brother Arthur an accomplished concert pianist (sometimes nastily referred to as "the lesser Loesser"). Frank, who taught himself the harmonica and later the piano, was expelled from both prep school and college for poor grades, and, after a series of odd jobs, began to write lyrics and sketches for radio. He was picked up by Universal Pictures, and subsequently Paramount, and over 30 years he wrote the music for more than 60 films, including *Hans Christian Andersen*, starring Danny Kaye. He won the 1949 Best Original Song Oscar for "Baby, It's Cold Outside." He returned to New York in 1948 to write the music and lyrics for *Where's Charley?*, starring Ray Bolger, and followed that big success two years later with the immortal *Guys and Dolls*, which won five Tony Awards, including Best Musical. Loesser would go on to write *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, for which he won his second and third Tonys, and *Greenwillow*. But his most ambitious achievement was his adaptation of Sidney Howard's *They Knew What They Wanted*. *The Most Happy Fella* opened May 3, 1956, at the Imperial Theatre, and closed after 676 performances. Loesser focused his attention on the love story, eliminating all of Howard's political and labor themes. Loesser's sweeping, classically oriented, harmonically intricate, vocally demanding, emotion-filled score is also sprinkled with some of Broadway's most enduring hit songs. He created, arguably, the first Broadway "opera" since the Gershwins' *Porgy and Bess* – a musical almost completely sung through (he winkingly called it "a musical with music"). And he penned the libretto and the lyrics, a rare triple threat. Stephen Sondheim wrote, "Loesser was one of the very few lyricists who were genuinely funny. [He] was able to perform the rare trick of sounding modestly conversational and brilliantly dexterous at the same time ... he concealed the artifice behind the art; he could bury and reveal his virtuosity simultaneously."

### NOTE FROM PAT HADEN

I am proud to have a small role in *The Most Happy Fella* and be part of an incredible cast of students from USC. I encourage all of our 650 student athletes in the athletic department to get out of their "comfort zone" and take advantage of all that our great university has to offer. So, I decided to put myself in the most uncomfortable situation I possibly could... and here you have it as the Postman in the play. Please excuse the acting and singing, but I am having a blast! Fight on.

## **DEAN**

Madeline Puzo

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Don Llewellyn (Director Of Scenic Design)

Oliver Mayer

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Christina Haatainen-Jones (Director Of Design)

Takeshi Kata

Tom Ontiveros

Sibyl Wickersheimer

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Andrei Belgrader

Natsuko Ohama

Andrew J. Robinson (Director Of M.F.A. in Acting)

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David Bridel (Associate Director Of M.F.A. in Acting & Director Of Global Initiatives)

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Emeriti Faculty: Eve Roberts, Robert R. Scales, James Wilson

Visiting Professor of Theatre Practice & George Burns Visiting Artist: Gordon Davidson



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## **PRODUCTION STAFF**

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