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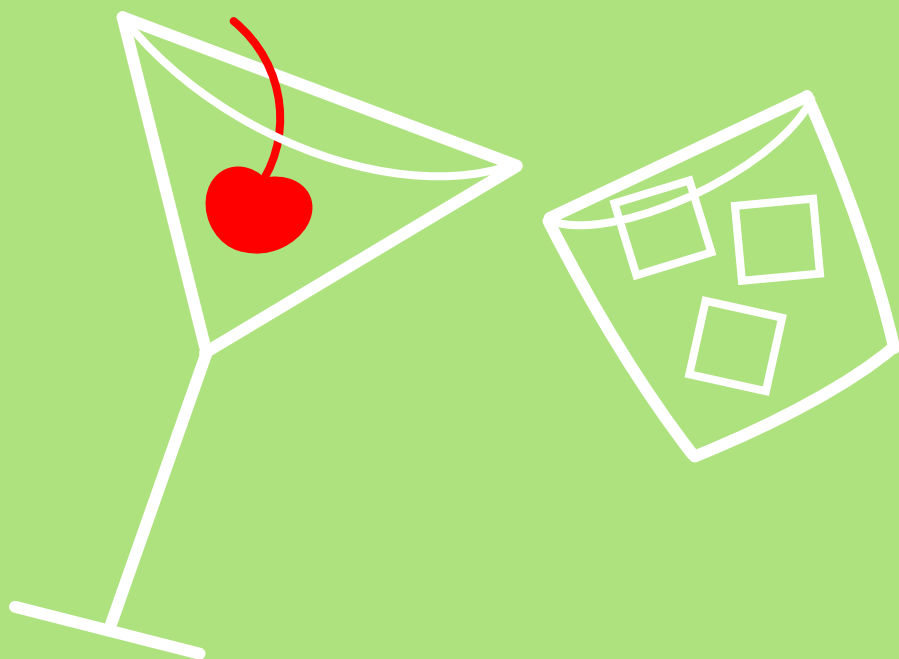
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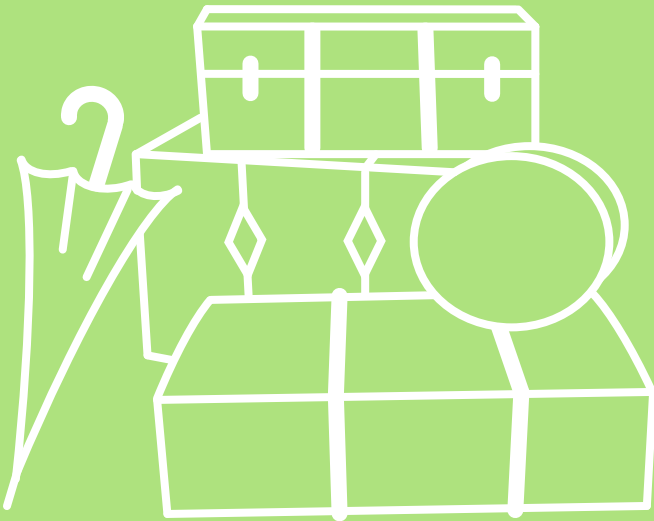
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Noël Coward's

Hay Fever



An Urban Aphrodite production

Special thanks to...



Milton & George

Brandi Dowd

Urban Aphrodite presents

Hay Fever

a comedy by Noël Coward

Ann James Director

Sigourney Chin Set Designer

Shee Shee Jin Stage Manager

Jacqueline Chang Assistant Stage Manager

About the Director



Director, producer, and actress **ANN JAMES** brings an astonishing array of experiences from film, stage and theater education to Shanghai. With just one semester remaining in her college studies at the well-known Performing Arts program of Sam Houston State University, she accepted the role of Sister Mary Hubert in the acclaimed *Nunsense*, embarking on a five-year journey that led her all around the U.S. performing in and eventually serving as Artistic Director for the Chicago's Unicorn children's theatre. Since heading the children's theatre company, Ann has served in numerous theater positions over the past 20 years, including Associate Director at Steppenwolf Theatre, Dallas Theater Centre, and the Tony Award® winning Alley Theatre. She has owned two theater companies and directed over 70 plays and

musicals including *Hair*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Medea*, *Hamlet*, *Animal Farm*, *Topdog-Underdog*, *Dreamgirls*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, and now *Hay Fever*. Along with her directing experiences, Ann has worked as a professional actress, theater producer, and as a recognized drama instructor and educator on four continents. She is currently a Foreign Expert instructing youth through the Shanghai Theatre Academy. Ann is proud to be at the helm of Urban Aphrodite and hopes that she will continue to collaborate with the artists and theatre enthusiasts of Shanghai for many years to come.

About Urban Aphrodite



Urban Aphrodite is an entertainment company benefiting the Performing Arts environment in Shanghai by offering quality productions, workshops and events to our audiences.

At its core Urban Aphrodite International is a Partner Network with contacts and connections all over the world. Collaborating and coordinating entertainers, actors, artists, local and small businesses and corporations, with one another for mutually beneficial endeavors is our specialty.

Cast

Sorel Bliss	AMANDA DANIELS
Simon Bliss	BARRON WEYERHAEUSER
Clara	VIRGINIA WITHERS
Judith Bliss	SHEILANI NANDY
David Bliss	MARK EDWARDS
Sandy Tyrell	ASHOK ZAMAN
Myra Arundel	BARBARA ANDERLIČ
Richard Greatham	MUSTAQ MISSOURI
Jackie Coryton	SARA GARCIA

About Hay Fever

A luminous and entertaining comedy, Hay Fever introduces you to the Bliss family: a retired actress mother, a novelist father, and two children for whom all the world, literally, is a stage. Their outrageous antics alternately infuriate and astound their hapless weekend guests, all of whom have been individually invited up for a weekend tete-a-tete.

Based on a Real “Bohemian” Family of the 20s...

In the years prior to Noel Coward writing Hay Fever, he spent many an enjoyable evening with the Taylor family in New York, playing games and entertaining their endless stream of houseguests. Anton Chekov heralded Laurette Taylor as “America’s greatest actress,” and her flair for drama did not stop at the stage door. Her and her family’s antics were Coward’s inspiration for Hay Fever’s Bliss family, and the personality of Laurette, her husband, and her two children are very evident in this wonderful play.



AMANDA DANIELS (*Sorel Bliss*) is originally from Toronto, Canada where she studied Theatre and Psychology at York University. After graduating she continued her study of performing with Players Academy and Second City. Then Amanda toured Ontario for two years with the educational theatre company Big Kid Entertainment. In Canada, Amanda performed in such productions as: *Never Mine*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Cinderella's Frog Prince*, *Snow White the Anti-Bully show*, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, and *Yerma*. Since relocating to Shanghai, Amanda has had the pleasure of performing in several productions

including: SRT's *A Christmas Carol*, *The Translator*, *The Enchanted Circus of Grimm*, *Much Ado about Nothing*, *The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe*, Third Culture Theatre's *The Odd Couple*, and East West Theatre's *Exit Second Banana*, *The Real Inspector Hound*. Amanda is thrilled to be making her debut performance with Urban Aphrodite. When not doing theatre, Amanda teaches Munchkins fights Zombies and occasionally sleeps.



After a long hiatus from acting and 4 years in Shanghai, **ASHOK ZAMAN** (*Sandy Tyrell*) finally cracked the boards here with the acclaimed production of J.P Satre's *No Exit* and Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler* last year. Growing up in Sydney, Australia, Ashok started drama classes and theatre performance at a young age, making some TV soap appearances to boot. A few years down the track he attended the 'Actors Pulse' in Sydney, a vibrant and intense acting school specialising in the work of Sanford Meisner. He also teaches meditation, is a freelance journalist and works as a model, appearing

in dozens of TV commercials and fashion spreads.



BARBARA K. ANDERLIČ'S (*Myra Arundel*) acting credits include *3xTenn*, *The Snow Queen* and *The Vagina Monologues*, as well as Belbel's *¡Ay, Hombres!* and *Ramón* in Spanish. She served as a jury member for the film festival Viennale '12 in Vienna, Austria, and recently worked as a volunteer at the Chobi Mela VII International Festival of Photography in Dhaka, Bangladesh.



BARRON WEYERHAEUSER (*Simon Bliss*) from North Carolina in the United States, moved to Shanghai in August of last year, having lived in Nanjing three years prior. He will begin studying this fall as a candidate for master of fine arts in performance at Shanghai Theatre Academy. He graduated from American University in Washington, DC, with a bachelor's degree in Communication, Legal Institutions, Economics, and Government. This show marks his return to the stage after a five-year hiatus. Previous roles include Benny Southstreet (*Guys and Dolls*), Drake/Greylag (*Honk!*), John Wisehammer (*Our Country's Good*), John Barrymore (*I Hate Hamlet*), as well as productions in Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, and Fyodor Volkov Drama Theatre in Yaroslavl', Russia.



MARK EDWARDS (*David Bliss*) is a stage actor who has lived in Shanghai for eight years. He has worked with Zuloo productions and his roles included that of Rene Gallimard in *M. Butterfly*. More recently Mark has worked with Urban Aphrodite and has just finished a run playing George in the highly acclaimed production of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* Mark is married with two children and works in the Fashion Industry.



MUSTAQ MISSOURI (*Richard Greatham*) was first introduced to theatre when he was in high school. He played a role in Peter Shaffer's *Royal Hunt of the Sun*. During the next three years he acted in Eugene Ionesco's *The Chairs*, Alfred Jarry's *Ubu Rex*, Georg Buckner's *Woyzeck* and Joe Orton's *Loot*. Since arriving in Shanghai, Mustaq has renewed his love for the stage. He has acted in Timberlake Wertebaker's *Our Country's Good*, Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *King Lear* and *Twelfth Night*, Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* and *Catastrophe*, Henrik Ibsen's *The Master Builder*, Oscar Wilde's *The*

Importance of Being Earnest, Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple*, Shelagh Stephenson's *The Memory of Water*, Bertolt Brecht's *Caucasian Chalk Circle*, Tom Stoppard's *The Real Inspector Hound* and Frank McGuinness's *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*.



SARA GARCIA (*Jackie Coryton*) graduated from Queens University, Canada with a degree in Theatre. She has an extensive background in performance ranging from Music Theatre, Dance, Drama and Jazz performance. Sara made her Shanghai acting debut in Blue Lane's production of *Oleanna* last spring, and recently starred as Hedda Gabler in East West Theatre's rendition of the Ibsen play. She is ecstatic to have been honored with an invitation to the eccentric Bliss household.



SHEILANI NANDY (*Judith Bliss*) is very excited to have been invited to join the cast of *Hay Fever* for a second time, this time as one of the grown-ups having played Sorel in a UK production in 1989. She last performed in Shanghai as the empress in *Aladdin* with Zuloo Productions in 2010. Sheilani began acting twenty something years ago in the UK. Since then she has acted on stage in India, Bangladesh and China playing various roles in musicals, pantomimes, farces and of course some straight plays. She has provided voice overs to documentary shorts, one of these actually winning a medal at the Houston Film festival.

Her stage credits include *Grease*, *Godspell*, *A Little Night Music*, *Aladdin*, *No Sex Please We're British*, *Oliver*, *She Stoops To Conquer*, *Barefoot in the Park*, *Stepping Out*, *Run For Your Wife* and *The Taming of the Shrew* to name a few. Sheilani also directed a one act play in Shanghai which was staged at VAN GOGH'S café in 2011 and hopes to do a little more of this on her return to the UK in September.



VIRGINIA WITHERS (*Clara*) first appeared on the Shanghai theatre scene in the spring of 2010 in a production of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Lady Bracknell). This was followed later that same year by a role in Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit* as the irrepressible Madame Arcati. Following up that same theme of the ghostly, in *The Memory of Water* she was the dead (!) mother. Virginia is greatly looking forward to this current production of another Noel Coward classic, *Hay Fever*.

Next from Urban Aphrodite,
a bilingual show for children of all ages...

Cinderella

The World's Favorite Fairy Tale



Part of the International Children's Theatre
Festival of Shanghai 2013

July 13th & 14th

10:30 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. both days

Magnolia Children's Theatre on Huashan Lu

More information at tickets@urbanaphrodite.nl



Announcing our 2013-2014 Season...

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2013

Glengarry Glen Ross

David Mamet's Pulitzer Prize-winning, fast-paced, foul-mouthed glimpse of the real estate world. For mature audiences only.

NOVEMBER
2013

The Compleat Wrks of Wllm Shkspr (Abridged)



3 actors, 37 plays, 90 minutes. Have you ever seen Hamlet done in 1 minute? How about 30 seconds? A long-running gem of London's West End, by Adam Long, Daniel Singer & Jess Winfield.

DECEMBER
2013



Five Course Love

A Lip-Smacking Musical by Gregg Coffin. 3 actors, 15 characters, 5 restaurants, chock-full of musical comedy. The first English language musical in Shanghai local theatre...

MARCH
2014

DOUBT: A PARABLE

John Patrick Shanley's Pulitzer Prize-winning play questions ethical & spiritual views of a Mother Superior against a priest in 60s America.

MAY
2014

Showstoppers: A Broadway Musical Review

A youth project illuminating hits from the Great White Way. Shanghai's international students will be the shining stars, benefiting local charities.



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